



The JOURNAL



The Jawbone of a Mastodon

An Eccentric Naturalist, a Medical Practice, and an Old Book



*Mame Stewart
Josenberger*



*Fort Smith's
Time Capsule*



*A Shot
in the Dark*

Vol. 43, No. 1, April 2019



MISSION: The mission of the Fort Smith Historical Society, Inc., founded in 1977, is to publish the *Journal* of the FSHS and through the *Journal* and other activities to locate, identify, and collect historical materials; to publish primary source material and historical articles that pertain to the city of Fort Smith and the vicinity. Preservation of Fort Smith history is our primary mission, and we always welcome the loan of historical material, including photographs, letters, diaries, and memoirs, and will return it promptly.

MEMBERSHIP & ORDERS: *Journal* issues are available. Cost for current and past issues is \$7.50 plus a \$2.50 mailing charge per copy. Send orders to:

Editors,
P.O. Box 3676
Fort Smith, AR 72913-3676

or contact us online at
webmaster@fortsmithhistory.org.

Membership in the Fort Smith Historical Society includes a subscription to the *Journal* of the FSHS, which is published semi-annually. Send your membership dues and other business matters to:

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QUESTIONS pertaining to the Fort Smith Historical Society or the *Journal* may be addressed by email to:

Mary Jeanne Black, inquiry coordinator and researcher, mblack3086@aol.com
Mary Jeanne edits the *Journal* department titled "Who Knew?" Contact her with your research and/or genealogical questions or topics.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE! www.fortsmithhistory.org
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Content tabs: Organization, Membership, Back Issues, Tables of Contents, Contacts & Links, Archives and a Gallery.

SUBMITTING MANUSCRIPTS FOR POSSIBLE PUBLICATION IN THE JOURNAL:

A submitted article is peer-reviewed by members of the *Journal's* editorial board and approved before publication. The due dates for manuscript submission are February 15 for the April issue and July 15 for the September issue. The story should be relevant to the city of Fort Smith and/or this area and significant to the history of the border region. Manuscripts must be based on historical documentation with notes, bibliography or a list of sources. We recommend that authors search through the literature on their subject. We encourage photographs, charts, or maps to accompany the article. These visual aids must be released by the owner, who is to be properly accredited and appropriately captioned.

Specifics

1. Manuscripts of 3,000-7,000 words may be submitted to the Editorial Board of the Journal electronically using the email address of billy.higgins@uafs.edu, editor, or stoliv44@gmail.com, Sherry Toliver, President of the Society, or mblack3086@aol.com, Mary Jeanne Black, Inquiry Coordinator.
2. Title page should include article title and author name.
3. Manuscripts should be double-spaced in Times Roman 12-point font with one-inch margins. Pages should be numbered, preferably with author name, in the top right corner.
4. Notes and bibliography cited according to the *Chicago Manual of Style* (Turabian). Book, journal, and newspaper titles should be italicized.
5. Photographs and maps should be submitted with manuscript in digital format of at least 300 dpi resolution and must be captioned with 1-5 sentences. Photographs and maps must be credited as to source.
6. Author photograph and short bio submitted at the end of the manuscript along with mailing address, phone number, and email address.

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Journal Editor & Co-Founder 1977-2004

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The JOURNAL

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COVER: MAIN: The mastodon stood about eight to ten feet tall and had tusks up to eight feet long. (Illustration by Arkansas State University Museum)
LOWER LEFT: Mame Stewart Josenberger (Courtesy photo)
LOWER MIDDLE: Fort Smith Time Capsule (Courtesy Holly Greer)
LOWER RIGHT: Judge Paul Little (Courtesy photo)

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News & Opportunities

Fort Smith Historical Society Quarterly Meeting

April 10, 2019
Annual election of Board and Officers
Fort Smith Public Library
Community Room, Main Branch

Arkansas Historical Association

78th Annual Conference
April 11-13, 2019, Stuttgart, Arkansas
Theme: Land, Race, and Identity

Founded by German immigrants, Stuttgart has a rich history as one of Arkansas' most important agricultural centers, known especially for its rice production and waterfowl habitat. The 2019 conference will mark several major anniversaries, including the bicentennial of the formation of Arkansas Territory and the centennial of the Elaine Race Massacre.

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

You may submit a conference paper proposal and/or register for the conference using this link:
<http://arkansashistoricalassociation.org>.

Clayton House Programs

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 and for non-members, a \$10 donation toward the preservation and programs of the Clayton House.

For more information about these and our other events, check our website, claytonhouse.org, or our Facebook page or give us a call!



MOTORCYCLES ON GARRISON AVENUE
(Photo courtesy of Fort Smith Museum of History)

Fort Smith Museum of History

320 Rogers Avenue
479-783-7841

Upcoming events at the Museum

- ❖ May 3-4, Motorcycle Memories
Annual exhibit featuring Fort Smith motorcycle history.
- ❖ For program times, descriptions, reservations, and current exhibits, please use the Museum website:
<http://www.fortsmithmuseum.org/newsletters>.
- ❖ Yarnell's Ice Cream, made in Arkansas since 1932, is featured in the Museum's old-fashioned soda fountain. Come in and treat yourself.

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.

Saturday visitors are often treated to a guided tour by Albert Pike or perhaps another historically costumed interpreter.

St. John's Episcopal Church Mind Stretchers

**Ruth Skinner Building across
from St. John's Episcopal Church
214 North Sixth Street**

Admission is free and snacks in keeping with the lecture theme are served.

❖ May 21, 2019, 6 p.m. —Meditation and Mindfulness

The Ven. Geshe Thupten Dorjee, ordained Tibetan Buddhist monk will speak on the universal search for happiness and explain the insight of Tibetan culture into this quest.

Fort Smith Regional Art Museum

**1601 Rogers Avenue
Fort Smith
(479) 784-2787
info@fsram.org**

Upcoming Exhibitions:

❖ Edward Robison III: "The Nature of Photography from Traditional to Augmented Reality," May 10-September 1, 2019.

❖ David Mudrinich: "An Element of Nature," August 2-November 24, 2019.

❖ Norma Tombooulia: "Life into Clay," September 6-December 29, 2019.

Lectures, workshops, education programs, and events throughout the year.

Contact RAM for full schedule of activities, exhibits, and children-centered art classes.

Documentary Highlights Western District Corruption

After the success of *The Western District* play, it seemed appropriate to playwright/director Brandon Goldsmith to take this story to the next level by turning it into a documentary. The play dramatized the scams orchestrated by Judge William Story, Marshal Roots, the court clerks, commissioners and deputies; the documentary tells the story from the points of view of those investigating these crimes. There were six investigations in total (three Secret Service, two Congressional, and one special prosecutor).

The documentary focuses on three primary inquiries into the Western District court's corruption. First, secret service agent L. B. Whitney is sent to Fort Smith undercover as a



BRANDON CHASE GOLDSMITH
(Photo courtesy of Fort Smith Historical Society)

bookseller named A. H. Pettibone. He gets a room at the St. Charles hotel and sneaks in compromised deputies, who under oath confess to the various scams they have participated in. Agent Whitney discovers that his mail is being opened and his cover is blown. A few nights later, an African American police officer named Green shows up at Whitney's room, telling him to get into his buggy so they can leave town immediately because he is about to be assassinated.

After receiving reports about the court's corruption, Congress authorizes the U.S. attorney general to hire Ben DuVal to investigate the Western District as an assistant attorney, known today as special prosecutors. District Attorney General W. H. H. Clayton swears in the new assistant attorney. Following the leads established by agent Whitney, attorney DuVal ends up uncovering a scandal much larger than they had ever imagined.

Attorney DuVal delivers a final report to the Department of Justice Committee on Expenditures. Based on the findings, the committee subpoenas witnesses and suspects to testify before Congress.

The congressmen are so appalled by the level of corruption that a decision is made to abolish the entire Western District Court. Holding the abolishment bill up in committee, Arkansas Senator Powell Clayton gives his friend, Representative Isaac Parker, an opportunity to convince President Grant to let him go to Fort Smith and "fix" the court.

The documentary will explore pivotal and exciting new topics, for instance, the exposure of Wyatt Earp as a horse thief who escapes from the Van Buren jail five days before the court is transferred to Fort Smith. The documentary re-enacts, for the first time, the Goingsnake Massacre, the deadliest gunfight in the Wild West and the largest loss of life in U.S. Marshal history.

Author/playwright Brandon Chase Goldsmith earned his Ph.D. from the University of Memphis and is on the faculty of the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith.

Fort Smith Historical Society

NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS FOR 2019

*Thank you all for your continued support of the Fort Smith Historical Society.
If you haven't yet renewed your membership for 2019, we hope you will take
this opportunity to do so using the form on page 9.*

River Valley Oral Surgery (B)	Wisconsin Historical Society (A)	Reid & Lora Jones (A)	Dr. James A. Brown (L)
George & Carole Beattie (S)	Cherisse Jones-Branch (A)	William A. Joyce (A)	T. L. Burch (L)
James and Barbara	Eden Buerger (A)	Judy Lee Kinney (A)	Mrs. Doyne E. Burns (L)
Goodknight (S)	WT Cox Information Services	Juanita Chloe Lamon (A)	Jerry Carson (L)
David & Hanna Kerr (S)	(A)	Shirley Fort Lee (A)	Mrs. Stewart M. Condren (L)
Ronnie Richmond (J)	David Craig (A)	Raye Levering (A)	Joel M. Cook (L)
Fort Smith Regional Art	Mary Calline Ellis (A)	Valerie Lewis (A)	Michelle Core (L)
Museum (J)	Louanna & Jack Green (A)	Cathy Lorenz (A)	Mr. & Mrs Ben Core (L)
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(J)	John Lehnen (A)	Phillip Marks. M.D. (A)	Mrs. Ray W. Cotton (L)
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Butch & Cheri Edwards (J)	Upton Siddens (A)	Wilma McCauley (A)	Delores R. DeWitt (L)
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Delores and Don McMillan (J)	Phyllis Bender (A)	Judith Newman (A)	Wallace C. Floyd (L)
Lea and Randy Ney (J)	Ruth Berry (A)	Howard Norman (A)	Frances Galloway (L)
Jim & Katy Remerscheid (J)	Mary Jeanne Black (A)	Penny Packard (A)	Mrs. John F. Gardner Jr. (L)
Jim Spears (J)	Don Boatman (A)	Robert Paul Sabin (A)	Charles Girard (L)
Mike and Donna Stec (J)	Wilma Boerner (A)	Jane Berry Sanders (A)	Gwendolyn Godt (L)
Al & Janine Whitson (J)	Elizabeth A. Boyer (A)	Samuel Sloan (A)	Mrs. J. E. Graf (L)
Gary & Marcia Witcher (J)	Stan and Cheryl Brown (A)	Mary Kaye Smith (A)	Mr. & Mrs. H. L. Grant (L)
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Ron Wright (A)	Mike Bushkuhl (A)	Harold Trisler (A)	David L. Harris (L)
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(A)	Jimmy & Nancy Ciulla (A)	(A)	Mr. & Mrs. Bob Hawkins (L)
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Harvard College Library (A)	Bill W. Gordon Jr. (A)	Monica Baker (L)	H. E. Huber (L)
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(A)	Howard Hargrove (A)	Joe M. Barron (L)	Dr. & Mrs. Peter J. Irwin (L)
University of Central Arkansas	Elizabeth W. Hauptert (A)	Mrs. Nancy Barron (L)	Thelma Jones (L)
(A)	Vicky Helmer (A)	L. Wayne Bledsoe (L)	Mr. & Mrs. Taylor A. Joyce (L)
University of Arkansas at Fort	Billy & Peggy Higgins (A)	Sally Bowers (L)	James B. Kelly (L)
Smith Library (A)	James DeJarnett (A)	Terri Brockelman (L)	Brad Kidder (L)

Membership Renewal Policy Change

The Fort Smith Historical Society has changed its annual billing cycle to a straight calendar year basis. As a result, we will no longer bill individuals based on the date that they joined, but on a straight calendar year basis. Membership entitles you to all functions of the Society and to the two issues each year of the *Journal* mailed out in April and September. This year, 2019, marks Volume 43, No. 1 and No. 2.

Regular FSHS meetings are at 6 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month except December and are held at the Community Room of the main branch of the Fort Smith Public Library.

The April meeting, this year on April 10, is designated for the annual election of Board of Directors and the Officers of the FSHS. Nominations for those positions will be taken from the floor.

Susan Elizabeth Klein (L)
Dr. Keith Klopfenstein (L)
Dr. A. Samuel Koenig (L)
Dr. & Mrs. Lamar Kyle (L)
Robin Lee DDS (L)
Jessie R. Lewis Jr. (L)
Mr. & Mrs. Art B. Martin Jr. (L)
Nathan Martin (L)
Tommy Martin (L)
Mrs. Ruth I. Matthews (L)
Ronnie McDaniel (L)
J. Martin McDonough Jr. (L)
George B. McGill (L)
Loren McLane (L)
Nadine Miller (L)
Jim Moon (L)
Jimmy Moore (L)
Dr. & Mrs. Steve Parker (L)
Becky Plaxco (L)
Carolyn Pollan (L)
Mrs. Dora Ragsdale (L)
Charles D. Raney (L)
Bob & Deanna Reed (L)
Ramona Roberts (L)
Bryan Roddy (L)

Mrs. Paul Schaefer (L)
Linda Evans Schmidt (L)
Mrs. Helen Secrest (L)
Samuel T. Sicard (L)
James D. Sparks (L)
Dr. Todd Stewart (L)
Jo Tillery (L)
Sister Pierre Vorster (L)
Jim and Jane Walcott (L)
Dr. Robert V. Walling (L)
Sharon N. Weilbaecher (L)
Melanie Wiggins (L)
Fred Williams (L)
P. J. Williams (L)
Pendleton Woods (L)
Powell Woods (L)
John M. Yantis Jr. (L)
Alex Yoes (L)
Garrett Yoes (L)
Gretchen Yoes (L)
Bob Yoes (L)

(B) Business (S) Sustaining
(J) Joint with Museum of History
(A) Annual (L) Life

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☐ Gift

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City

State

Zip code

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☐ Annual.....\$30
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☐ Annual Sustaining.....\$50
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Fort Smith Museum of History.....\$100
☐ Annual Business Sponsor.....\$200

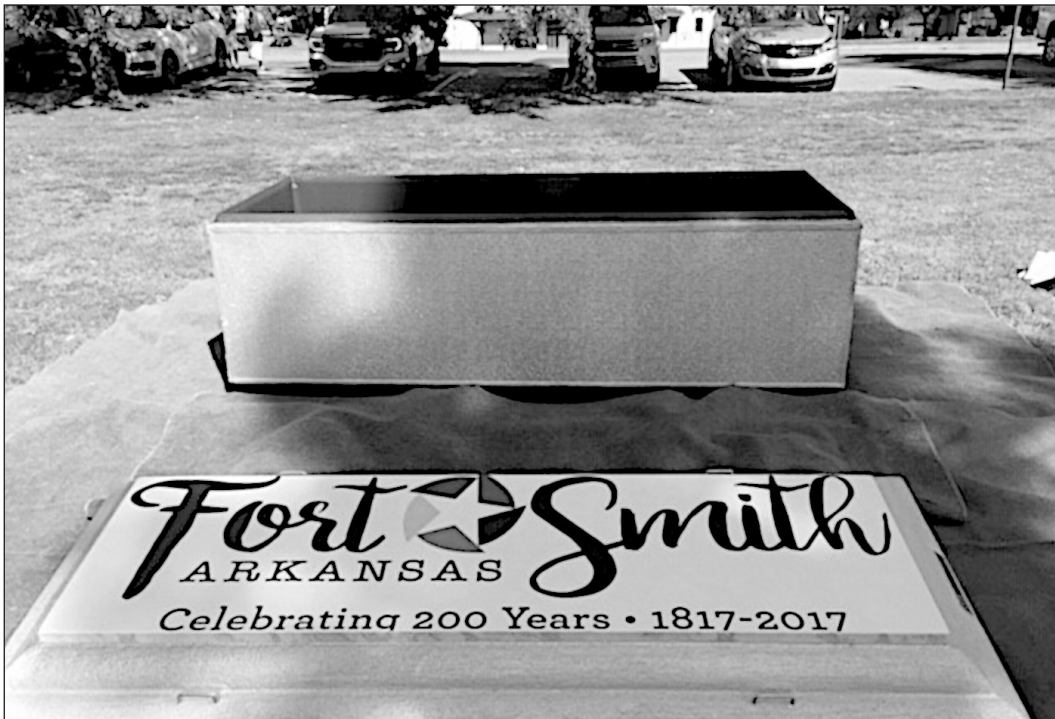
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P.O. Box 3676
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72913

Membership questions:
Email: info@fortsmithhistory.org
Phone: (479) 226-2066

Fort Smith's 2018 Time Capsule



THE FORT SMITH TIME CAPSULE *will be in place for four generations from now to unearth.*
(Photo courtesy of Hollie Greer)

What Treasures Will Residents Find When City Marks 300 Years?

By Judith Hansen

As Fort Smith's year-long celebration of its bicentennial neared the end of its third quarter on a steamy August afternoon, hundreds gathered not too far from the confluence of the Arkansas and Poteau rivers where 200 years and seven months earlier Maj. William Bradford and his riflemen landed at Belle Point on Christmas Day 1817.

Ross Pendergraft Park, 200 Garrison Avenue, was chockablock with area residents, city officials, a U.S. senator, food trucks, and a burial vault that was about to become part of history.

The vault, provided by Wilbert Funeral Services at the request of Butch Edwards, was topped with the bicentennial logo and the years the celebration marked, 1817-2017.

On August 4, 2018, the vault was lowered into the ground and covered with dirt, with the intention that it would be disinterred 100 years in the future.

Many of those who watched the burial that day were in the middle event of a kind of bicentennial triptych. The morning started with a standing-room-only family concert by Trout Fishing in America at the Fort Smith Convention Center. Following the time capsule ceremony, many attendees moved on to the Fort Smith Museum of History for an old-fashioned ice cream social and the benefits of air conditioning.

That day, in turn, came near enough to call it the middle of the year-long commemoration of the bicentennial of the establishment of the first Fort Smith. The year had begun with a frosty re-enactment of the city's founding on Christmas Day of 2017. (On that day, spectators moved to the Fort Smith Museum of History for hot cocoa and heating.) And the celebratory year drew to a close with a bang at Veterans Day activities capped off by fireworks at Ben Geren Regional Park.

In the meantime, a committee chaired by Hollie Greer



(ABOVE) Lowering the time capsule into the ground.
(RIGHT) From left, Time Capsule Committee Chairperson Hollie Greer, Fort Smith Mayor Sandy Sanders, and Amy Evans.
 (Photos courtesy of Hollie Greer)



gathered a wide array of items from clothes to books to technology for the time capsule.

"It was slow at first," Greer said about the collection process. "But I told people, be patient; it'll come." And it came. In the end, more than 100 items were donated for the city's residents of 2117 to marvel over. Greer said she was grateful to be able to store the mounting collection at the offices of Entertainment Fort Smith, which published photos of many of the items in its August 2018 issue.

"Members of my committee really stepped up," Greer said.

Greer said she studied up on preservation with an eye to keeping the items in the vault whole, intact, and usable for the city's future citizens.

"Butch Edwards talked to me about vaults, and he told me they are better than ever before. So hopefully there won't be any water in it," Greer said.

"I did all the sealing I could. I tried to wrap things. I did a lot of laminating, so I hope that helps. We had a lot of clothing donated. I sorted that and sealed it, then I put it in plastic bins and sealed those."

Greer said she is not necessarily a "history person," but she loved having a chance to look over the items that went into the time capsule. She liked reading about the history of Fort Smith's churches. She was especially glad to have the chance to read the comprehensive history of the African-American experience in Fort Smith in Lincoln High School

History by Sherry Toliver and Barbara Webster Meadows.

"There were just so many things I never knew," Greer said.

Other items included in the time capsule ranged from the poignant, like a wreath from the Christmas Honors program that places wreaths on the graves at the national cemetery, to the historical, like a pair of spurs donated by Kermit Walsh.

Greer said she made a point to photograph the murals downtown, the Park at West End, and other landmarks and then included the photos.

"We have a tablet computer and other pieces of technology, and we included their charging cords. Of course, we don't have any idea if they will turn on when the time capsule is unearthed," Greer said.

The idea of the time capsule was created and refined by a brainstorming and planning committee brought together by then-Fort Smith Mayor Sandy Sanders, who sees the capsule as a potent symbol of the project.

"The time capsule consolidates our Bicentennial Celebration into one object," Sanders said after the year was completed. "It contains parts of our past and present, and it is a historical gift to those in the future."

Some of the items included in the time capsule are those listed below.

❖ Information from the Fort Smith Symphony, including a signed musical score; the Fort Smith Museum



**MEMORABILIA PLACED IN
THE FORT SMITH TIME
CAPSULE IN AUGUST 2018.**

(Photos courtesy of
Entertainment Fort Smith)

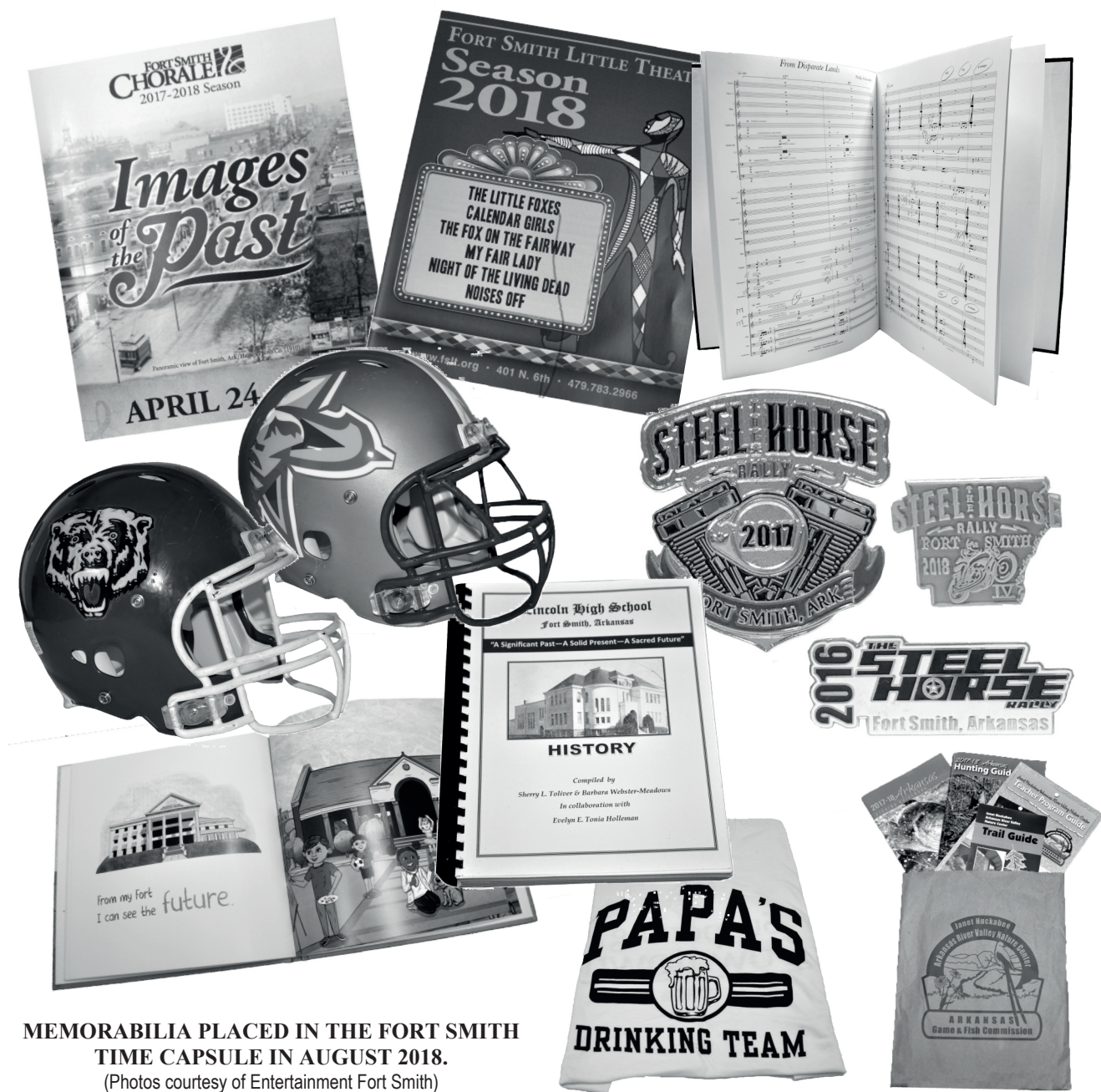
of History; the Fort Smith Trolley Museum; The Fort Smith Regional Art Museum; Old Fort Days Rodeo; and a signed poster of the Old Fort Days Rodeo Dandies.

- ❖ Histories of businesses, including Coca-Cola Bottling of Fort Smith, Newton's Jewelers, and George's Restaurant; the Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce Community Profile and literature from the Council of Petroleum Accountant Societies.

- ❖ Histories and other literature from area churches

including Ninth Street Missionary Baptist Church, First Baptist Church, First United Methodist Church, Quinn Chapel AME Church, St. Scholastica Monastery, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, St. Boniface Catholic Church, and Community Bible Church.

- ❖ Information from cultural and community events like the Mercy Gala, Wine & Roses, 75th Golden Deeds Banquet, Steel Horse Rally, Western Arkansas Ballet Nutcracker and Giselle.



MEMORABILIA PLACED IN THE FORT SMITH TIME CAPSULE IN AUGUST 2018.
(Photos courtesy of Entertainment Fort Smith)

❖ Items and literature related to local educational institutions including the Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine groundbreaking shovel, invitation, and coaster; Lincoln High School History; Interfaith Community Preschool history; Northside and Southside high schools' football helmets; Trinity Junior High School literature; and UAFS athletic jerseys, Alumni Association cap and plush Numa mascot toy.

❖ Technological devices like a tablet computer, a Cox flash drive, and an LG GPad 8.0.

❖ Local publications, including *Entertainment Fort Smith*; *Do South*; *The Bell Tower*; and *Times Record* newspapers, including the issue with coverage of the Dec.

25, 2017, Bicentennial Celebration landing re-enactment kickoff.

❖ Books like the bicentennial publication *Bridging Borders and Time*, Charles Portis' Fort Smith novel *True Grit*, and Teresa Greenlee-Hesselberth's memoir, *Growing Up in Fort Smith*.



Judith Hansen is Advancement Editor for the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith Foundation and former executive editor of the Times Record in Fort Smith. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Delaware.

Fort Smith's Historic People

To salute the bicentennial of our fair city, the *Journal* added a new series in the previous issue. Nine issues will carry a list of people who through their presence here as resident or visitor or chronicler have interacted with the environs and left a historical impression and a historical record. In this way, the Society intends to widen confirmed knowledge regarding Fort Smith and the vicinity through documentation of these people—and sometimes machines—from both primary and secondary sources. The lists are chronological and cover generational spans, roughly every twenty-five to thirty years. Overlaps are unavoidable.

Part II 1825-1855

1. John Rogers. War of 1812 veteran who came to Fort Smith as an army sutler and with his partner, John Nicks, replaced Hugh Glenn as the supplier of goods for soldiers and other visitors to the first fort. When Col. Mathew Arbuckle proceeded to move the Seventh Infantry garrison to Three Forks, seventy miles upstream into the heart of Little Osage country, Rogers and Nicks expanded their mercantilism there, too. John Rogers eventually purchased from the U. S. government the land on which the original fort had claimed, and a decade later sold a portion of that back to the government, the army being persuaded that a new fort be built at this location on the Arkansas River. With that, Rogers became wealthier and with more land to sell, a booster. People passing through Fort Smith on their way to the California gold fields remarked on Rogers' hospitality and the contented nature of their stay in his hotel where they were "well cared for at a charge of two daily dollars a head." To one merry party of 49's assembled around him, Rogers told them to remember Fort Smith and come back this way and "I'll give every one of you a plot for building on...and it will be worth a thousand times what it is now when we have the railroad finished." Efforts like this left no doubt that the town grew in large part because of John Rogers. See, Heinrich Mollhausen, *Journey from the Mississippi to the Pacific* (London, 1858), 13.

2. Nathaniel Pryor. A Virginian who enlisted with Meriwether Lewis and William Clark and as one of the most reliable men of the Corps of Discovery was promoted to sergeant, one of the thirty-two men and one woman who made the 1804-1806 epic trek from St. Louis to the Pacific Ocean and returned. According to Clark's 1828 list accounting for the expedition members, Pryor resided at Fort Smith. A U. S. Army officer during the War of 1812, Pryor, with Sam Houston's help, become the Osage agent. He died in 1831 near the town that now bears his name, Pryor, Oklahoma. See: Donald Jackson, *Letters of the Lewis and Clark Expedition with Related Documents* Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1963.



A SMALL MUSEUM just outside Stillwater, Oklahoma, recognizes this famous person's visit to the area.
(Photo courtesy of Billy D. Higgins)

3. Washington Irving. New Yorker and noted author of *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* and *Rip Van Winkle* came to the southwest frontier in 1832 to renew his Americana. From Fort Gibson, he and two companions and an army escort provided by Gen. Mathew Arbuckle made a one-month loop through Osage and Pawnee country, sleeping on the ground and using game animals as a protein source. From this strenuous adventure, the fifty-year-old Irving wrote a book, *A Tour on the Prairies*. The experience is said by some to have influenced Irving's biography of George Washington. Once back at Fort Gibson, Irving had an opportunity to depart hurriedly on a steamboat, the

Little Rock. The boat may have stopped at Fort Smith. At some point on the Arkansas River, John James Audubon boarded the *Little Rock* as a fellow passenger. Irving got to New Orleans in this way and took a sailing ship home to New York. His account brought national attention to the frontier just west of Fort Smith. See Washington Irving, *A Tour on the Prairies* and Stanley T. Williams, *The Life of Washington Irving, Vol. 2*.

4. John Foster Wheeler. As a teenager, John Wheeler, who was born in Kentucky in 1808, apprenticed at a newspaper in Alabama and migrated then to New Echota, Georgia, in 1827, called to work on the first issue of *Cherokee Phoenix* printed in the alphabet devised by Sequoyah, and the two located near each other after the Cherokee removals. Wheeler moved from Indian Territory to Fort Smith in 1847 and set up the *Fort Smith Herald*, the town's first newspaper. Wheeler became a fixture and served as mayor of Fort Smith in 1854 and with wife Mary was a passenger on the first Butterfield stage to enter Fort Smith. See Sarah Fitzjarrald, "John Foster Wheeler," *Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society*, Vol. 13 No. 2 (September 1989); 3-11. Mary Anne Littlefield, "John Foster Wheeler of Fort Smith: Pioneer Printer and Publisher," *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* (Autumn 1985): 260-283.

5. Sequoyah. Born circa 1760 in Tennessee, he served with Gen. Andrew Jackson during the War of 1812, as did many Cherokees, and emigrated to Arkansas in 1818 with Chief John Jolly. Although he had labored on his Cherokee ciphers while in Georgia, only after Sequoyah reached Arkansas and wrote a letter using his syllabary to friends behind in the old land did appreciation in the Cherokee nation develop for what he had done. The mixed-blooded Sequoyah, also known as George Gist, was "taken for a full-blood. He was quiet and morose in manner and would not talk English, but he understood it. He wore the conventional homespun hunting shirt trimmed with red fringe and a red shawl twisted round his head as a turban." The quotations above are from a Fort Smith newspaperman and merchant who said that Sequoyah and his family "often enjoyed the hospitality of their (the Weaver's) cabin home and traded with them in his store in Fort Smith for their products, honey, butter, eggs, chickens, deer and coon skins." Sequoyah died in New Mexico in 1843 trying to contact a band of Cherokees who had migrated there. The Sequoia Redwoods, largest trees in the world, are, according to the National Park Service, named for Sequoyah. See Amelia Martin, "Sequoyah and the Cherokee Alphabet," *The Journal* (September 1989): 12-14 and Grant Foreman, *Sequoyah* (University of Oklahoma Press, 1938), pp. 72-73.

6. Richard Barnes Mason. Served in the U.S. Army from 1817 to his death in St. Louis in 1850. An officer of Dragoons stationed on the Southwest frontier at Fort Smith and Fort Gibson, Mason, descendant of a signer of the Declaration of Independence, made many friends among the townspeople. When war with Mexico broke out in 1846, Mason was assigned to New Mexico Territory. As one of the highest-ranking officers, he was appointed military governor of California by the War Department. In January, gold was discovered just before Mexico ceded via the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo the whole Southwest territory including California to the United States. Mason sent a young lieutenant, Lucien Loeser, carrying a box of gold on a rigorous journey by sailing ships and an overland journey across the isthmus of Panama to Washington. Based on Governor Mason's detailed report that accompanied the box, President James Knox Polk officially announced the discovery, thus setting off the 1849 Gold Rush. Fort Smith citizens hearing their friend Mason's report realized there was "no doubt of the truth" and began to organize wagon trains and bring in stores, livestock, and manufacture equipment for the hordes about to descend on the town. See *Arkansas Democrat*, May 25, 1849; Carolyn Foreman, "General Richard Barnes Mason," *Chronicles of Oklahoma* (March 1941), 34.

7. Albert Pike. Born 1809 near Boston, Massachusetts, young Pike sought his fortune as a trader on the Santa Fe Trail, but busted with that venture and, walking the last 650 miles, made a long and difficult trek east to Fort Smith, entering the town by ferry across the Poteau River in December 1832. Wearing ragged clothes and in rugged shape, Pike found acceptance by John Rogers who invited him to stay. Pike never forgot Rogers' hospitality and included mention of it in his memoirs. The educated Pike opened two charter schools in the area while here, eventually moving to Little Rock to embark on a career as an Arkansas newspaper editor and Whig politician. He remained in touch with people in Crawford County and his descriptions of life and people are among the best in primary source (eyewitness) material that we have. These accounts as well as a complete biography are found in Walter Brown, *A Life of Albert Pike* (University of Arkansas Press, 1997).

8. John Drennen. Born near Elizabeth, Pennsylvania, in 1801, Drennen headed west and settled in Nashville, Tennessee, working as a merchant with partner/brother-in-law David Thompson. After relocating to Arkansas Territory in the late 1820s, the partners bought Phillips Landing and surrounding land totaling around 600 acres. Van Buren became the Crawford County seat a few years later. Drennen's business interests included a thriving mercantile trade along the Arkansas River, a cotton plantation in Chicot County, development of the Fort Smith and Little Rock Railroad, and land speculation. Drennen served as postmaster, represented Crawford County in the 1836 constitutional convention, served in the first state legislature, and fulfilled the duties of trustee of the Real Estate Bank. An ardent Whig, Drennen was appointed Indian agent to the Choctaw by President Zachary Taylor and served as acting superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Southern Region.

During this time, Drennen conducted a census of the Cherokee Nation for payment according to the Treaty of New Echota. Drennen later supervised the payment at Fort Gibson. Drennen contracted yellow fever and died in 1855. He is buried in Fairview Cemetery in Van Buren. See Katie Dunn, "Wealth, Slaves, and John Drennen: A Look at an Antebellum Arkansas Businessman" the *Journal* (April 2015): 11-20, Jacquelyn Rupp, "Drennen Slave Escapes on Trip to Pittsburgh" the *Journal* (April 2015): 20-24, Jerry Wing "Good Whig Hunting: John Drennen and the Department of Indian Affairs" the *Journal* (April 2015):24-31.

9. John S. Roane. A Tennessean who migrated to Pine Bluff right after Arkansas statehood and then moved to Van Buren after appointment as a prosecuting attorney. In 1844 Roane was elected to represent Crawford County in the Arkansas General Assembly. With the outbreak of the war with Mexico, Roane organized the Van Buren Avengers, a company of the First Arkansas Mounted Rifles, which saw action in the Battle of Buena Vista in 1847. Later in the year, Roane fought a duel with pistols on a sandbar in the Arkansas River near Fort Smith. The duelists, Roane and Albert Pike, survived, and Roane became the fourth governor of Arkansas in 1849. See Timothy P. Donovan, Willard B. Gatewood, Jr. and Jeannie M. Whayne, eds. *The Governors of Arkansas: Essays in Political Biography* (University of Arkansas Press, 1995).

10. Jesse Turner. Born 1805 in North Carolina, Turner settled in Crawford County before Arkansas statehood. As a lawyer and politician, Turner played a key role in Whig politics in remote and restless early Arkansas. Influenced by Henry Clay, Turner liked the American Plan agenda of banks and internal improvements. His politics drew him to John Drennen, Albert Pike, David Walker, Robert Crittenden, and Chester Ashley, men who helped shape the development of Arkansas. He was a prolific letter writer, and many of his letters survived. His papers are available at the Pebley Center, University of Arkansas-Fort Smith. See Leisa Gramlich, "Jesse Turner: Frontier Lawyer, Whig Politician, and Influential Public Servant," the *Journal* (April 2008): 8-15.

11. Matthew Lyon. Born in Ireland, 1749. The only man to be elected as U.S. congressman from two states (Vermont and Kentucky). Gifted with a fiery temper, he once brawled on the floor of Congress and later served a jail sentence (under the Sedition Act) for slandering the president (John Adams). Since he broke the tie in the House of Representatives that gave the presidency to Thomas Jefferson in 1801, he was rewarded with appointment as factor to the Cherokee in Arkansas. Lyon set up his trading post at Spadra on the Arkansas River. It was Lyon who provided most of the reports about Mad Buffalo's attacks in and around Fort Smith in April 1822. Concerned that the Osage would push up river and capture his armaments, Lyon had the factory's 113 kegs of gunpowder and fifty new rifles loaded onto boats bound for Little Rock for safekeeping. Lyon who had already accused William Bradford of not providing him with military protection now accused Osage agent Nathaniel Pryor of leading the huge war party. Seventy-three-year old Lyon died later that year at Spadra where he was buried. Later, Lyon, the father of twelve children, was re-interred nearer them at Eddyville, Kentucky. See Aleine Austin, *Matthew Lyon: "New Man" of the Democratic Revolution, 1749-1822.* (Pennsylvania State University Press, 1981); and *Arkansas Territorial Papers* XIX, 331-33.

12. Zachary Taylor. A Virginian, he was commissioned a lieutenant in the U.S. Army in 1808, and married Margaret Mackall Smith in 1810 as a young officer. Veteran of the War of 1812. First came on temporary assignment to Fort Smith in 1822. In 1835, Taylor's oldest daughter, Sarah Knox Taylor, married Jefferson Davis, a young officer in a company of Dragoons that had been stationed at Fort Smith. Taylor opposed the marriage and Sarah Knox died later in the year from a bout with yellow fever. In 1841 after strenuous duties in the Seminole War in Florida, Taylor was reassigned to the Southwest command and set up headquarters at Fort Belknap near the original Fort Smith. His wife, Peggy, and his youngest daughter, Mary Elizabeth, accompanied him and set up a household here. Over the next three years, Taylor was in Fort Smith for about 486 days, residing here when not on leave to inspect his plantations in Louisiana or exercising his command over forces in Indian Territory. He complained in letters about the Arkansas River and Fort Smith, but his wife and daughter apparently enjoyed the town and the hospitality shown them. After becoming an American hero of Buena Vista in the War with Mexico (1846-48), Taylor was elected president of the United States in 1848, the first sitting president to have resided in Arkansas or to have traveled the country this far west. See Billy D. Higgins, "Zachary Taylor's Fort Smith Days," the *Journal* (April 2005): 10-13.

13. Margaret "Peggy" Mackall Smith Taylor. Born 1789 in Maryland, she married Zachary Taylor in 1810. A competent, unpretentious, and friendly woman, Peggy gave birth to five daughters and a son. She and family followed Zachary to many of his army postings making a home in frontier forts. Peggy, uncomplaining about rough dwellings, rustic surroundings, privations, and short supplies, had an intense dedication to the education of her children. In Fort Smith, the family set up household in a log cabin near the end of Garrison Avenue (Fort Belknap, Taylor christened it). Peggy had youngest daughter Mary Elizabeth "Betty" with her. While her husband railed about what he deemed Fort Smith's excesses and with the unpredictable river that made his travel difficult, Peggy, au contraire, found things here to like as expressed in

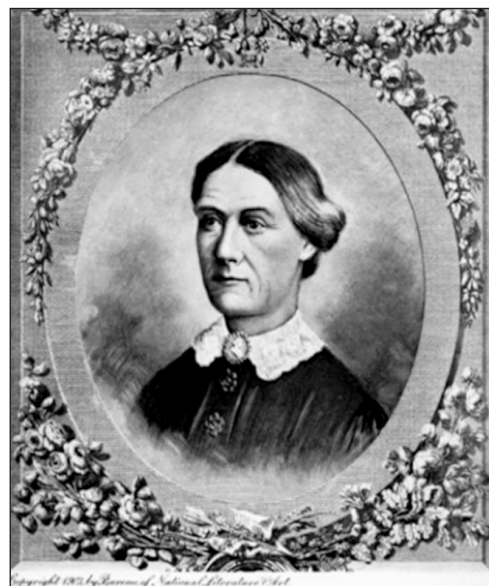
her letters. Young officers at the fort lit up when seeing teen-aged Betty, but Zachary Taylor had already lost his beloved Sarah, who married a young military officer—Jefferson Davis—and disliking the thought of his youngest daughter experiencing the kind of military life that he had put Peggy through, barred these suitors. Not long after sojourning in Fort Smith, however, Taylor became a national hero, was elected the twelfth president of the U. S. (as a Whig), and Peggy and Betty relocated in Washington City. See *Zachary Taylor Papers*, Series 2, 1814-1850 on microfilm, Pebley Center, University of Arkansas-Fort Smith; K. Jack Bauer, *Zachary Taylor: Soldier, Planter, Statesman of the Old Southwest* (LSU Press, 1985).

14. Randolph B. Marcy. An Army officer who came to the southwest and saw action in the first engagements of the War with Mexico. Assigned to garrisons at Fort Towson and Fort Arbuckle, Col. Mathew Arbuckle placed him in charge of a company of dragoons to escort a large wagon train from Fort Smith headed to California in 1849. His troops equipped with a surveyor's chain and viameter charted the exact mileage on the trail to El Paso and this became known as the Marcy Trail, a route taken by most other companies that departed from Fort Smith. Marcy in the 1850s headed three other exploring expeditions into the Southwest, all of which originated in this city. He became the most knowledgeable man in the U.S. Army and perhaps in the whole country about the area west of Fort Smith, a favorite place of his that he identified as the most favorable jumping off place for travel to California, not only for wagon trains, but as the eastern terminus for the transcontinental railroad then being discussed. Marcy's 1859 national best seller, *A Prairie Traveler* featured artwork of early Fort Smith on its frontispiece. See Billy D. Higgins, "Capt. Randolph Barnes Marcy: Explorer and Surveyor," the *Journal* (September 2009): 28-33.

15. George C. McClellan. Born 1826, Philadelphia, McClellan finished second in his West Point class and served in the War with Mexico. In 1852, he was appointed to the prized Red River Expedition as second-in-command, reporting to Randolph B. Marcy at Fort Smith. Arriving on April 1, 1852, McClellan had a long stay in town preparing supplies and plans for the expedition to discover the source of the Red River. Becoming fast friends with Marcy in Fort Smith and on the trek, Marcy named a stream in west Texas for McClellan (near McLean, Texas, on Interstate 40). After the expedition returned home, McClellan asked Marcy's daughter, Mary Ellen, for her hand in marriage, a proposal that she accepted. President Abraham Lincoln named McClellan, whom Carl Sandberg called "the man of the hour," to command the Army of Potomac, the main Union army. McClellan soon named Marcy his chief of staff. Discharged by Lincoln after the Battle of Antietam, McClellan returned to civilian life and ran on the Democratic ticket against Abraham Lincoln in the presidential election of 1864. He was elected governor of New Jersey and died in that state in 1885. Neither he nor Marcy ever saw Fort Smith again. See: "The Life, Campaigns, and Public Services of General George B. McClellan."

16. George Getz Shumard. Born 1823 in New Jersey, he graduated from medical school in Kentucky and moved to Fort Smith, Arkansas. Shumard accompanied Randolph B. Marcy on an expedition to the headwaters of the Red River in the Texas panhandle. Shumard conducted geological research and sketched the landforms of the Llano Estacado. At the conclusion of this expedition while compiling his notes in Fort Smith, Shumard met and fell in love with Isabella Clark Atkinson, daughter of a local tinsmith. They married in 1859 when she turned twenty-one. The outbreak of the Civil War caused Shumard to take his wife, Bella, and two young children back to Cincinnati where he was named surgeon general of Ohio. After the war, the family returned to Fort Smith. Upon George Getz's death in 1867 at the age of forty-four he was buried in the National Cemetery. His tombstone is near the 1819 gravesite of Major William Bradford. See Randolph B. Marcy, *Exploration of the Red River of Louisiana in 1852* (A.O.P. Nicholson, Public Printer, 1854), 156. This book is available on Internet Archive: <https://archive.org/details/b24858766>; *Fort Smith Weekly Herald*, October 12, 1867.

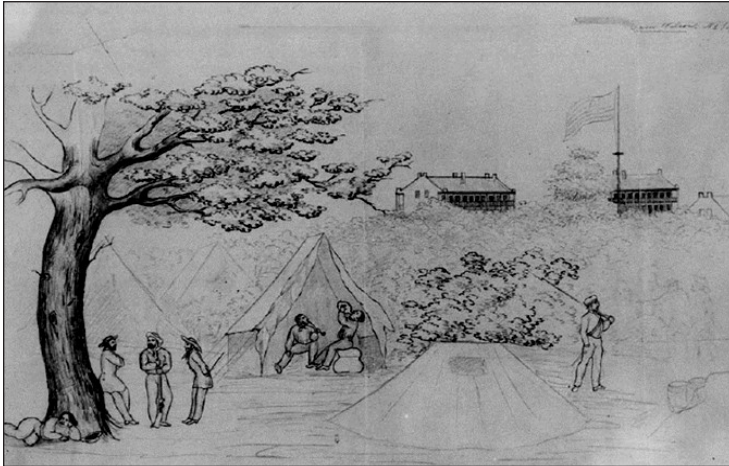
17. Isabella (Bella) Clark Atkinson Shumard. Born 1838, daughter of John C. and Susan B. Atkinson. In Fort Smith, John C. practiced his trade of tinsmith. Success in his craft led him to branch out into retail sales and a hardware store. In the antebellum period and during the boom of the gold rush supply days, Atkinson's became a well-known business in town. Bella at the age of sixteen met a dashing Ohio man, George Getz Shumard, who was an M.D. and a scientist and with an exploring expedition going west to chart and measure the resources of Indian Territory and Texas. She at the age of twenty-one, five years later, married Shumard. The couple had two children, Carrie and Malmar, before secession led to Civil



MARY MACKALL TAYLOR
First lady of the United States,
 1849-1850

(Photo courtesy of the Library of Congress)

War. In what must have been a family crisis, the Shumards departed Fort Smith for Ohio as Union supporters. Ben Atkinson, Bella's brother, joined the Confederate Army and became an officer. After the war, Bella and George and their children returned to Fort Smith, and she to settle here permanently. He returned to Ohio briefly to guest teach at a medical school in Cincinnati, was stricken with paralysis and died. Bella had him returned to Fort Smith and the remains were buried in the National Cemetery. The hardware store, as Atkinson-Williams, grew into the largest of its kind in town. Bella Shumard would be named postmaster of Fort Smith in 1873. Shumard Mountain in Texas is named for George Getz Shumard and the Shumard Oak for his brother. See Carole Barger, "Atkinson-Williams Hardware Company, the *Journal* (September 2003): 2-8. *Earth Sciences History: Journal of the History of the Earth Sciences Society*, Vols 13-14, 1994.



**A MOLLHAUSEN SKETCH OF FORT SMITH
AND WHIPPLE'S MEN**

(Image courtesy of the Research Division of the Oklahoma Historical Society)

18. Heinrich Balduin Mollhausen. German-born Mollhausen arrived by steamboat in Fort Smith in the summer of 1853, a topographer/draftsman, assigned to the A.W. Whipple expedition to layout a route for a transcontinental railroad from Fort Smith to Pueblo de los Angeles on the Pacific Ocean. Mollhausen had a "long stay" and reported that the townspeople were "friendly hosts" with much to offer in equipping the expedition for its dangerous and tedious journey that lay ahead. Mollhausen stayed in Mr. Rogers' hotel, "well cared for at a charge of two daily dollars." Mollhausen's journal is descriptive of people and town in 1853 and so are the drawings that he accomplished during his stay and on the exploring trip. See Mollhausen, "Journey from the Mississippi to the Pacific" available internet archives, https://archive.org/details/bub_gb_BO8TAAAYAAJ/page/n25.

19. William R. Goulding. An M.D. from New York who arrived in 1849 as part of the Knickerbocker Company en route through Fort Smith to the California gold fields. The eighty-man company under the command of Captain John A. N. Ebbetts after a long stay on Massard Prairie outfitting the expedition with horses, mules, and oxen departed on March 26, 1849. About their stay here, Goulding's journal had this observation in it: "Our camp was frequently visited by the Cherokees who supplied us...with a great variety of game-Prairie hens, quails, rabbits, Squirrels. On March 15, the Cherokees came with horses, mules, and jacks for the men to try out. The day was spent in a wild rodeo, complete with bucking horses, thrown riders, spirited jockeying, bargaining, betting, swapping, and drinking."

It was, according to Goulding, a "high day not soon forgotten" filled with "merriment" and "good cheer." Goulding had high praise for the bargains to be found here by the Knickerbockers:

We paid six dollars for buffalo robes at Cincinnati when a better quality could have been purchased here for four. Our blankets, saddles, etc. cost us too much in the same proportion. This a common mistake with explorers, as well as with travelers, to overburden themselves with unnecessary baggage.

For the edification of any who my wish to follow our track, I will say, that, if I were going again on the same expedition, I would carry only a single suit of clothes, two good red flannel shirts, two check shirts, a good rifle, a double shotgun.

See "Overland Journey of the Knickerbocker Exploring Company of New York from Fort Smith to California, 1849-1865" by William R. Goulding, Pebley Center, University of Arkansas-Fort Smith.

20. Mary Conway. Daughter of Dr. John R. Conway the son of an Arkansas governor, Mary was part of the family contingent of Dr. John, his wife and nine other children who traveled in a refitted large army ambulance drawn by strong mules. On the trek, Mary, eighteen years old and winsome, attracted the attention of Dragoon officers escorting the large wagon train. Vying for her attention, officers raced the top of a landmark on the Marcy Trail and christened it Rock Mary, near present-day Hinton, Oklahoma. Mary became engaged to one of the officers, Montgomery Pike Harrison, who pledged to resign his commission once the escort returned to Fort Smith and join Mary in California. On the return, however, Lt. Harrison was killed and scalped by a band of Kiowa warriors. His comrades found his body, packed it in charcoal and hauled the remains back to Fort Smith for burial in the military cemetery. Harrison was later reburied at North Bend cemetery in



ROCK MARY NEAR HINTON, OKLAHOMA

(Photo courtesy of Cheryl Vann)

Ohio near his grandfather, the ninth president of the United States, William Henry Harrison. Mary Conway made it to California, grieved for her lost love, but later married a sea captain, had four children, and lived her life in the thirty-third state.

See, Grant Foreman, *Marcy and the Gold Seekers: The Journal of Capt. R. B. Marcy with an Account of the Gold Rush over the Southern Route* (University of Oklahoma Press, 1939), 215, 288, 293, 338. The *Arkansas Banner*, August 6, 1850, 2.

21. Sarah Ridge Paschal. Born 1814 in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Georgia to The Ridge, a Cherokee warrior, and Sehoya who lived in the traditional Cherokee way. The extended family, some 406 people, came to Arkansas as part of the Indian Removals of the 1830s. The Ridge was part of the “treaty faction” that included Major Ridge, Stand Watie, Elias Boudinot, which was opposed by John Ross and the majority of Cherokee who considered the treaty signed by this group to be treason against the Cherokee Nation, the penalty for such being death. Sarah known as Sallie and her white husband, George Washington Paschal, a lawyer, settled on a rich piece of land near Van Buren, arriving there in the summer of 1837. Sallie had four children while living in Crawford County. Sallie and George lived in Van Buren for nine years, he eking out a living through his law practice and by speculating in local real estate. In these years, the Cherokees and the Choctaws were frequent visitors to Van Buren where there was a race track, stores, taverns, and stickball games. Sallie followed George to Texas in 1848 leaving behind a legacy revealed in the documents about her pivotal life. She remarried in Galveston and died there in 1891, buried by her grandson under an oak tree. For more, see Melanie Speer-Wiggins, “Sarah ‘Sallie’ Ridge Paschal Pix: Between Two Worlds,” the *Journal* (April 2013): 42-55.

And THREE who were NOT here

1. Quatie Ross. Born 1791 in the Old Cherokee Nation, d. 1839, Little Rock. Elizabeth Quatie Brown married John Ross in 1813. Ross would be the first elected chief of the Cherokee Nation. He opposed deportation—Indian removals—with every fiber of his being. Eventually forced to immigrate after acts by Congress required it and the state of Georgia opened Cherokee lands to white settlement, Ross and his wife, Quatie, set out for the Indian Territory aboard the steamship *Victoria* on December 5, 1838. Steaming up the Arkansas toward Fort Smith the winter weather grew severe. Quatie became ill with pneumonia. She died on February 17 in a “terrific sleet and snowstorm” after, so one U.S. soldier’s testimony has it, giving up her only blanket to a freezing child. She is buried at historic Mount Holly Cemetery on Broadway Avenue in Little Rock.

See Cody Lynn Berry, "Quatie Ross," *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*; John G. Burnett, "The Cherokee Removal Through the Eyes of a Private Soldier," December 11, 1890, Warren Hills Regional School District.

2. Jenny Lind. Born 1820, Klara, Sweden, the Swedish Nightingale steamed up the Mississippi River from New Orleans to Memphis aboard the *Magnolia* on her long and glorious tour of the United States in 1850-52. Her journal records a few sentences about passing the mouth of the Arkansas, the banks of which were "Covered with ash and oak and pine of its almost boundless forests," and passing Napoleon, an Arkansas village on the Mississippi frequented by travelers to resupply fuel, water, and rations but which in her view was in flood stage with "half of the houses having their first floors under water, and the other half throwing bridges from their doorways across the flood to the nearest dry spot, in the vain hope of attracting a visitor." Thus, the sixteen states visited on the tour in which the most famous soprano the world performed 136 concerts missed Arkansas but that did not stop the good people of Sebastian County from naming a settlement after her nor Fort Smithians from naming a major artery after her nor a Centennial history of the city from printing a rumor that she gave a concert at a local hotel. See C. G. Rosenberg, *Jenny Lind's Tour through America and Cuba* (New York: Stringer & Townsend, 1851), 174.

3. William King Sebastian. Born 1812 in Tennessee, died 1865, Memphis. Sebastian moved to Arkansas after marrying Amelia Dunn of Helena. A lawyer and politician, he served in the Arkansas General Assembly and that body elected him at age thirty to the U.S. Senate in 1848. In Congress, Sebastian's major bill proposed federal funding for a national highway that would run between Fort Smith and San Diego, California, by way of Santa Fe, New Mexico Territory. Although there is no record of him visiting Fort Smith, his friends in the state assembly named a new county cut out of Crawford and Scott for him in 1851, Sebastian County. Sebastian would be one of two U.S. senators who did not resign their seat in Congress after their state seceded from the Union in 1861, the other being Andrew Johnson from Tennessee. See "Sebastian, William King." Biographical Directory of the United States Congress. Steven Teske, "William King Sebastian," *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*.

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A Shot in the Dark

Judge Paul Little and Guy Ellsworth Williams
(October 1919)

By Joyce Faulkner and Karen Daggs

The Crime

On Saturday, October 25, 1919, a noise awakened Guy Ellsworth Williams. Hyper alert, he sat up in bed. Lying beside him, his ailing young wife, the former Beatrice Lucille Jones, pulled the covers up under her chin, eyes wide with fright. Another noise. Someone was outside their bedroom window trying to get in! Guy jumped out of bed and grabbed his new shotgun. As he approached the window, he saw a dark outline of a man through the screen and fired. Beatrice screamed. They heard moans. Someone was thrashing on the ground under their window. While Guy called the police and requested an ambulance, they heard curious voices and running feet approaching. Guy went to the door in his pajamas, still holding the shotgun. He told his alarmed neighbors that he had shot a burglar and needed the police and an ambulance, even though he had already called them.¹

Perceiving himself to be the victim, Guy did not check on the man he had shot then—or ever. However, his curious visitors ventured further into yard, trying to see who Guy Williams had killed. And so, by the time the police arrived, the neighborhood already understood the immensity of the tragedy that had occurred. Lying in the grass under Guy and Beatrice’s bedroom window—with part of his face blown away—was Twelfth Circuit Court Judge Paul Thomas Little, Guy Williams’s boss and the husband of Beatrice’s older sister, Ada Lou.

Guy and Beatrice Williams had been married a little more than six years and were childless. Their relationship was troubled. Guy, twenty-eight, was ambitious and focused, eager to learn and equally eager to progress in his career. Beatrice, twenty-four, was overwhelmed by his intensity and felt both abused and ignored. Whether they were arguing that night is unknown.

Judge Little’s Fight for life

The judge was alive, but his terrible facial wound prevented him from speaking. He was aware of his surroundings and cognizant of his situation. At the hospital, doctors fought to slow the bleeding throughout the night. The blast had blown away his lower left jaw and shattered the upper.



JUDGE PAUL LITTLE
(Courtesy of authors)

Although his tongue was intact, he had trouble swallowing.

Doctor Charles Holt chose not to probe the massive defect to remove the pellets embedded in the judge’s flesh and remaining bone. The doctor fully expected complications would compromise Judge Little’s recovery—if he survived at all. The judge was a healthy forty-year-old man, but the doctor believed his chances were less than even that he would survive the night.

The judge’s wife, Ada Lou, was visiting friends in Little Rock. Beatrice and Guy Williams arrived at the hospital shortly after the judge himself and stayed to comfort him and relay information about his condition to other family members.

Judge Little remained in critical condition on Sunday morning, October 26, but he was alive and conscious. Doctors assured his wife, Ada Lou, who had hurried to her husband’s bedside, that he got through the night as

comfortably as possible given the circumstances. By afternoon, his widowed mother, Jennie, traveling from her residence in Walnut Grove, joined the bedside vigil. And shortly after that, his brother, Jesse Little, arrived. Although laid low and mute, the stricken man must have appreciated his family's emotional support. The doctor at this point was optimistic for some kind of recovery.

That afternoon, the police arrested Guy Williams. Guy insisted that he did not realize the person tapping on his bedroom window was his brother-in-law. The investigation into the case was in the earliest stages, but given the known facts, the police charged Guy with assault with intent to kill and placed him under a \$5,000 bond, pending the outcome of Paul Little's wounds. Former Fourth District Congressman William Ben Cravens furnished his bond.²

Guy Williams' Explanation

On Monday, October 27, Guy Williams wrote a grim description of what happened for the police.

On Saturday afternoon, about 5:30, Judge Little called at my residence and visited with my wife and me until about 6 o'clock, just leaving, he invited us to accompany him to the show that night, or if we didn't want to go to the show, we could sit in his car on the avenue. My wife was not feeling well and told Judge Little she did not feel able to go out. I told him I had to stay home and study my Sunday school lesson, as I expected to teach a class the next day.

On leaving my home, my wife invited Judge Little to take cold supper with us, that we didn't have much to eat, but he was welcome to stay. He said no, he would go on home and see us the next day.

My wife and I ate supper and sat around the house reading papers, and I studied my Sunday school lesson. We retired about 9 pm, and about 10 or 15 minutes later, I heard a noise near my back porch, and a minute or so later I heard the screen on my bedroom rattle like someone was trying to get in. I got out of bed, picked up my gun nearby and fired through the window, thinking a burglar was trying to get in, with the horrible results that followed.

(Signed) GUY E. WILLIAMS

When shown Williams' statement, Judge Little wrote his own account, confirming the veracity of Guy's description of the incident and declaring that "...under the circumstances no blame should be attached to Guy Williams."³

While slight discrepancies between the two declarations existed, they were remarkably consistent with each other.

Judge Little's Explanation

Judge Paul Little was home at 501 North Twenty-first Street when the telephone rang at 9:20 p.m. It was a

business associate named Teddy Grober who lived on North I. Mr. Grober told Judge Little that he had sold some oil stocks for him and asked him to come over to tend to the details.

Judge Little had already put away his automobile for the night, so he decided to walk. It was a nice evening and Mr. Grober's home was less than half a mile away, a leisurely stroll.

However, after Judge Little started his walk, he thought about Guy Williams. Mr. Williams was Judge Little's court reporter and brother-in-law. Over the years, Judge Little had encouraged Guy's ambitions, introducing him to important people, giving him career advice and hiring him. He thought the younger man was a hard worker and that he had potential in the legal community. And of course, he was a relative. By marriage to be sure, but kin supported kin. Guy's opportunities were certainly of his own making, but it did not hurt to be associated with the powerful Little family. Especially in Arkansas. Especially in Fort Smith.

The Williamses lived near the corner of North Greenwood and Alabama Avenue. Mr. Williams either had oil stock already that he was looking to sell or he was interested in buying some. With that in mind, Judge Little detoured so that he could stop by their house on his way to meet with Mr. Grober.

From his home on North Twenty-first Street, the judge's most likely route was to walk northeast until he hit North N. Then turning right, it was only a couple blocks to North Greenwood Avenue where he turned left. Judge Little saw that a light was still on at the Williamses's home. As he approached the house, the light went off. Feeling that the Williamses were probably still awake and still wanting to talk to Guy about the oil contacts, Judge Little increased his pace and arrived at their front door a few minutes later. He knocked, but no one responded. Sure the occupants were awake but perhaps preparing to retire for the night, he stepped down off the porch and went around to the side of the house. Trying to catch their attention before they went to sleep, the judge either scratched on or tossed stones at the Williamses's bedroom window to alert them to his presence.⁴

Just as the judge was about to say, "Hello," a flash of light made him squeeze his eyes shut. An ear-splitting explosion knocked him backward and down. He lay in the yard beneath the window stunned for several seconds. Then as he began to recover his wits, he put his hand to his face and realized that he had been shot, perhaps mortally.⁵

The Death of Judge Little

After finishing his account of the incident, Judge Little accepted that he probably would not recover. He knew that



JUDGE PAUL LITTLE'S LIKELY PATH ON OCTOBER 25, 1919.

(Map by Joyce Faulkner and Karen Daggs, with credit to Google Maps)

if he did survive, he would be horribly mutilated. This bleak reality must have been overwhelming for a handsome and vital forty-year-old man. He wrote a note to his medical attendants that he would rather die than live disfigured. In this state of mind, he then wrote his will.⁶

That afternoon, the Fort Smith Bar Association elected local attorney John Brizzolara to serve in Judge Little's absence. To facilitate the transition, all the judge's pending cases were postponed a week.

On Tuesday, October 28, Guy Williams resumed his duties as the Twelfth Circuit Court stenographer. No date was set for his preliminary trial and given Judge Little's statement, most observers thought it was unlikely Williams would face any legal penalties.

Despite Judge Little's gloomy outlook on Monday, Tuesday brought new hope. The ghastly wound prevented the judge from taking nourishment. This further weakened him, preventing the doctor from attempting repairs to his jaw. So, Dr. Charles S. Holt and the Little family decided to take him to St. Louis where plastic surgeons would retrieve a piece of his rib and use it to build a new jawbone.⁷

With a sense of urgency, they took the judge to the train station that evening. Dr. Holt, his nurse, Ada Lou, and Jessie Little traveled with him. However, Paul Little took a sudden

turn for the worse and died as the Frisco approached Springfield, Missouri, around midnight. Heartbroken, the family returned to Fort Smith with his body.⁸

On Thursday, October 30, the Little family held services for Judge Paul Little at the home he shared with Ada Lou and their daughter, eleven-year-old Katherine, on North Twenty-first Street. Then, the coffin was taken to Greenwood Cemetery where the Reverend H.E. Leroy of First Methodist Church South of Greenwood officiated. The pallbearers were Judge Little's friends and colleagues in the legal community. They included William Ben Cravens, Claude Thompson, E. U. Hardin, R. O. McDonald, Vincent Miles, and T. B. Pryor. Honorary pallbearers were Joseph M. Hill, G. C. Hardin, C. E. Osbourne, Dr. John Davis, R. W. McFarland and C. A. Norris.

Paul was laid to rest beside his father, Governor John Sebastian Little, who preceded him in death a mere three years earlier. Judge Little left behind his grieving widow and daughter, his mother, two brothers, Jesse of Little Rock and Tom of Van Buren, and two sisters, Mrs. Matthew Wallace of Van Buren and Mrs. George Patterson of Fort Smith.⁹

Judge Little's Back Story

Judge Little was born into a long line of distinguished

public servants. He went to school in Greenwood and graduated from the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. He was his father's secretary while he represented the Fourth Congressional District for sixteen years. He opened a law firm with old friend Styles P. Rowe in Fort Smith. Then he served two terms as prosecuting attorney and was in his second term as judge of the Twelfth Circuit. Given his many accomplishments over such a short life, the loss of Judge Little seemed especially tragic in Fort Smith. What might have been?

The History of Judge Little's Relationship with Guy E. Williams

It's unclear from the documentation whether Judge Little's support for Guy E. Williams began before or after he courted and married Ada Lou Little's younger sister, Beatrice. In 1913, when they married, Guy was teaching school in Jacksonville, Arkansas. However, in the spring of 1914, Prosecuting Attorney Paul Little introduced Guy, who was then the principal of the Jacksonville school, to the president of Neal Commercial College.¹⁰ Guy enrolled to study shorthand and typing with an eye to becoming a court stenographer.¹¹ By June 1915, Guy and Beatrice had moved to Fort Smith and Guy was the official court reporter for the Twelfth Circuit, where Paul Little was midway through his second term as prosecuting attorney.¹²

The Role of Rumor

All charges against Guy E. Williams were dropped the day of the funeral. However, Fort Smith was and is a small community. Soon dark rumors began circulating. Judge Little was romantically involved with sister-in-law Beatrice, one view professed. He approached the Williams house that night hoping for a sexual interlude with Beatrice while Ada Lou and his daughter were out of town. Supposedly, the story went, the judge sent Guy to Greenwood that night but somehow Guy returned home and murdered Judge Little.

While no real evidence that such an illicit relationship existed was ever produced, such talk must have put more pressure on the Williamses' already fragile marriage. Guy was a straight-laced early twentieth century fellow. He was serious about his career and deeply religious. Even without the rumors, his position as court stenographer placed him in the middle of Judge Little's friends and colleagues daily. Under the circumstances, it became increasingly uncomfortable for him. Within a month, Guy found a new job far away from Fort Smith.

On November 20, 1919, the *Southwest American* announced in an eight-line blurb that Guy Williams had accepted a position with Sinclair Oil Company and that he was leaving for Wichita Falls, Texas, immediately. Beatrice

would join him as soon as accommodations could be secured.¹³

However, it seems Beatrice never moved to Texas to rejoin Guy. Five months later, in April 1920, she sued him for divorce, charging him with cruelty and desertion. According to the *Arkansas Gazette*, the petition claimed that over the course of their marriage, she endured "cruel and barbarous treatment," "indignities that rendered her condition intolerable," and "continual nagging and abuse," at the hands of her husband. And then, a short month after the shooting, he abandoned her.¹⁴

Beatrice received her divorce but the details, following so closely on the heels of the death of Judge Little probably reawakened and fed the salacious rumors.

Legal Issues

In February 1920, Ada Little sued Aetna Life Insurance Company for \$7,500.¹⁵ Several years before his death, Judge Little purchased an accumulative weekly accident policy on himself. Ada was the beneficiary. It was in full force when he died. Since his death had been ruled accidental, Ada reasonably expected she would receive that money.

However, Aetna refused to pay, claiming Judge Little's death was not by accident but by murder. The company investigators found plenty of support for their theory in the Fort Smith rumor mill, but little if any supporting evidence. However, in circular fashion, this lawsuit gave those rumors more legitimacy to the town gossips.

The Littles and Williamses were outraged by the innuendo and fought back, claiming the stories were made up by the judge's political enemies. Ada was particularly upset, saying that she and her husband were close with her sister and her husband, but there was no affair. And no way did she believe that Guy murdered Judge Little. No ifs, ands, or buts about it. His death was a tragic accident.

In March 1920, Ada won her case in circuit court handily. However, Aetna appealed, and the case was adjudicated by the Arkansas Supreme Court. Their report came down on November 8, 1920.¹⁶ The court ruled, "Evidence in action on accident policy held not to support inference that the person who shot the insured knew when he fired that he was shooting at the insured."¹⁷

They also ruled that Judge Little's death was accidental within the definitions of the policy that it "...was the unexpected and not probable result of his conduct."

The court further ruled that testimony to overcome presumption of accidental death must be reasonable or probable. Also, that negligence does not defeat recovery on an accident policy.

Finally, the most interesting judgment centered around "the rumors." Aetna insisted that the killing happened as a



**ADA LOU LITTLE
AND DAUGHTER KATHERINE VIRGINIA**
(Photo courtesy of Joyce Faulkner and Karen Daggs)

result of Judge Little's behavior "...which if not wrongful in fact, appeared to be unlawful to the party who killed him." The company argued that if the judge wanted to talk to Guy Williams about business, he could have telephoned him. And if he wanted a personal conversation, he should have approached the Williams home in the "usual way" and should have announced his presence by ringing the doorbell. By failing to do that, Aetna claimed, Judge Little caused Guy Williams to believe that someone was trying to enter his home with an "unlawful or wrongful purpose." The company also charged that Guy knew he was shooting Judge Little when he pulled the trigger and as such, murdered Paul Little.

The court posited that if Judge Little had any improper motives for approaching the Williams home, there could only be two explanations—that he intended to burglarize the home or that he was pursuing an assignation with Beatrice Williams.

However, no evidence was submitted to support either contention. In terms of burglary as a potential motive, the court wasted few words on that possibility. Judge Little and his family were financially secure, being that he was not

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On the rumored illicit affair, the court noted the familial relationship between the Littles and Williamses—and Judge Little’s long-established role as sponsor to Guy’s education and advancing career—and to their relationship as judge and court stenographer. As for the allegation that Judge Little was romancing Beatrice, they pointed out that before this incident, “...the name of Judge Little had never been coupled with Mrs. Williams in any improper way.” And of course, this was validated by both families.

And so, the Arkansas Supreme Court ruled in favor of Ada Little and rejected Aetna’s request for a rehearing a month later.

The Littles Carry On

Judge Little’s grieving family took solace in the support of their friends and neighbors. But as time passed, Ada and her daughter, Katherine, made new lives for themselves.

Ada married George Ward Green in 1922, and they moved to Kentucky. She was widowed a second time when George died in 1938. She died in 1959 at the age of seventy-three.

Katherine Virginia Little married Mitchum Ellison Warren in Tennessee in 1930 when they were both twenty-two. In 1934, she gave birth to Mitchum Ellison Warren Jr., who grew up to be a naval officer and a scientist with multiple advanced degrees. Katherine died in 1979.

Little information is available about Beatrice Lucille Jones after her divorce from Guy Williams in the spring of 1920.

Guy E. Williams’ New Life

Guy E. Williams married Fay Adams in early 1922. He rebounded from the tragedy and the resulting social and professional setbacks associated with it, pursuing a career in Arkansas politics for the rest of his life.

By 1935, he was assistant prosecuting attorney in Fort Smith, Arkansas, and his name appeared in newspapers regularly. By 1940, he was the Arkansas state fire marshal, working out of Little Rock. In 1942, he ran for Arkansas attorney general and won. He ran again in 1946 and won again.

Then, in 1948, he announced his intention to run for governor, but within weeks, changed his mind and declared himself a Democratic candidate for judge in the Second Division of the Pulaski Chancery Court—and won. He served in that role until his death of a heart attack in 1965 at the age of seventy-three.

Conclusion

The death of Paul Little at the hand of Guy E. Williams certainly changed the lives of both men’s families.

However, given the talent, political contacts, and prosecutorial and judicial successes, Paul Little’s potential contributions to Arkansas in general, and the Twelfth Circuit in particular, might have been profound. And one can wonder if the reason Guy Ellsworth Williams backed down from his decision to run for governor of Arkansas was related to the political peril born of the tragic incident in 1919.



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Karen Daggs is a world traveler and a dedicated researcher who contributes to those who write historical articles and novels.

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- 2 “Williams Held for Shooting of Judge,” *Arkansas Gazette*, October 27, 1919, p. 1.
- 3 *Arkansas Democrat*, October 29, 1919, p. 1.
- 4 “Judge Paul Little Shot; Near Death,” *Arkansas Gazette*, October 26, 1919, p. 1.
- 5 *Arkansas Democrat*, October 29, 1919, p. 1.
- 6 “Fort Smith Jurist, Mistaken for Burglar, Writes Will Under Belief He Will Not Survive,” *Arkansas Democrat*, October 27, 1919, p. 1.
- 7 “Rib to Replace Shattered Jaw of Judge Little,” *Arkansas Democrat*, October 28, 1919.
- 8 *The Southern Standard* (Arkadelphia, Arkansas), Thursday, November 6, 1919.
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- 10 *Daily Herald* (Fort Smith, Arkansas), July 26, 1915.
- 11 *Daily Herald*, June 11, 1914.
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- 14 “Killing of Judge Little Recalled,” *Arkansas Gazette*, April 14, 1920, p. 11.
- 15 *Arkansas Democrat*, February 2, 1920.
- 16 *The Southwestern Reporter*, volume 225sw, “Aetna Life Insurance Company v. Little,” pp. 298-300.
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Mame Stewart Josenberger

Arkansas Businesswoman, Activist, and Internationalist, 1890-1964

By Cherisse Jones-Branch, Ph.D.

In the years following the Civil War and Reconstruction, African Americans migrated to Arkansas from around the South to seek their fortunes. Many came in search of opportunities to own land and to improve their economic situations, settling largely in rural areas, particularly the Arkansas Delta where they sought “cheap land, high wages...and were aware of “state authorities’ suppression of Ku Klux Klan violence during Reconstruction.” Indeed, for some African-American migrants, as historian Story Matkin-Rawn has argued, Arkansas was the “great Negro State of the country.”¹ In some cases, however, black people who had been born and raised in the North, where they were accustomed to enjoying some economic and educational advantages, moved to Arkansas cities where they established themselves as part of the African-American elite. One such example of the latter is landowner and activist Mame Stewart Josenberger who emigrated to Fort Smith, Arkansas, and lived there from 1890 to 1964.

Mame Stewart was born between 1868 and 1872 in Owego, New York, to Frank and Mary Elizabeth (Turner) Stewart, both of whom had been born in Virginia.² She attended the Owego Free Academy and graduated from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, in 1888. The class of 1888 included scholar and political activist W.E.B. DuBois.³ He and Mame corresponded throughout their lives and re-enforced each other’s massive efforts to procure full citizenship for African Americans.

Stewart’s activist bent was evident even during her college years. At Fisk’s commencement, she gave a talk titled, “Women in Public Life,” which forecast her later racial and gender activism for equality. She argued that “the mission of education is to give training to men and women alike,” that the “development of woman is the greatest movement of the age.” Her talk further emphasized that education should “form the moral and intellectual capabilities of woman and nature will take care of her. As a citizen, woman has rights which men ought not to overlook.” Stewart maintained that women’s full participation in public life ended corruption. Her speech, according to the *Fisk Herald*, the college’s student newspaper, was “loudly applauded, especially by the women and the advocates of women’s suffrage.”⁴



YOUNG MAME STEWART JOSENBARGER

(Courtesy Photo)

After graduation from Fisk, Stewart briefly taught mathematics at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.⁵ Later that year, Stewart moved to Holly Springs, Mississippi, where she taught at the State Normal School for Negroes, known today as Rust College.⁶ The following year she relocated to Fort Smith, Arkansas, on the border of Indian Territory after accepting a teaching position at Howard School, the only African-American high school in western Arkansas. As a woman who had been raised in New York state and had quite likely interacted with the black elite in Nashville, Stewart had this to say about her new home in an October 1890 letter to the Fisk University class of 1888:

Socially, Fort Smith is far above most small towns. There are many young people and lots to do. The town, as

most western towns, is all mixed up, the largest element being of Mississippi and from Arkansas originally. This fact and the situation being right now on the border of Indian terr (territory) makes the people a little more high tempered than people as a rule and hence the hard name the place has. However, I find on a longer stay here that after all they are just like other people and the newness having passed away, one is as happy here as anywhere.⁷

In January 1892, Mame married Fort Smith furniture store owner and undertaker William Ernest Josenberger, an African American born in Arkansas in 1860 who was about ten years older than Mame.⁸ His father, A.W. Josenberger, a stable keeper, had immigrated to the state from Germany, also in 1860. His mother, about whom virtually nothing is known, had been born in Louisiana.⁹ Before he and Mame married, William was postman and the secretary of the Fort Smith branch of the Mutual Benefit Association of the National Association of Letter Carriers.¹⁰ Mame was his second wife. In 1880 Josenberger had married a woman named Dena Branch at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Little Rock.¹¹ The couple later divorced.¹²

Well respected by blacks and whites alike, William Josenberger was a member of the Arkansas Republican Party. In 1888, the year Mame graduated from college, he and other Republicans represented Sebastian County at the party's convention in Little Rock.¹³ William Josenberger was further the president of the Arkansas chapter of the Colored Undertakers, Embalmers, and Funeral Directors' Association.¹⁴

In 1893, Mame gave birth to a daughter named Ernestine. Ernestine, the couple's only child, lived a short life, passing away in 1919.¹⁵ In 1901, Mame left the teaching profession. Her community and organizational affiliations, however, increased. Like many of the African-American elite, she joined several black fraternal orders. In 1903, she was elected the Grand Registrar of Deeds of Arkansas of the Grand Order of Calanthe, a fraternal benefit organization founded in Texas in 1897 to provide burial insurance for African Americans.¹⁶ The Grand Order of Calanthe challenged racial stereotypes by promoting positive portrayals of African Americans. In 1907, she was elected the organization's Supreme Assistant Conductress and was its Grand Registrar until 1916. After that, she became the Supreme Orator of the "colored" Knights of Pythias in the 1920s.¹⁷ Josenberger was additionally a member of the Royal Grand Court Order of the Eastern Star.¹⁸

After William died in 1909, Josenberger took over the family funeral business.¹⁹ As an African-American entrepreneur, she was active in the National Negro Business League (NNBL) an organization founded in

Boston, Massachusetts, by Booker T. Washington. The NNBL's goal was "to promote the commercial and financial development of the Negro."²⁰ Josenberger exemplified the NNBL's message of African American financial uplift. She owned Josenberger Hall, located at 619½ Ninth Street, and a hardware and retail store next door in the heart of Fort Smith's African-American business district during the Jim Crow era.²¹

Typically, the black community of Arkansas's second-largest city gathered at Josenberger Hall to celebrate graduations, to hold educational events, to discuss politics, and to address community concerns. In the evenings, the Hall doubled as an entertainment venue for African-American entertainers and performers during the 1920s through the early 1960s. Such nationally known musicians as "Blind" Boone and the Alphonso Trent Orchestra performed at Josenberger Hall.²² John William "Blind" Boone, who played at the Hall in 1925 at the age of sixty-one was a pianist and composer of ragtime music on the scale of Scott Joplin.²³ In the 1940s, such acts as Boogie Woogie Queen, Christine Chatman and Her Orchestra,²⁴ Trumpet Sensation of the Nation,²⁵ King Kolax and His NBC Band, Irvin C. Miller's Brown Skin Models, a popular review inspired by Ziegfeld Follies that employed black women, and Sonny Boy Williams and His Orchestra, all performed at Josenberger Hall to the great enjoyment of Fort Smith's black residents.²⁶ James Brown and Ike and Tina Turner reportedly performed at the venue in the 1960s.²⁷ Excitement reigned on such nights on Ninth Street in Fort Smith and, according to local residents interviewed in 2013, pulled in patrons from surrounding black communities.

Because of her business acumen, which included a owning a burial insurance company, Josenberger was considered "one of the most capable and efficient business propositions" and regarded as the "wealthiest as well as one of the most successful colored persons" in Fort Smith. She owned a "palatial residence" on 703 North Eleventh Street, and was considered "a true factor," in making African Americans a "better race."²⁸ Indeed, not only was Josenberger a life member of the NNBL and the Fort Smith Negro Business League, she was a close friend of the Washingtons. She and Margaret Murray Washington, the third wife of famed Tuskegee Institute president Booker T. Washington, had known each other since they were students at Fisk University.²⁹ Josenberger and Margaret Washington visited Hot Springs with a group of their well-heeled friends in 1906. In August 1915, Mame accompanied the Washingtons on a cruise from Boston, Massachusetts, to Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.³⁰ After Washington's death in 1915, NNBL members gathered in Kansas City, Missouri, to memorialize their



JOSENBERGER HALL stood on this now vacant lot on Fort Smith's North Ninth Street.
(Photo courtesy of the author)

fallen leader. Mame Josenberger was among those who eulogized the most famous African American of the time, Booker T., the Sage of Tuskegee, and the funnel through which most of the northern philanthropic gifts to fund black education and businesses passed.³¹

In addition to running her businesses, Josenberger took on active roles in black women's social reform organizations. She was, for instance, a member of National Association of Colored Women (NACW) and the Arkansas Association of Colored Women (AACW). The NACW, formed in 1896, consisted of African-American women who dedicated themselves to the organization's motto "Lifting as We Climb," which underscored their plans for and dedication to African-American communities nationwide. Suffrage for women was a primary objective for black clubwomen in the early years of the twentieth-century and was among the many departments established by the NACW immediately after its founding. Josenberger attended the NACW's sixth biennial session in Brooklyn, New York, in 1908.³² When the NACW met at Wilberforce

University in Ohio in 1914, with Josenberger's longtime friend, Margaret Murray Washington as president, the organization endorsed women's suffrage.³³ While at the meeting, Josenberger heard black women activists give papers on "Our Working Girls," "The Race Problem," "Juvenile Court Work," "What Can We Do To Lower The Rate of Mortality," "Child Labor," "Benefits of Cooperation," "A New Factor in Motherhood," and "Our Responsibility in the World's Work."³⁴

Josenberger was involved with the national body from its earliest years. She served on the NACW's "Peace Committee," following World War I, was its auditor in the early 1920s, and its first recording secretary in the 1930s.³⁵ She used her leadership connections with the NACW to advocate for women's and black suffrage in Arkansas. Josenberger co-founded Fort Smith's Phillis Wheatley Federated Club in 1898 and was its president for fifty-six years.³⁶ She was one of the first officers of the AACW when it was founded in 1905 and four years later, consisted of twenty-five clubs and five hundred members.

Among the AACW's concerns was securing voting rights for African Americans and establishing industrial schools for black boys and girls. Although Arkansas women had won the right to vote by 1917, this was a hollow victory for African-American women. During the Jim Crow era and because of "White only primaries" suffrage largely eluded black women.³⁷ This issue was clearly important to African-American organizations throughout Arkansas.

When the Order of Eastern Star (OES), of which Josenberger was a member, met in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, in 1919, it noted its "satisfaction over the federal woman suffrage amendment, with an intimation that negro women will take advantage of the ballot." The OES's royal grand patron connected black women's right to suffrage to their sacrifices during the war years.

These are the times when the race should show itself as never before. The women of our race are demanding more than ever before and richly deserve more than has been given them, because they have fought as well as our men in the recent battle for civilization.³⁸

Josenberger was a lifetime member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People or the NAACP founded in 1910 by a group of black and white activists including Mame's college friend, W.E.B. DuBois.³⁹ The NAACP set out to regain black Civil Rights by mounting legal attacks against state Jim Crow laws and challenging disfranchisement. It would be the NAACP, that succeeded with the 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*, Supreme Court decision that began breaking down the South's legal system of segregation.⁴⁰

Although black women never abandoned direct challenges to electoral politics, they intensified their focus on anti-lynching laws, social reforms, and international concerns. During and after World War I, the NACW and the AACW, addressed racial violence nationwide and in Arkansas. When the organization held its biennial convention in Tuskegee, Alabama, in 1920, Josenberger attended along with eight other African-American women from Arkansas. While there, the group advanced a "very strong and heart appealing plea...for the thirteen condemned men awaiting execution for rioting in Elaine, Ark."

This plea referenced the 1919 Elaine Massacre in Phillips County that ensued after black farmers, transgressing white supremacist norms, formed the Progressive Farmers and Household Union Association to secure better prices from white landowners for their cotton crops and to end "debt peonage."⁴¹ Days of rioting and "white capping" afterward left perhaps upward of one hundred people, mostly African Americans, dead in Phillips County. Yet all the men convicted of murder and

sentenced to die in the electric chair were black. At the NACW convention, each state federation was asked to appeal to Arkansas's governor to commute the men's sentences to life imprisonment.⁴² That appeal was successful and eventually, all of the men were released from prison.

Josenberger and other black women addressed post World War I concerns through such organizations as the International Council of Women of the Darker Races (ICWDR).⁴³ Established in Richmond, Virginia, 1922 by Margaret Murray Washington following the NACW's biennial meeting which Josenberger likely attended, the ICWDR championed the "dissemination of knowledge of people of color so that the world could better appreciate their history and accomplishment[s]." Although the ICWDR only existed for eighteen years, until 1940, it galvanized politically astute African-American women activists from around the country who educated themselves about international relations and world peace initiatives in the years following World War I. In 1923, Josenberger, an executive committee member, was the finance committee chair and the ICWDR treasurer.

ICWDR members' activism had a clear internationalist scope. Black women passed resolutions to study women and girls' conditions in Africa and commended the French government for investigating racial discrimination in its colonies.⁴⁴ ICWDR members enlightened themselves about education, political efficacy and social uplift issues and often formed study clubs to address their concerns. Josenberger, for instance, started the J.K.L.M. Study Club (named for members' initials) that met on Sunday afternoons, most likely in her home. In 1925 she wrote to Margaret Murray Washington about the club and said that, "China and Japan have interested us so far—out line for each country being as follows: Historical Facts, Government, Religion-Customs, Education, Foreign or International Relations."⁴⁵ Study clubs not only helped black women become more conversant about international issues, they allowed them to contextualize black people's local and national struggles within the larger global struggle for human rights.⁴⁶

In subsequent decades as the activism of people like Mame Stewart Josenberger started to unravel Jim Crow laws and practices and federal and state governments enacted comprehensive voting and civil rights laws that began to transform American society, Josenberger remained involved with the NACW, the AACW, the ICWDR, the NNBL, and the NAACP, in addition to managing her businesses in Fort Smith. The right-to-vote and African Americans' political education however, remained at the very top of her agenda and that of black clubwomen nationwide. Mame Stewart Josenberger, who

died in Fort Smith in 1964, was a successful Arkansas businesswoman, leader, and activist.⁴⁷ Her organizational affiliations connected her to educated, middle-class black women locally, across the state, and nationally, all of whom employed their time, resources, and talent to improve African Americans' economic, social, and political access to full equality.



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Wallets in the Camp Chaffee barracks wall.

Why were they there, who discovered them, and what do they reveal about the soldiers who were stationed at Chaffee?

See the September issue of the *Journal* for the answers and more detail about wallet contents.

Guy Hartman and the Fort Smith Connection

From Criminal Conspirator to Honored War Veteran

By Al Whitson

On Thursday, January 9, 1919, on the front page of the *Southwest American* newspaper, an article claimed, “Guy Hartman of Fort Smith has made a remarkable military record in the heaviest fighting on the American front in France and he has come out of it as Captain Hartman with the United States Medal of Honor and recommendations for the Distinguished Service Cross.” Being completely unaware of any Fort Smith lads having won the Medal of Honor during the First World War, my interest was piqued, and I decided to conduct a little more research on Captain Hartman.

What I discovered astounded me. First, Captain Guy Hartman was neither a Fort Smith resident (he was actually from North Carolina) nor a Medal of Honor recipient, although he was nominated for the Medal of Honor and did receive the Distinguished Service Cross.

Although not a resident of Fort Smith, he did have a deep connection here. However, there was nothing honorable or distinguished about that connection—unless one considers being part of a national conspiracy and a fugitive from justice distinguished. Now, let me tell you the rest of the story.

In early May 1915, the first hints of a much broader conspiracy made their way into the local newspapers when reports surfaced that huge caches (total production was eventually estimated at more than 220,000 gallons) of untaxed liquor had been confiscated at Fort Smith by



CAPTAIN GUY HARTMAN

(Photos courtesy of the author)

federal revenue agents and U. S. deputy marshals. It was deemed one of the largest illegal moonshine operations in history. The focus of the operation was the Rush Distillery plant located on the corner of North First and H Street here in Fort Smith, which had been closed on March 17, 1914. Sometime after that closure, the locks were changed, the plant’s capacity was doubled, and operations continued on a larger scale than when the production had been legal and taxed. Initial reports implicated several prominent Fort Smith citizens and told of the complete confiscation of the Rush Distillery building and all its equipment, the Anheuser-Busch Brewing Company’s warehouses and the J. B. Thomas saloon. By the time the investigation was

complete, the conspirators were said to have defrauded the United States government out of approximately half-a-million dollars in tax revenue. Among those arrested were John L. Casper, Guy L. Hartman, J. B. Thomas, G. N. Gilley, John B. Coffey, H. M. Milliner, Ed O'Connell, Andrew Rich, Clay Dillingham, Dennis Cole and Top Strahorn.

Much of the illegal liquor was first shipped to warehouses in Kansas City, where it was then distributed across the Southwest. Just as interesting as the actual operation of the still was the fact that it could operate for so long with the complicity of local suppliers. Train car loads of coal, hundreds of shipping barrels, thousands of pounds of corn meal, rye, barley, etc., all delivered to a closed distillery just a few blocks from downtown Fort Smith. The finished product was then transported by the Fort Smith Merchants Transfer Company to various warehouses, including the Anheuser-Busch warehouses on Eighth Street, and eventually introduced into the legal booze market. Among the other Fort Smith concerns implicated in the operations were the Iron Mountain railroad and the First National Bank.

However, it was Guy Hartman whose fingerprints were on virtually every aspect of the operation. When authorities initially went to arrest Mr. Hartman, he was staying at the Hotel Main on Garrison Avenue. Knowing he faced a long prison term if convicted, he decided to run. After convincing officers to let him briefly return to his room, he climbed out a second-story window and made his way to Roland, Oklahoma, where he caught the KCS flyer to Kansas City. He was soon recaptured, jailed in Kansas City and ultimately released on a \$20,000 bond, which he promptly jumped before heading for Mexico.

After spending some months on a farm in Mexico and becoming familiar with the language and the area, he became an Army Scout with General John J. Pershing's expeditionary forces fighting against Pancho Villa's border raids. By all accounts, he acquitted himself admirably as a scout, participating in numerous expeditions deep into Mexican territory. When he became seriously ill, he was transferred to Columbia, New Mexico—the base of operations for Pershing's expeditionary forces, where he was hospitalized. He was subsequently re-arrested by federal authorities and returned to Fort Smith in early August 1916.

The conspiracy case dragged on for the next three years. When America entered the First World War, Hartman, though still under indictment, was able to parlay his service in Mexico into an officer appointment in the United States Army and a front-line position in France. On August 17, 1918, First Lieutenant Guy Hartman distinguished himself through extraordinary heroism in action near Frapelle,

France. Although painfully wounded, Lieutenant Hartman made his way through a barrage of fire to lead a platoon that had been pinned down to safety. A short time later he led his brigade commander through a heavily gassed area and, although wounded, remained on duty until successfully relieved. For this, he received the Distinguished Service Cross, the second-highest military award that could be given to a member of the United States Army. After receiving a field promotion, Captain Hartman was recommended a second time for this same award for his actions on November 4, 1918, when he took command of the Third Battalion, Sixth Infantry after the commanding officer, Major John Leonard, was wounded. Taking charge, Captain Hartman led the battalion across the Meuse and gained a foothold on the east bank, where he immediately began an assault on the woods. He and his men were credited with having been the first to cross the Meuse.

The charges against Guy Hartman were eventually dropped, and he seems to have lived the remainder of his life in relative obscurity, passing away on June 2, 1951, at the age of sixty-seven. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

The captured spirits from the conspiracy had a story of their own. Having no place else to store them, they were placed in the old federal jail for safe keeping, eventually filling most of the jail space, floor to ceiling. Several attempts to access the illicit booze were made by local citizens by either breaking into the jail or fishing for the bottles through broken windows.

Eventually, in February 1919, the captured booze again made history by being the first illegal alcohol in federal custody to be destroyed rather than sold. The bottles and casks were brought onto the east lawn of the old federal jail and publicly destroyed by smashing and burning the containers and contents, all to the great dismay of the local on-lookers.



Al Whitson is an Armed Forces veteran and a member and officer of the Fort Smith Historical Society. His 100 years ago newspaper department appears regularly in the Journal.

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THE MASTODON STOOD about eight to ten feet tall and had tusks up to eight feet long.
(Image courtesy of Arkansas State University Museum)

The Jawbone of a Mastodon

*An Eccentric Naturalist,
A Medical Practice,
and an Old Book*

By Taylor Prewitt

“Several weeks ago,” the *New York Times* reported November 15, 1885, “the leg joints of some huge animal of the antediluvian period were found in the Arkansas River bed, about five miles above here.” The dateline was Fort Smith, Arkansas. This “huge animal” was a mastodon, extinct some thirteen million years. “The cavity where the brain lay is perfect and indicates that the monster must have possessed more than a half bushel of brains.” What happened to this find? “It will be sent to the New-Orleans Exposition. The finders are searching for more of the skeleton.”¹

Though the “finders” are not named, one of the keepers of the jawbone of a mastodon was Dr. Addison M. Bourland, a polymath physician who collected and identified specimens from the streams and forests near his

A MASTODON FOUND IN ARKANSAS.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

FORT SMITH, Ark., Nov. 10.—Several weeks ago the leg joints of some huge animal of the antediluvian period were found in the Arkansas River bed, about five miles above here. The joints were over 6 inches in diameter and about 3 feet long, which would indicate the leg to have been 6 feet long. Near the same place yesterday the upper jaw and a portion of the head of the mastodon were found imbedded in the sand. There are seven huge teeth on one side and four on the other in a perfect state of preservation, the molars being about 4½ inches square. The neck joint is similar to that of an ox. All the top part of the head is missing, but the cavity where the brain lay is perfect, and indicates that the monster must have possessed more than a half bushel of brains. The roof of the mouth, between the molars, is also perfect, and it is about one foot across and very large. Two huge tusks, now broken off, apparently projected alongside the nostrils, that were about 5 inches in diameter at the base. Not more than half the head has been preserved, and yet it weighs about 200 pounds. It is petrified and resembles sandstone, with the exception of the teeth and that portion of the tusk preserved, which is like chalk in appearance and brittle and easily broken off. It will be sent to the New-Orleans Exposition. The finders are searching for more of the skeleton.

The New York Times

Published: November 15, 1885
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home. He added the “half under jaw” of a mastodon to his collection of fossils, which included various extinct ferns, trees, algae, and shells—and the largest collection of geologic specimens in the state at the time.² But a mastodon? Not quite so large as an elephant, the mastodon became extinct in the megafauna extinction that occurred shortly after the first delegations of *Homo Sapiens* made their way southeast from the Bering Sea land bridge. Mastodons appeared about four million years ago and were stalking the Arkansas River Valley—in whatever form this Valley was—as the last glaciers retreated from their southernmost excursion to the Missouri River. Why did the mastodon become extinct? One theory is that changes in climate and habitat were the major reason. On the other hand, one can hardly ignore the coincidence of the disappearance of a large mammal with a low reproductive rate and a long gestation period, at about the same time as the arrival of a strange new species of two-legged hunter-gatherers from the Siberian land bridge. Indeed, sharp spear points have been found with some mastodon remains, and many of the skeletons show distinctive marks of butchering.³ Here is a smoking gun that the jury is obliged to consider.

We do not really know when, where, or how Dr. Bourland acquired the lower jawbone of a mastodon. The *Fort Smith Elevator*, in reporting the finding of mastodon bones “on a sand bar in the river three miles below town” in 1890, alluded to a mastodon jawbone belonging to Dr. Bourland: “It has been now about fifteen years ago that a similar tooth, but smaller, and a section of the femur of some antediluvian animal were found on the same sand bar, and are now in Van Buren, in possession of Dr. Bourland. From time to time since then different fossils have been found, and a few years ago a number of large bones were found some six miles above here but were evidently of a different animal from this one.”⁴ So Dr. Bourland’s specimen may have come from a different finding. And for that matter, whatever became of it? And what happened to his collection of extinct fern and tree fossils? In a perfect world, they could be viewed in an Arkansas Museum of Natural History, or in a university museum, or in a local museum.

Not that there is a shortage of mastodon bones. It turns out that at least twenty mastodon skeletons have been found in Arkansas, more than in any other state in the midsouth region, according to the Arkansas State University Museum, which has a mastodon skeleton on display—found a few miles east of Jonesboro in 1999.⁵ There is also a skeleton of an Arkansas mastodon in the Mid America Science Museum in Hot Springs.⁶ And the remains of a mastodon were found on Island 35 of the Mississippi River in 1900, about four miles southeast of



THE TUSKS EVOLVED FROM THE MASTODON’S INCISOR TEETH.

(Photograph by Sally Prewitt Maurras)

Wilson, Arkansas. The site has been destroyed, but a few fossilized bones are on display in the Hampson Archeological Museum State Park in Mississippi County, Arkansas.⁷

What does the lower jawbone of a mastodon look like? Three young boys in Mississippi found out when they came upon a strange object jutting out of the gravel on the family farm near Vicksburg in March 2018. It was indeed the lower jawbone of a mastodon, as identified by George Phillips, curator of paleontology at the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science. “I just saw it in the dirt,” Caïd Sellers said. “I thought it was a log, then I turned it over and saw the teeth. It was heavy. I tried to lift it. We all tried to lift it.”⁸

Analysis of the teeth indicated that this mastodon was a mature individual, about thirty years old. Adult mastodons were eight to ten feet tall and weighed four to six tons, with tusks up to eight feet long, though not curved so dramatically as those of mammoths.

The first inkling of the existence of such a prehistoric “monster” came in 1705 in the Hudson River Valley in New York when the tooth of a mastodon was uncovered in a field. It was sent to Paris for identification; no one had ever seen anything like it. Was it from a race of giants? Was it from some terrible carnivorous predator? Analysis of the tooth indicated that it came from an herbivorous animal, not a bloodthirsty meat eater.⁹

There was much speculation in the eighteenth-century that this creature must have existed before Noah’s flood, hence the term “antediluvian” that persisted in the *New York Times* article of November 15, 1885, cited above.¹⁰

It all became clearer when a nearly complete giant skeleton of a mastodon was discovered by some farmhands in Newburgh, New York. Georges Cuvier of Paris gave this



THIS MASTODON REPLICA IN THE ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY MUSEUM in Jonesboro is composed of casts made from mastodon bones.

(Photograph by Sally Prewitt Maurras)

creature the name mastodonte (meaning “breast tooth” because the knobby points on the molars reminded him of nipples) in 1806, and now the American mastodon had a name.¹¹

Most of the mastodon fossils in Arkansas have been found along Crowley’s Ridge or the Red River. But at least two and maybe three of them lived in the Arkansas River Valley and perhaps in the hills around what is now Fort Smith. Mammoths, more closely related to the elephant and even larger, have also been found in Arkansas, most notably the Hazen mammoth, found in 1965. (The Hazen mammoth was not a woolly mammoth; the woolly mammoth was not quite so large, and its habitat was further north on the North American continent.)¹²

And who was this physician of many interests who collected and identified all these specimens from the streams and forests near his home? Addison McArthur Bourland practiced medicine in Van Buren from 1883 until his death in 1913. Amelia Martin’s *Physicians and Medicine* includes a photograph of him in the vigor of his later years—white beard, long white hair, and the wild-eyed look of a prophet.

This prophet was no ordinary frontier physician. He was familiar with Latin, Greek, and French, and he had a French language medical library. He used the microscope in his private scientific investigations, taught school as a young man, home-schooled his children, and was a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He became a charter member of the Arkansas Medical Society in 1875.¹³

Not limiting his extracurricular interests to the field of science, Dr. Bourland wrote a philosophical romance, *Swanena*, describing the manifestations of religion in nature. He corresponded with the noted theologian J. E. Godbey, D. D., and he published their correspondence in a book, *Religion Philosophically Discussed*.

Addison Bourland was born in Alabama in 1815 and, after his father’s death, he began working on keelboats on the Mississippi River at age fifteen. He next studied medicine for two years under Dr. Barton B. Clements in Barry County, Missouri, before enlisting in the Arkansas Mounted Volunteer Cavalry to fight in the Mexican War in 1846, mostly serving as a hospital steward. After completing his one-year enlistment, he dispensed medicine

in a United States hospital on the mouth of the Rio Grande. He moved to Franklin County, Arkansas, after the war, where he married Susan Davis in 1848. He saved enough money to study medicine at the University of Nashville, graduating in 1857 and returning to Franklin County to practice; his wife Susan died there in January 1859, one week after giving birth to their fourth child, Othello Moreno, who would later become a physician.

When the Civil War broke out, Dr. Bourland served as a regimental surgeon and subsequently as senior brigade surgeon until the fall of Vicksburg. He participated in eleven engagements, serving as surgeon in all except at Dug Spring, where he fought as a soldier. He returned to Arkansas in 1864 because of ill health and began the practice of medicine in Van Buren. There he married Bettie Williams in 1865; they had two daughters, born in 1866 and 1877.

A serious unidentified illness in 1866 left him unable to read “without his whole nervous system being affected.” Although he could “see well,” he required having someone to read to him. Despite this, he is six feet tall, weighing 220 pounds, with blue eyes and “an eager, inquisitive countenance,” with “great mental and physical strength, activity, and endurance.”¹⁴

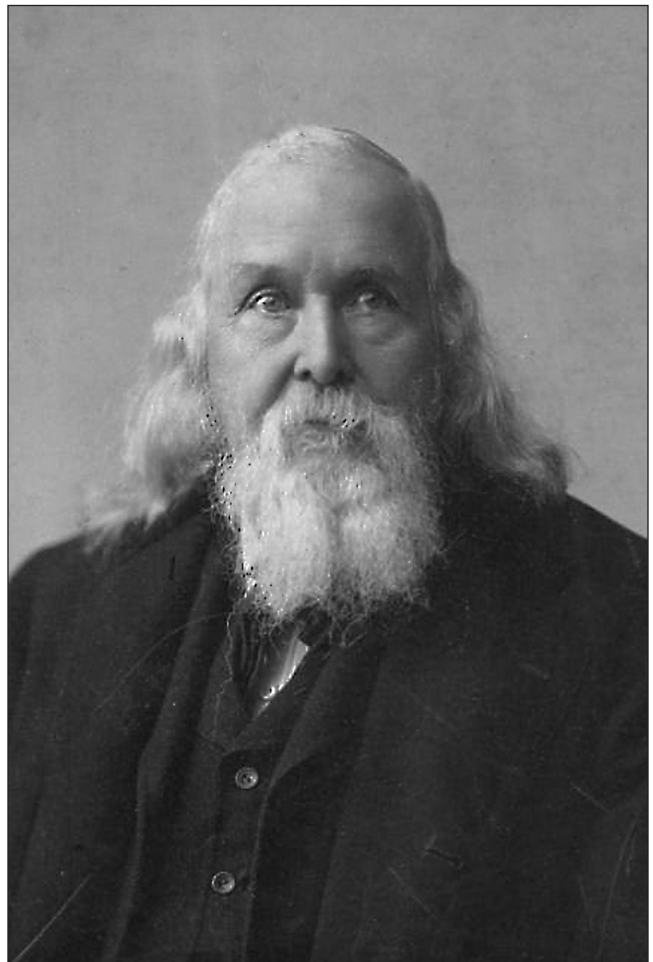
Newspaper reports indicate that he retired from medicine after fifty years of practice, but a 1912 profile in the *Arkansas Gazette* stated that at age eighty-seven he would answer any call, night or day, summer or winter, two miles or ten, and that he had done more charity practice than anyone else in town. He was described as a vigorous walker who had never used tobacco. He taught French and Greek classes in his home at no charge.¹⁵

He died “of old age” at age eighty-eight in his home in Van Buren across the street from the courthouse. There were conflicting reports of his health, the obituary stating that he had been a cripple for eight years, seldom leaving home, but “entertaining many callers on his lawn on pleasant days.”¹⁶

Not mentioned in the 1912 and 1913 newspaper articles is the free spirit of his younger years. He organized the Secularist Society of Van Buren—“also known as Liberals, Agnostics, and the Society for Aesthetic and Ethical Culture”—upon his arrival in 1867, later stating that he adopted no religious creed but inclined to the Liberal church.

In his last years, however, he was portrayed as a pillar of orthodoxy: “It is said that if anyone wants to find Dr. Bourland on Sunday morning they must go to his favorite church, and there he may be found, unless detained at home on account of being ill. But he is not often sick, hence is nearly always at the church.”¹⁷

The younger Dr. Bourland, Othello Moreno, grew up in



THIS PORTRAIT OF DR. A. M. BOURLAND shows the “eager, inquisitive countenance” mentioned in his biographical note in the *Encyclopedia of the New West*, credited for use of this photograph.

Van Buren and attended Missouri Medical College in St. Louis, Vanderbilt University (graduating in 1881), and Bellevue Medical College in New York in 1883. He practiced with his father in Van Buren for eight years, but they then dissolved their medical partnership and the son moved to a new office “uptown” in Van Buren while his father remained at the “old stand” at Second and Main Streets.

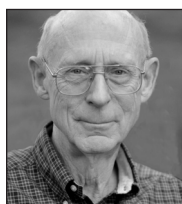
Dr. O. M. Bourland was third vice president of the Arkansas Medical Society in 1915; published scientific papers in the *Journal of the Arkansas Medical Society* in 1910, 1922, and 1930; and retired from medical practice in 1929 because of ill health. His wife was Ada Quaile Bourland of Ozark; he died in 1934, survived by two daughters and a son.¹⁸

It was the younger Dr. Bourland whose medical books had found their way, in 1973, to a small house on South Jenny Lind in Fort Smith where I spotted a “Books for

Sale” sign and put on the brakes and turned in. I asked about one particular book that I saw.

“I’m selling these by the inch. This book is two and a half inches. That would be five dollars.” I knew it was a rare book: *Principles and Practice of Medicine* by William Osler. On the inside front cover, in flowing cursive script, was a signature: “O. M. Bourland, December 1894.” It was a first edition. There would be sixteen editions, but a quick internet search confirms that this one would be worth a bit more than five dollars—if it were for sale, which it is not. (I don’t recall looking around the small house and noticing any strange rocks or fossils.)

And so, the Osler text sits on my living room bookshelf. Perhaps, in the next generation, it will not be sold by the inch.



Taylor Prewitt is retired cardiologist with interests in local medical history, tennis, and swimming. He is a volunteer physician at the Good Samaritan Clinic. He and his wife, Mary, have three children and seven grandchildren.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ *New York Times*, November 15, 1885.
- ² Amelia Martin, *Physicians and Medicine: Crawford and Sebastian Counties, Arkansas 1817-1976* (Fort Smith: published by Sebastian County Medical Society, 1977), 248-249.
- ³ James Tichgelaar, *Crowley’s Ridge Mastodon* (Arkansas State University Museum booklet, undated).
- ⁴ *Arkansas Gazette*, April 16, 1890.
- ⁵ Available from <https://paleoaerie.org/2014/02/07/fossil-friday-a-fossil-of-not-quite-mammoth-proportions/>.
- ⁶ Available from <https://midamericamuseum.org/our-exhibits/>.
- ⁷ Available from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Island_35_Mastodon.
- ⁸ Available from <https://www.vicksburgpost.com/2018/03/19/bovina-youth-find-buried-mastodon>.
- ⁹ Paul Semonen, *American Monster: How the Nation’s First Prehistoric Creature Became a Symbol of National Identity* (New York University Press, 2000), 3.
- ¹⁰ *Ibid*, 42.
- ¹¹ Elizabeth Kolbert, *The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History* (Henry Holt and Co., 2014), 36.
- ¹² <https://paleoaerie.org>.
- ¹³ Martin, 250.
- ¹⁴ *The Encyclopedia of the New West* (William S. Speer, John Henry Brown United States Biographical Publishing Company, 1881- Arkansas) pp. 35-36 (provided by Pebley Center, UAFS).
- ¹⁵ *Arkansas Gazette*, September 1, 1912.
- ¹⁶ *Arkansas Gazette*, April 24, 1913.
- ¹⁷ *History of Benton, Washington, Carroll, Madison, Crawford, Franklin, and Sebastian Counties, Arkansas* (Higginson Book Company, 1889), 58.
- ¹⁸ Martin, 248-49. *Meyer Brothers Druggist*, 1891, vol. 12.

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

A Quality of Place Assignment

Nonprofit Fountains, Memorials, and Statues in Fort Smith and Surrounding Areas

By Kimberly Downing Robinson

The Kleopatra as she swept past the town of Cromarty was greeted with three cheers by crowds of the inhabitants and the emigrants returned the salute but mingled with the dash of the waves and the murmurs of the breeze their faint huzzas rather sounded of wailing and lamentations than a congratulatory farewell.

Hugh Miller

—The Emigration Stone¹

There stands a stone marker in Cromarty, Scotland, erected as a monument to those who emigrated to the New World from Scotland during the early nineteenth century. This memorial, the Emigration Stone, is inscribed with the words of Hugh Miller, theologian, churchman, writer, editor, journalist, stonemason, and self-taught geologist, the discipline of geology being one he popularized and for which he is most often remembered.² A contemporary of Sir Walter Scott, friend to Charles Darwin and known to John Ruskin, Miller's writing influenced British attitudes and politics well into the twentieth century. His work as a stonemason led to his discovery of fossils which informed his identification and naming of fossils. Indeed, his interests include the early nineteenth century political and social unrest building in Scotland, which would ultimately lead to the Clearings in the 1830s and 1840s when thousands of Scottish folk were carried away to the New World by brigs, including the *Cleopatra* and the *Salamis*. As a fierce advocate for parishioners' rights to control their own church as opposed to the patronage system then in place, a factor that fueled this Diaspora, Miller used his evangelical newspaper, *The Witness*, to lobby for the formation of the Free Church of Scotland in 1843 as a protest against the Church of Scotland. The Emigration Stone, commissioned by the Cromarty Arts Trust and Cromarty Harbour Trust, symbolizes Hugh Miller's efforts to promote fairness and equality for those negatively affected by the Highland Clearances.³ I use this example and many others, including those represented by Fort Smith historical sites, to put a face on the nonprofit work quietly working behind the scenes in urban spaces, especially those

that inform my students' experience.

I first ask them to list sites of historical, architectural, and literary interest they have visited in the last five years. They then research associated entrance fees and whether or not these sites hold 501(c)3 or nonprofit status. This preliminary work quickly reveals to them that many of the places where they have taken their families on vacation, for example, are supported through nonprofits and that, in fact, without those nonprofit organizations, cultural centers and events seldom exist. We move then to a discussion of the monuments and memorials in their own communities, many of which they have never really considered. The assignment that follows, the format for which can also be used as a report template, asks students to develop an idea for further enhancing or renewing their urban space after giving fair consideration to the work that has already been done through area nonprofit organizations.

This assignment promotes the value of urban planning and increases students' awareness for quality of place. Most of them may have been aware of statues, memorials, and historical plaques in their area, but they have seldom genuinely viewed them as representations of selfless hard work, dedication to a principle, and/or ongoing monetary support. I prefer to highlight Fort Smith, Arkansas, sites for this assignment but to make it meaningful to all, I direct students who live outside of Fort Smith to investigate nonprofit sites in their respective communities. In the last three years, I have assigned this project to my grant writing students and have assigned it recently in my Writing for the Workplace course populated by organizational leadership students, as well. The projects that have grown out of this assignment are both relevant and immediate. Students readily recognize that they have a responsibility to contribute meaningfully to their communities. Most, if not all, come away from this assignment with an enhanced appreciation for what those before them have invested in the urban space where they live. Most importantly, this kind of assignment also empowers students while they are pursuing personal and professional goals to recognize that through their own agency, they can positively influence the quality of the place where they live, work, and play.



THE MOON TREE, a Loblolly pine, so named because it was grown from a seed that was aboard Apollo 14, was planted in 1976 on the grounds of the Sebastian County Courthouse on the corner of Sixth Street and Rogers Avenue in Fort Smith. (Courtesy Photo)

*"I look at the cemetery through the window.
He asks, Are you minding the headstones?"*⁴

Recommendation Report

Most of us move through our daily lives without really considering the urban planning decisions that have informed our communities. For that reason, you have been given this assignment early in the semester so that you can consider fully what is already available in your community and develop ideas for a positive community improvement.

Quality of Place: A Concept

Consider "quality of place," an urban planning aesthetic specific to urban spaces. In fact, the American Parks and Wildlife Department is an outgrowth of the nineteenth century cemetery movement in England, a secular development which moved burials outside of the churchyard.

To situate your understanding of the value of making lands, goods, and services available either through industry,

foundation, or private funding, take a moment to consider a small portion of the historical factors behind this cultural movement, one which has a long, complicated history, very briefly summarized as follows.

Eighteenth century English garden plans were developed by landscape architects such as Lancelot "Capability" Brown whose work resisted highly formulaic seventeenth century gardens, such as those at Versailles.⁵ Brown's highly landscaped, though seemingly naturalized garden plans, would later inform nineteenth century planned urban spaces.⁶ The life and work of Robert Stephen Hawker, nineteenth century Anglican priest and vicar in Cornwall, England, and author of "The Song of the Western Men,"⁷ buried suicides in the steps leading into the churchyard as they were denied burial in "sacred ground." This cultural norm, complicated by the ever decreasing availability of public open spaces, encouraged the growing desire in England for public land access, which, in turn, informed the late nineteenth century secularization of burials (i.e. cemeteries). In fact, nineteenth century cemeteries were

avored picnic spots, 1) due to lack of alternatives, and, 2) because those cemeteries were generally very beautiful. This cultural development would later foster the early twentieth century American democratization of public lands, popularized during the Teddy Roosevelt administration and legislated in 1937, seven years after he left office (i.e. national parks and rivers).⁸

Urban Development: A Process

Modern urban planning influences many aspects of urban spaces and involves decision making and political processes, basically, working from a “systems view of planning.”⁹ For example, fountains, memorials, and statues are one feature of modern urban planning and typically commemorate historical or cultural events and/or individuals. They are in place because someone, or a group of people, thought it important to observe these events or individuals formally. Hence, they require forethought, planning, and implementation; must be maintained by local clubs, civic organizations, city boards, and/or national societies; and are financed through public and private donations and in-kind contributions; state, regional, and national appropriations through the legislature; and through the grant process.

Examples of Fort Smith Urban Planning¹⁰

1. Anniversary Rose Garden, 1218 South A Street.
2. Bass Reeves Statue, 200 Garrison Avenue.
3. Cisterna Park Fountain, 1035 Garrison Avenue.
4. Confederate Monument, corner of Sixth Street and Rogers Avenue.
5. Downtown Fort Smith Historical Plaques, Garrison Avenue.¹¹
6. Fort Smith National Historic Site, 301 Parker Avenue.
7. Moon Tree, corner of Sixth Street and Rogers Avenue.
8. National Cemetery, 522 South Sixth Street.
9. Spirit of the American Doughboy Monument, 4901 Midland.
10. The Last Encampment of the Trail of Tears Historical Marker, National Cemetery.
11. Unexpected Mural Project, downtown Fort Smith.
12. William O. Darby Memorial Statue, 1035 Garrison Avenue.
13. Zachary Taylor Chimney, 22 North Thirteenth Street.

Assignment: Recommendation Report

Without leadership and vision, there is typically no positive social, cultural, or physical change. While there will always be cases where citizens feel specific developments are unnecessary and/or unwarranted, that is



THE MOON TREE PLAQUE tells the story of the Loblolly pine on the grounds of the Sebastian County Courthouse in Fort Smith.

(Courtesy Photo)

an argument for another day. The purpose of this report is, 1) to raise awareness to your constituents both regarding what has been accomplished historically and/or traditionally, and, 2) to offer a recommendation for an improvement (or improvements) that would further build on what is presently in place within your community.

Using an informed understanding of your community, identify a need and write a Recommendation Report to further develop your urban space. Your recommendation can be to implement a new or enhance an existing social program, organize a community sponsored event, build a structure, or develop an infrastructure. Remember, you are necessarily working with the features already in place within your respective community.

Guidelines

- ❖ Develop your historical background knowledge of the urban planning already present within your specific community.
- ❖ Visit five areas of interest (or more, your choice) either from the list provided or others that fall in line.
- ❖ Explain cultural/historical/social connections for each and how these add to quality of place in your specific community.
- ❖ Discuss each artifact's community support, endowments, appropriations, and/or grant funding.
- ❖ Use the sites you have visited (i.e. researched) in your

report proper and/or as ancillary information.

❖ Include a selfie with each artifact and its plaque (or provide online information).

❖ Provide professional contact information including email and address.

❖ Use the style guide specific to your discipline to properly format your report and cite your sources.



Kimberly Downing Robinson teaches at the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith where her duties are divided between the literature and rhetoric programs. She has published on course-level assessment, university accreditation, innovative course design, and topics in British literature and art history.

(Editor's Note: This assignment as part of a college course demonstrates how one UAFS faculty member instructs students on how to seek and interpret historical markers. The assignment will involve the students in events and people that made the city and outcomes and may add to the scholarship about the region, a beneficial process for the city to gain the national recognition that it deserves. One memorial, the Zachary Taylor chimney, offers students an opportunity to use their critical skills on historical interpretations).

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<http://en.chateauversailles.fr/discover/estate/gardens>.

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[search.credoreference.com/libcat.uafs.edu/content/entry/sage-ukus/modern_urban_planning/0?institutionId=521](http://0-search.credoreference.com/libcat.uafs.edu/content/entry/sage-ukus/modern_urban_planning/0?institutionId=521).

"Plaques in Downtown Fort Smith Offer Unique View of Fort Smith." Fort Smith Downtown Historical Plaques, accessed February 14, 2019, <http://historicalplaques.com/>.

Endnotes

- 1 The Emigration Stone carved in place by Richard Kindersley of Caithness flagstone stands on the Links in Cromarty, Scotland, in *Celebrating the Life and Times of Hugh Miller* (Cromarty Arts Trust, 2003), 12-13.
- 2 David Lowenthal, "Caring for Nature: The Transatlantic Canvas of the Nineteenth Century," in *Celebrating the Life and Times of Hugh Miller* (Cromarty Arts Trust, 2003), 16.
- 3 Richards, Eric. "Hugh Miller and Resistance to the Highland Clearances." In *Celebrating the Life and Times of Hugh Miller* (Cromarty Arts Trust, 2003).
- 4 Dobbins, Heather. "In the Low Houses." *In the Low Houses*. Alabaster Leaves Publishing, 2014.
- 5 Gardens of Versailles. <http://en.chateauversailles.fr/discover/estate/gardens>.
- 6 As an aside, research the nineteenth century urban planning staged for the 1893 World's Fair, Chicago Columbian Exposition, which was organized to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Columbus's arrival to the New World and provides the cultural backdrop for Eric Larson's 2003 non-fiction book, *The Devil in the White City*.
- 7 Trelawney's lyrics, the Cornish anthem, come from this poem.
- 8 Finney, Patricia. "Landscape Architecture and the 'Rural' Cemetery Movement." <https://www.crl.edu/focus/article/8246>
- 9 "Modern Urban Planning." *Key Concepts in Urban Studies*.
- 10 "Fort Smith Historic Attractions" <https://www.fortsmith.org/play/historic-attractions/?page=2>.
- 11 "Plaques in Downtown Fort Smith," <http://historicalplaques.com/>.

What is your favorite old home in Fort Smith?



Crabtree Cottage on 12th St

We've got 150 "favorites," and all will be featured in a photo book to be released in 2019 by our Historical Society. *Treasures of Fort Smith* will provide at least one photo and info on each of the houses, most being over a century old.

Authors Wayne Bledsoe, past president of the Belle Grove Historic District, and Jim Kreuz, retired chemical engineer, have formatted this book to follow a simple driving tour of these remarkable residences. Hopefully you've got space in your bookshelf for one more about our picturesque city.

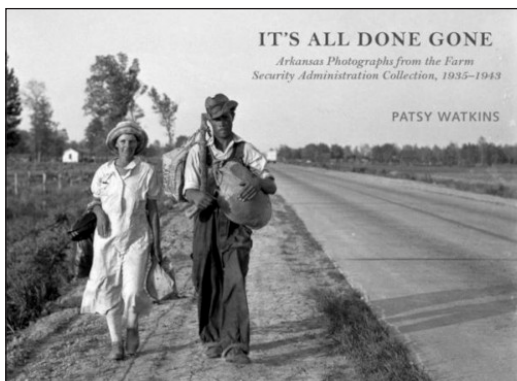
Priced at \$20, all proceeds will go to the Fort Smith Historical Society.



Blair-Amis House on 7th St

Reviews

It's All Done Gone



IT'S ALL DONE GONE: Arkansas Photographs from the Farm Security Administration Collection, 1935-1943

By Dr. Patsy G. Watkins, (Fayetteville: University of Arkansas Press, 2018. Pp. 250, large 8 ½-by-11 format, 184 black and white images, \$29.95 cloth).

This remarkable book of photographs of the effects of Great Depression in Arkansas got its humble start as a graduate student, at the University of Texas in Austin, was flipping through some aging black and white photographs looking for visual imagery and the impact of those images upon a topic.

From that first long, hard look at some of these breathtaking black and white photographic images of the Great Depression, the student saw future, historic gold and vibrant imagery, which even eighty-four years later still tells a story.

Dr. Patsy G. Watkins recently retired as the head of the Journalism and Strategic Media Department in the Walter J. Lempke School of Journalism at the University of Arkansas. She has seen her collegiate dream to chronicle these ghostly images and publish a book illustrating the desperate struggle of people during the Great Depression in her adopted home state of Arkansas.

Her research into the Farm Security Administration's archives of some 250,000 photographic images made across America during the Great Depression, and especially the more than 800 images assigned with "Arkansas" as either a place or people who hailed from the state, are indeed a valuable addition to our state's history.

UA Press gets credit for a most beautifully designed

book. Watkins, who is now the editor of *The Flashback*, the official quarterly publication of the Washington County Historical Society, writes in plain language about her research and the platforms available to the public for free to research archival photographs made in Arkansas.

She found that talented photographers were sent out into the South and across the nation by the Resettlement Administration (RA) to document the crisis in agriculture during the economic collapse of the nation. Later the FSA (Farm Security Administration) would take over the project as the new alphabetical agency was to provide farm relief and assistance projects.

The RA leadership, in the early days of the project, maintained the photographs were intended to be public information, to inform Americans about the extent and severity of rural poverty and to document the federal projects designed to address these problems.

Critics of both the RA and later the FSA attacked the photographs as propaganda meant to unfairly manipulate opinion, Watkins writes.

Watkins' has taken care to allow the excellent photography to shine past any words we might—almost eighty-five years later—offer on these scenes. She does, however, mine the FSA resources, other books published on these elite photographers, and even such sources as interviews, biographies, autobiographies, histories and books about their published works in total to give the reader an insight into these skilled lens-men and lens-women.

Shot in the Arkansas Delta, the Ozarks, and other areas of state—images were at first, designed to show the poverty and the struggle of the farm workers, sharecroppers and tenant farmers to the nation. Names such as Ben Shahn, Arthur Rothstein, Dorothea Lange, Walker Evans and Russell Lee populate these pages.

None of the photos is staged, posed or configured to show anything other than the daily routine work of men, women, boys and girls in their current circumstances.

Watkins allows captions written by the photographers often weeks after taking these photographs, to tell their viewer the "when" and "where (geographically)" these images were snapped. The "who" that is in these photographs, by name is often lost to the annals of time.

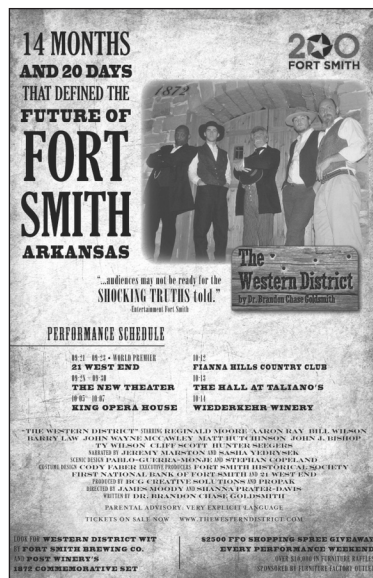
This is, as this reviewer, sees it—an important book of Arkansas' past. It is a book that speaks from every page a

—Reviewed by Maylon T. Rice. Mr. Rice is a member of the Arkansas Historical Association Board of Trustees and president of the Washington County Historical Society. His book reviews on Arkansas history topics appear frequently in historical journals.

The Western District

On Saturday night, October 6, a company of talented players performed the *Western District* on Main Street in Van Buren at the King Opera House in front of a large audience and this reviewer who sat in the balcony. We saw an original play written by Brandon Goldsmith, a faculty member of UA-Fort Smith, concerning the federal court for the Western District of Arkansas after it moved from Van Buren to Fort Smith in 1871. When the curtain parted, narrator Jeremy Marston, highlighted the “fourteen months and twenty days that defined the future of Fort Smith.” Enticing the audience, Marston referenced extraordinary events that took place after Logan Roots was named U.S. Marshal for the district. A true story was about to be enacted, a tale confounded by naivety mixed with opportunist exaggerations and a swindling of the federal government. These nefarious goings on eventually were exposed and became responsible for the appointment in 1875 of a purifier, Isaac Charles Parker by President Ulysses S. Grant, no stranger to corruption in his administration, as the Federal Judge of the Western District.

A clever set designed by UAFA theater professor Pablo Guerra-Monje switches between court room and bar room, two venues frequented by the characters developed in the play. Goldsmiths' facts and indeed some of the dialogue itself comes from his intense research through primary sources into this period of Fort Smith history and he brings



a much-needed objective eye to the post-Civil War federal court of the Western District of Arkansas and Indian Territory.

Goldsmith's script features accurate dialogue in content, vocabulary, and accent, well-delivered by the thirteen members of the cast. The conversations about the court and its spurious methods hurry along and keep the audience attentive and hungry for the next plot turn. And turn it does, not fiction, stranger than that.

The program attached to this review gives the cast, production crew, sponsors, and the performance schedule. Two were performed at local theaters and four as dinner theater. One special performance at Darby auditorium entertained employees and friends of the First National Bank of Fort Smith.

It is said that now the play is being developed into a locally produced documentary video.

The key roles of the well-known Logan Roots, played by Aaron Ray, the equally well-known Richard Kerens, played by Bill Wilson and James Donnelly, played by Reginald Moore were flawless at the King Opera performance, fully dramatic, but not overacted. Authentic costumes added flair along with credibility. The acoustics and the ambiance of the Opera House enhances every event held there, especially this play. Only sound effects were lacking. This reviewer pined for the clop-clop of hooves and whining of horses or a steamboat whistle, all surely background sounds of the Hole-in-the-Wall saloon that served as the first Fort Smith court room of the Western District.

James Donnelly is the vehicle through which Goldsmith organized his play, Donnelly being the court clerk who creates illicit billings for deputy marshals in Indian Territory. Writs are often back-dated and the consequence is that the deputies have free hand in the territory to arrest and bring in wanted AND unwanted suspects for which they are paid. Roots then bills the U.S. Treasury, he keeping a large percentage, and in today's dollars, a terrific sum of federal money is sent to Fort Smith and goes into Roots' pockets. The upside is that such money funded much of the banking, railroading, and hotel building in western Arkansas. So, perhaps not all bad in the end. The play itself is very good in the end, and in the middle, and in the beginning. Thanks to the brilliance of Brandon Goldsmith and the talent—and hard work—of his cast and producers, the evening at the theater had us realizing that federal officials in the Western District had the ethos the irascible James Cagney later articulated as, "Never steal anything small!"

—Reviewed by Billy D. Higgins. Mr. Higgins teaches history at UA-Fort Smith.

Who Knew?

By Mary Jeanne Black

Who knew...what happened on the Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, reservation during World War II? The displaced had not seen the war affecting them so dramatically until their homes, lands and businesses were seized; most were paid below market value. The military Camp Chaffee then happened. It was a time of many sacrifices.

Our country paid a high price to defeat powerful enemies and for peace. Parents, grandparents and even great-grandparents told stories of their family and how they were affected by World War II.

The following inquiry was one I made several times in my past. My grandparents told me this story when I was young. I did not know the facts, only the story. Now I know from newspaper clippings from *Subiaco Abbey*. The publication is not known. Fr. Jerome Kodell, who is a relative of Gertrude Spanke Nolte, found the newspaper articles, which read as follows:

County Man Visits Brother at War Prisoners Camp

By Rev. Bede Mitchel, O.S.B.

The world is not so large, after all. Or so it seemed to Joe Nolte, of Subiaco recently.

Twenty-one years ago Mr. Nolte left Westfallen, Germany, with his wife, Gertrude to travel to America. They had with them their young daughter, Elizabeth. They were coming by invitation of the Rev. Boniface Spanke, O.S.B., who as manager of the abbey farms at Subiaco desired that his niece, Mrs. Nolte, and her husband come to Arkansas and be farmers. They came to Arkansas but did not become farmers. Mr. Nolte has always preferred the builders' crafts and is a skilled carpenter. The Noltes never got back to Germany, and till recently had seen none of the many relatives they left behind in the old country.

Then on a Sunday morning, December 10, Mr. Nolte received at Subiaco, a letter written Nov. 30, bearing marks on the envelope that indicated it had been especially censored. The letter was in well written German, and began with, "Dear Brother, Sister-in-law, Nephews and Nieces."

It continued: "One can hardly believe it, but I am now stationed at a Prisoner of War camp somewhere in Arkansas, and I am wondering whether some day, things

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may develop so that either you can come and see me, or I can go and visit you."

Yes! This was it! Henry Nolte, younger brother of the Subiaco resident, was in the Prisoner of War camp at Camp Chaffee. What peace time and failed to bring about in twenty-one years, war had quickly effected- re-union of the two brothers. Though remotely possible, who would ever have thought it probable? Joe Nolte read again. No, there was no mistake. Henry and he were not separated by thousands of miles of land, and other thousand ocean, as he had told a friend just a short while ago. They were living within fifty miles of each other!

Mr. Nolte and his family were deeply moved at the prospect of seeing and talking to Henry. They made inquiries and found that the United States government carefully observes certain regulations agreed upon by the

League of Nations in the Geneva Conference. Following these regulations, they made arrangements with the Military Police officials at the prison camp, and in due time were able to make the visit that was more than twenty years overdue. It was a moving sight to behold the face of the forty-three-year-old Henry Nolte as he saw at a distance his brother and sister-in-law. None of the three could restrain their tears on meeting.

After signing certain pledge papers required of all visitors, the Arkansas Noltés were permitted to meet their German kinsman in the guest house parlor for a couple hours. Visitors are restricted to those of immediate blood relationship. The month of four hours, two in the regulations permit two visits per morning and two in the afternoon.

Each visit must be arranged for in advance by written appointment. Under these conditions Joe has seen his brother Henry several times at the camp.

Joe Nolte is not only an American citizen of high standing in his community, but has contributed the supreme sacrifice of a son to the war. His son, Walter (Chick) Nolte, former popular Subiaco academy athlete, was killed in fighting with the Marines on Guam Island last July. "He died a brave man," Captain Samuel A. Dodd, U.S. Marine Corps, wrote the parents. Another son, John Robert, is a sergeant in the United States Army, while Joe Junior has passed his physical examination, and another son, Aloys, faces induction in due course.

As for Henry, the Arkansas relative learned that he had operated a prosperous business selling perfumes, antiques, and the war broke out. He looked well, and had no complaints regarding camp life, or of any other kind. As he spoke no English, the conversation was in German, with an interpreter at hand always, in accord with Army regulations.

While war is no picnic for anyone, the Noltés at Subiaco can see the good amid the bad, and are thankful for a kind fate that brought their brother, brother-in-law, and uncle to them in a most unexpected manner. They plan to visit Henry as often as they can.

Josef Nolte

April 7, 1890

Born: Heggen, Germany

Death: November 1, 1970

Fort Smith, Sebastian, Arkansas

Holy Cross Cemetery

Fort Smith, Sebastian, Arkansas

Spouse: Gertrude Spanke Nolte

Gertrude Spanke Nolte

Born: January 26, 1894 Germany

Death: January 27, 1983, Age 88

Holy Cross Cemetery

Fort Smith, Sebastian, Arkansas

Spouse: Josef Nolte

1930 United States Federal Census—

Clark, Logan County, Arkansas

Nolte, Joseph L. Head of household; Male; White; 39; married when 29; Born Germany; Father-Germany; Mother-Germany; speaks German; Immigration yr. 1923; Citizen- first papers; speaks English; carpenter-house; wages; employed-yes.

Nolte, Gertrude—Wife; female; white; 36; married when 26; Born Germany; Father-Germany; Mother-Germany; speaks German; Immigration yr. 1923; speaks English.

Nolte, Elizabeth C.—Dau, female; white; 7; single; school; Born Germany; Father-Germany; Mother-Germany; speaks German.

Nolte, John R.—Son, male; white; 6; single; school; Born; AR; Father-Germany; Mother-Germany.

Nolte, Walter H.—Son, male; white; 4; single.

Nolte, Joseph L.—Son, male; white; 3; single.

Nolte, Alois—Son, male; white; 2; single.

Nolte, Mary L.—Dau, female; white; 7/12; single.

1953 Fort Smith, Arkansas City Directory Pg. 525

Nolte, Jos. (Gertrude), carpenter, Petit Jean Lumber & Supply, home—2200 So. 24

1960 Fort Smith, Arkansas City Directory Pg. 419

Nolte, Jos. (Gertrude), r. 3320 Blackburn

List or Manifest of Alien Passengers for the United States Immigration Officer at Port of Arrival In the United States, whether going to join a relative or friend and what relative or friend and his.

The Noltés are on lines 8, 9, 10.

Line 8. **Nolte, Josef, 32**, male, married, Labour; reads & writes German; Germany; German; Finnenthrop; Father—Johann from Finnenthrop; Westfallen to ARK-Lubiaco (should be Subiaco), Friend Bonifaz (Boniface) Spanke—to Lubiaco, Nebraska. (This is how it was listed on the manifest should be Subiaco, Arkansas.)

Josef Nolte, med. 15044, "Def. rgt ring finger" Crippled 4th right ring finger.

Line 9. **Nolte, Gertrud(e), 29**, female, married, H-wife, reads & writes German; Germany; German; Finnenthrop; Father-in-law—Johann from Finnenthrop; Westfallen to ARK-Lubiaco (should be Subiaco); Friend Bonifaz (Boniface) Spanke—to Lubiaco, Nebraska. (This is how it was listed on manifest; should be Subiaco, Arkansas.)

Line 10. **Nolte, Lizie, 7**, female, No does not read or write; child under 18; Germany; German; Finnenthrop; Grandfather; Finnenthrop; Westfallen to ARKLubiaco (should be Subiaco); Friend Bonifaz (Boniface) Spanke—to Lubiaco, Nebraska. (This is how it was listed on the manifest should be Subiaco, Arkansas.)

Chinese Americans who trained at Camp Chaffee

Question: Fort Smith Historical Society, I'd like to know if you have any records or photos of the Chinese Americans who trained at Camp Chaffee during World War II.

I have a photo of my uncle, Howe T. Jay, in uniform. At the bottom of the photo it says "Howe Jay, Feb. 20, 1943, Camp Chaffee, Ark. U.S. Army" and was sent to my father who also served during the war.



A second photo is of 12 Chinese American soldiers with a group of locals and 2 Caucasian soldiers. On the back of

the 2nd photo the 3rd image was the mark of Johnson-Sayers Studio in Ft. Smith and dated September 13, 1943.



After Camp Chaffee, Howe was stationed at Patterson Field in Fairfield, Ohio. He was assigned to the 407th Air Service Squadron, Fourteenth Air Service Group, Fourteenth Air Force. His group served at various locations in the western part of China.

In 1993, the book, *In the Shadow of the Tiger: The 407th Air Service Squadron, Fourteenth Air Service Group, Fourteenth Air Force, World War II*, was published, and Howe was mentioned several times, and he was in a group photo.

Howe served from November 28, 1942, to January 5, 1946. He was born July 3, 1920, in Chicago and passed away November 28, 2005, in the VA Hospital in Phoenix, Arizona.

I'd be happy to email the photos if you're interested.

—Sincerely, Alex Jay

Answer: Alex, it is so exciting to have the information. It certainly would be great to have copies of the photos.

I will check with Camp/Fort Chaffee Museum to see if they have any other photos of interest to you. We have worked with Camp/Fort Chaffee in the past and they are so helpful.

—Mary Black

Question: Fort Smith Historical Society,

I will send the photos (almost 13MB) in a separate email today. The subject line will say: Photos of Chinese at Camp Chaffee.

If you don't see it in your mailbox, check your spam folder.

—Best, Alex Jay

Answer: Alex Jay was put in contact with Camp/Fort Chaffee Museum, Rod Williamson. The number is (479) 424-6774. The hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. He said he has worked from time to time with authors and is glad to help.

The Chaffee Museum is in a project with the University of Arkansas, Fort Smith to digitize the photos from the Museum. The Pebley Center is open Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is located in room 137 of the Boreham Library.

Shelley Blanton, archivist, is most helpful and actually worked with the Chaffee Museum while working on her degree. The list of holding is on the UAFS website. 479-788-7000 UAFS number, ask for Pebley Center.

Question: Fort Smith Historical Society, In the group photo, my uncle, Howe T. Jay, is standing, third from the left. I have no information on the other people in the photo.
—Alex Jay

Answer: Alex, Thank you for your attached .jpg files.

The business, Johnson-Sayers Photography, stamped on the large photo, was located at 818½ Garrison Avenue in 1943. Apparently, their photographer would go out to Camp Chaffee for events when requested. Later the business moved to 1018 Garrison Ave.

The last proprietor was Raymond “Pops” Sayers. It has not been in business for some time.

The Camp/Fort Chaffee military frequented downtown Fort Smith during World War II. Even though there was a movie theater in Camp Chaffee, military could catch the bus into town and pick from a variety of movie theaters, department and five-and-dime stores. One business sold uniforms and even sewed on the patches for them. Churches had dances and socials. Their doors were always open for the military. A place to get away from regular Camp life.

A portion of the land from Camp/Fort Chaffee has been repatriated, as have many forts across the country. Housing, plants, businesses, a nature center, medical school have recently been built there. The towns of Fort Smith, Barling and Greenwood have absorbed much of the land.

Researched:

1940 Census—Chicago, Cook, Illinois, 155 W Cermak Road

Howe T. Jay; Male; Chinese; Single; completed 8 years of school; Born: Illinois

Howe Jay—Hyde Park Career Academy High School, Chicago, Illinois, 1943, USA pg.143.

Social Security Application:

Howard T Jay; male; Asian; born 30 Jul 1920 in Chicago, Illinois; Died: 28 Nov 2005; Father Poy Jay,

Mother: Jenny Soho; U S Citizen.

From the CBI order of Battle Lineages and History

The 14th Air Service Group was formed in a very unique way in the summer of 1942. The famous Flying Tiger, General Claire Chennault*, commander of the 14th Air force and General Stilwell, Supreme Armed Forces Commander in China, requested to have group of Chinese Americans who spoke Chinese and English fluently, to support the American Armed Forces in the China, Burma, and India Theater. Coincidentally, it was learned that such a group already existed and was employed by the 5th Air Service Command at Patterson Field, Ohio. Immediately, a high priority communication was sent to the War Department for confirmation and details. The answer confirmed that the existing group of twenty civilian workers were highly trained as radio communication technicians and was headed by Mr. Sing Yung Yee. Secretly, through the arrangement between the 5th Air Service Command and the War Department, Mr. Yee and his staff had agreed to enlist into the United States Army Air Force. Mr. Yee was then commissioned as Second Lieutenant in command.

By November 20, 1942, the 14th Air Service Group was formed with the first all Chinese American personnel assigned to the 859th Signal Corps. They received their technical training at Patterson Field, Ohio. The 1157th Signal Company was officially activated in Springfield, Illinois in April, and the 407th Air Service Squadron, in June 1943. Ninety-five percent of the 260 men in this squadron were American of Chinese ancestry. The majority of them were screened from the 859th Signal Corps, while others were transferred from other units. Simultaneously, other units of the 14th Air Service Group were formed and trained in Florida. These units included the 555th Air Service Squadron, the 2121st and 2122nd Trucking Companies, Headquarters Squadron, 1077th Quartermaster Company, and the 1544th and 1545th Ordinance Companies.

On January 14, 1944, the 1157th Signal Company was the first unit to embark overseas from Newport News, Virginia, to Cape Town, South Africa, then on to Bombay, India. The whole company was transported by troop train to Calcutta, India, and then by air over the Himalayan Mountains. The 407th Air Service Squadron left Patterson Field, Ohio. They embarked from Newport News, Virginia, to Oran, North Africa, and then to Bombay, India. Many of the personnel were shipped to China by air, and the rest via the Burma Road at a later date. These men, with their administrative, electrical, and mechanical skills, helped service the aircraft in combat against the enemy. The rest of the 14th Air Service Group soon joined them in the China, Burma, and India Theater. At the end of the war, in August

1945, the majority of the 14th Air Service Group returned to the United States via Shanghai to Seattle, Washington, for their final processing and discharge. The 14th Air Service Group included the 407th Air Service Squadron

Story reprinted from the 2001 Reunion Journal, Houston Edition.

For most of its life the Fourteenth Air Force was commanded by one of the most controversial USAAF leaders of the wartime period, Maj. Gen. Claire Lee Chennault. The ultimate success of the Fourteenth did little or nothing to relieve the longstanding estrangement between Chennault and his superiors at the Pentagon.

When the Japanese threat in China had been neutralized, he was relieved of command. He was favored by Chiang Kai-shek and that is why Franklin D. Roosevelt placed him there over objections of others.



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.

RESOURCES

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.fortsmithhistory.org

ARKANSAS STORIES: A site dedicated to the stories, studies, and songs from Arkansas' past and Arkansas' future.

ARKANSAS FREEDMEN OF THE FRONTIER: The African American experience in northwest Arkansas is chronicled here. It has a lot of great links and information.

ARKANSAS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION: The mission of the Arkansas Historical Association is to promote the perseverance, writing, publishing, teaching and understanding of Arkansas history through the publication of the Arkansas Historical Quarterly as well as other activities.

ARKANSAS HISTORY COMMISSION AND STATE ARCHIVES: The Arkansas History Commission is one of the oldest existing state agencies in the Natural State and Arkansas' official state archives maintained by the commission.

BLACK MEN WHO RODE FOR PARKER: A site dedicated to the African-American deputy marshals who enforced the law in the federal court district of western Arkansas and Oklahoma. Judge Isaac Parker presided over the district in the late nineteenth century.

CENTER FOR LOCAL HISTORY AND MEMORY: The Center for Local History and Memory at the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith grew out of student-faculty efforts in 1997 to collect oral history interviews to document the first seventy years of the college.

ARKANSAS CIVIL WAR SITES: The Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission website with information on Arkansas' participation in the 150th anniversary of our country's struggle with itself.

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ARKANSAS HISTORY AND CULTURE: The Encyclopedia of Arkansas project is proud to present its initial entries.

FORT SMITH TROLLEY MUSEUM: For more than twenty years, the Fort Smith Trolley Museum has worked to educate people about transportation history, restore and maintain antique trolley cars, and even give riders a trip back in time in those streetcars.

FORT SMITH MUSEUM OF HISTORY: The Fort Smith Museum of History acquires, preserves, exhibits, and interprets objects of historical significance relevant to the founding and growth of Fort Smith and the region.

FORT SMITH AIR MUSEUM: Located at the Fort Smith Regional Airport, the museum is a treasure trove of facts and artifacts that tell the story of Fort Smith's aviation history. Our readers might also enjoy

this site on the History of Flight, submitted by one of our readers (Tony, a history researcher and student of Ms. Brooke Pierce in Delaware)—the site proves a fantastic time line that breaks down the early history of flight in America.

HISTORIC FORT SMITH: A page containing some general information about Fort Smith history, heritage tourism in the city, and links to other sites.

OAK CEMETERY: A recognized Natural Historic Landmark with more than 152 years of history is home to the burial sites of outlaws hand by order of Judge Isaac C. Parker, marshals, deputy marshals, and Arkansas governor, fifteen mayors of Fort Smith, and the founder of Fort Smith, John Rogers.

THE OLD STATE HOUSE MUSEUM OF ARKANSAS HISTORY: Set in the oldest surviving state capital west of the Mississippi River, it houses a multimedia museum of Arkansas history with a special emphasis on women's history, political history, and special programming for children.

RICHARD C. BUTLER CENTER FOR ARKANSAS STUDIES: The center for Arkansas Studies proudly presents what we hope will one day become the premier online resource for historical information related to Arkansas.

SOUTH SEBASTIAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY: The South Sebastian County Historical Society, located in Greenwood, Arkansas, is an excellent resource on the history and landmarks of the area.

WIKIPEDIA ENTRY FOR FORT SMITH: The online, user-created encyclopedia has a descriptive entry about the largest city in western Arkansas.

MORE GENEALOGICAL LINKS

FORT SMITH LIBRARY GENEALOGY DEPARTMENT: One of the greatest resources of local genealogical information to be found in the city. The Fort Smith Public Library is also a frequent gathering place of local historians and history buffs.

CRAWFORD COUNTY, ARKANSAS CEMETERIES: A rich genealogical resource for Van Buren and Crawford County.

LEFLORE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA GENEALOGY: Find birth and death records in support of your genealogical searches involving LeFlore County, Oklahoma.

1919 Newspapers

By Al Whitson

January-June 2019

The opening half of the year 1919 brought jubilation to a war-weary Fort Smith. The great influenza pandemic had finally begun to release its grip on our citizens. Construction of the Garrison Avenue Bridge across the Arkansas River had begun and quickly captured the imagination of young and old alike. With the war over and the boys coming home, Fort Smith drew a fresh breath as prosperity returned. The national campaign to pay off war debts brought two great events to the city, first sending a Whippet tank down Garrison Avenue and then bringing us our first ever "Flying Circus" air show. The city formed a municipal band, Ice Cream was king and a new cola came to town. And slowly but surely, normalcy returned—with all its attending gaiety, tragedy and absurdity.

Thursday, January 2, 1919

FORT SMITH SOLDIERS BOYS ARE BACK IN OLD "U.S.A"

A considerable number of Fort Smith soldier boys arrived at Newport News, Va., Tuesday on a transport from France, according to several messages received here Tuesday night and Wednesday, and relatives and friends of the boys are of the opinion that within the next two or three weeks nearly all of these soldiers will be discharged from the service and back home again.

No definite orders are known here to have been issued relative to the discharge of the boys, but the procedure generally followed is for the boys to be sent to the demobilization camp nearest their mobilization point and there be discharged. In this instance, the boys will get their discharges at Camp Beauregard, La., it is believed.

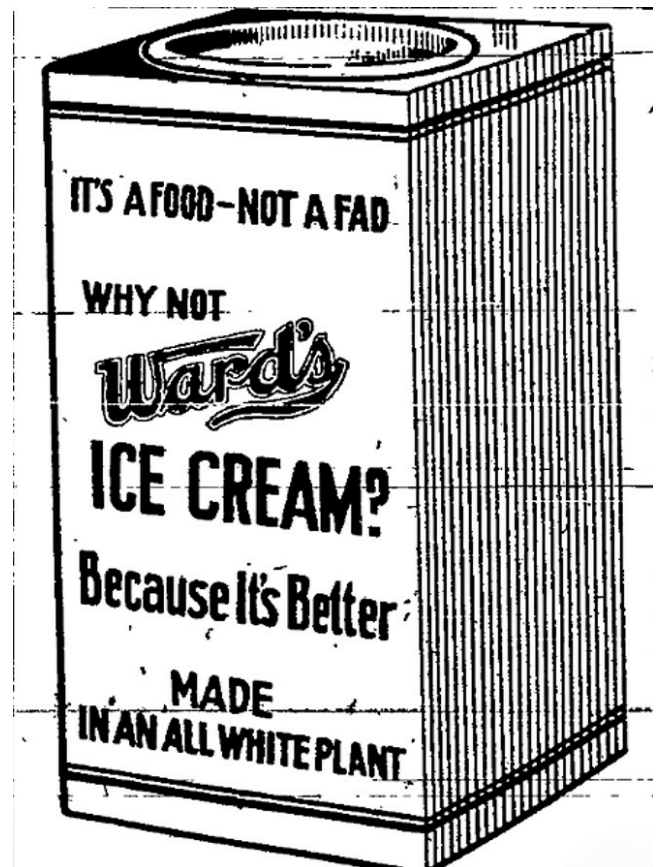
All the boys who sent messages home from Newport News are members of the Thirty-ninth division. Among them are Captain Alvin Goldstein, Lieutenant Marion Bird, Sergeant Verne Conklin, the McGinty brothers, Jess Reese, William A. Bates, Harry Davis, Royce Reed and L. H. Greenlee. Many of the boys were members of the company

taken from Fort Smith by Captain Strozier, who was later transferred to another command. This company then was changed to the 114th ammunition train, retaining nearly its entire original personnel and because of this it is expected there will be a big batch of home boys to return here within the next fortnight or so, after the round trip across the big pond and a short stay in France.

Friday, January 3, 1919

AUTO LICENSES DUE

With the coming of New Year 1919, the annual state automobile tax became due, and about a hundred owners of gasoline buggies called at the office of Sheriff Claude Thompson, collector, for the state clearance and tin tag. Under the state law there is ten days in which to pay the tax.



CITY NATIONAL HAS NEW BURGLAR ALARM

The City National bank has just installed a new burglar alarm system, one which is declared to be the latest thing of its kind, and which is being generally adopted by the banks of the larger cities of the north and east. It is what is known as the "Cannon Ball" burglar alarm.

On the outside of the building is a box-like affair, containing a siren whistle and a red electric light, the whistle blowing and the light burning when the alarm is set off. Within, the building is completely wired with push-buttons in all sorts of places, in every case and department and at every desk. Pressure on any one of these buttons sets off the alarm.

In the big vault there is a clock and storage battery affair. By this clock the vault is closed at the end of the day, thus completing the circuit so that the alarm is set off if anyone tampers with any of the doors of the vault, from within or without, or if any one handles the wires, or if the wires break or are cut. Anyone within the vault also can start the alarm signal.

Police Chief Phil Ross and Fire Chief Brun yesterday were shown tests of the apparatus and the blowing of the siren whistle attracted considerable attention. For the next day or two the whistle will blow frequently, while the alarm system is demonstrated to friends of the bank, but thereafter, when the siren is "tooted," everyone will know it means strictly business.

CITY PARK STADIUM

The city school board, having asked the mayor to request the city commission to grant permission for the school board to erect an athletic stadium on a portion of the City Park, Mayor Monro brought the matter to the attention of the commission yesterday.

City Attorney A. A. McDonald, at the request of the mayor, expressed the opinion that the commission cannot grant such permission without danger that the federal government might revoke its grant, whereby they donated the City Park property to the city for use as a "public park." Mr. McDonald suggested that the easiest and best way for the school board to get the permission it desires in his opinion, would be by petition to congress.

Thursday, January 9, 1919

FORT SMITH REALTY IS IN READY DEMAND

The third big real estate transfer of the year was completed yesterday when I. H. Nakdimen sold to a coterie of Kansas City business men the property known as the "Hayes Grain Company" plant, near the wagon factory, the

consideration being understood at \$25,000.

Mr. Nakdimen purchased the property some months ago, and it is understood that the sale yesterday was at a price higher than the property cost him, another indication of the steady growth in value of Fort Smith real property.

The sale of the Hayes grain property is the third big real estate deal of the new year, which is only nine days old today.

The first was the sale by Mr. Nakdimen to Mrs. C. Deiser of the brick building at Ninth street and Garrison avenue for \$33,500 and the second was the sale of the big old brick opera house property at Fourth street and Garrison avenue for \$37,500 by Fred Brown to the recently organized Browne-Hinton Wholesale Grocery company.

GUY HARTMAN HAS MADE GREAT RECORD

Guy Hartman of Fort Smith has made a remarkable military record in the heaviest fighting on the American front in France and he has come out of it as Captain Hartman with the United States Medal of Honor and recommendations for the distinguished service cross, according to letters received here.

Captain Hartman has been with the Sixth Infantry since December 15, 1917. His battalion was in continuous action from October 11 until the signing of the armistice on



November 11. On October 17, he was promoted to captain on the field. He won the medal of honor on October 17 by leading a battalion across the Meuse at Breules November 4. He was recommended for the distinguished service cross.

His regiment is declared to have captured more prisoners than they had casualties in action. Of the 50 officers who left the states with the regiment, only four survived the war, and the four were wounded. His regiment is now a part of the American army of occupation.

Saturday, January 11, 1919

AIRMEN GIVE ADVICE TO IMPROVE FIELD

After completing repairs of the airplane which was compelled to make a forced landing near the Mill Creek school house Thursday, Lieutenants Middleton and Carscaden departed yesterday afternoon for Russellville, their next stop on their way to the aviation field at Lonoke.

Some clever welding work was done on a broken part of the plane by Mechanic Limberg at Fred Johnson's automobile repair shop yesterday, less than half an hour being required to do the work, which is declared to have been of such nature that it could hardly be done by the ordinary machine shop.

Before leaving Fort Smith, Lieutenants Middleton and Carscaden gave some advice to the local folk, as to means necessary to make the Kelly pasture a really good aviation landing field. The ground should be harrowed and rolled, the windbag should be raised higher, the cross should be greatly enlarged and a small house should be erected where a telephone could be installed and where oil, canvas and other necessities could be stored for the use of the airmen.

The aviators were guests of honor yesterday at the weekly luncheon of the Noon Civics club.

NEW GROCERY ON PIGGLY-WIGGLY PLAN

The latest of the stores of the Star Cash Grocery which will be opened Monday at 617 Garrison avenue in the very heart of the retail business section of the city, will be operated on the widely-known "Piggly-Wiggly" plan and will give Fort Smith people an opportunity to decide how they like the system.

In the new store, there will be handled only goods in original packages. Stuff like sugar, for example, will be bundled in fixed sizes. There will be no clerks. A stockman, to keep the shelves filled, a wrapper and a cashier, will make up the working force. Customers enter by one door, assemble from shelves and counters the goods they desire to purchase, carry these to the wrapper, pay the

cashier, and then leave by another door.

Tuesday, January 14, 1919

MUST REMOVE HOGS OUTSIDE OF CITY

Do you live inside the city limits? If so, was a part of your war food conservation directed to investment in a porker or two? And if you did, have you put the porker in the barrel or smoke house, or is it still in the pen? If it is, you have just 90 days to get rid of it and fumigate and sterilize piggie's quarters.

Mayor Monro said so in an official proclamation yesterday. During the war food stress, the city police department closed its eyes to violations of the anti-porker ordinance; acting solely as arbitrators when the neighbors kicked and refused to be comforted. But it's all off and the markets will be the sole source of pork supply in to the urban dweller after April 1.

Sunday, January 19, 1919

FORT SMITH BOYS ROYALLY GREETED

A crowd variously estimated at from 4,000 to 6,000 congregated in the Union Station, pressed against the surrounding fences and overran the platform last night, to greet the first of the returning 114th boys. Although the Kansas City Southern train was thirty-five minutes late, there was not a murmur—just a happy, good-natured crowd, anxious to welcome "the boys," jostled each other and talked of trivialities as they waited.

And when the red lights appeared as the train came backing in, a deafening shout rose from thousands of throats. Immediately the band struck up "Dixie" and for nearly a minute the crowd stood breathless, anxiously waiting to sight the first overseas veteran. Each soldier as he appeared at the door of the coach was given a rousing cheer and immediately was swallowed up in the crowd, grasped by the eager hands of relatives.

The most phlegmatic person could not but have been thrilled by these warm embraces—families united again after more than a year's separation. The members of the Canteen were there with coffee and sandwiches, and the Motor Corps also, anxious to do something for the returned soldiers.

Just outside the station, the boys were met with a guard of honor, headed by Mayor Monro and the city officials, two companies of the High School Guards and the Boy Rangers under Commandant Wilmans. They marched to

the Plaza, where Mayor Monro made a very brief address, realizing, as he said, that the time was not opportune for more than a brief welcome, so that the returned soldiers might be allowed to go to their homes and be with their families.

Those returning were A. B. Henderson, Claude Spracklin, Jesse Reese, Lee McAlester, Home H. Hulsey, Sergeants Earl and Park McGinty, Kenneth Henderson, Leo Werley, C. E. Cantrell, Ernest Vincent, Harry Davis, Barham Parker, Gus Boehmer and Enos Lane, all of Fort Smith; Leo Hall of Hartford and George Vest of Mansfield.

Company D will reach home Sunday night, and those boys also are to be given a big reception. Next week, an informal reception to all the returned soldiers is to be arranged, it was announced by Mayor Monro.

JOHN FINK DEAD

After a lingering illness, John Fink, aged 56 years, died at his home, 302 North Sixteenth street, Friday morning at 7 o'clock. He leaves his widow, two sons, Jack and Harry Fink, and one brother, George Fink of Fort Smith; his mother, Mrs. John Fink of Troy, N. Y.; three sisters and a brother in New York state.

Mr. Fink was born in Troy, N. Y., in September 1863. He came to Fort Smith when he was 18 years of age and began working for Klein & Horton Jewelry company, where he worked one year. He then went to Van Buren where he remained four years in the jewelry business. He was also manager of the telephone exchange at Van Buren. He returned to Fort Smith and entered the firm of Klein & Horton. In a short time, the firm was Klein & Fink. Mr. Klein died in 1912 and Mr. Fink bought his interests.

The funeral will take place at 3 o'clock this afternoon at the Catholic church. Rev. Dr. Horan officiating. Interment will be made in Oak cemetery.

Saturday, January 25, 1919

NAMES COMMITTEE ON CONVENTION HALL

At a meeting of the Business Men's club last week, the president was authorized to appoint a committee to look into the advisability and feasibility of erecting a municipal convention hall in Fort Smith, and so make a report thereon.

Previous to America's entrance into the war this building was discussed, and at that time the opinion was favorable to its erection. The usual conservation practices inaugurated which stopped most public improvements, also halted any further consideration of this building, stated Secretary Gill yesterday. Now that the war is over, and the

people generally are turning their attention to civic and industrial matters, this question is once more to the forefront.

Those appointed by President Park yesterday to make an exhaustive report on the municipal convention hall were Louis Weinstein, Wharton Carnall, A. Clingensmith, W. A. Johnson, Dr. J. H. Kirkpatrick and Ray Gill.

Wednesday, January 29, 1919

CONTRACT IS AWARDED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF GARRISON BRIDGE

The Fort Smith District Bridge Commission last night awarded to M. M. Elkan, of Macon, Ga., the contract for the construction of the steel and concrete bridge over the Arkansas river at Garrison avenue, for the contract price of \$537,967.50.

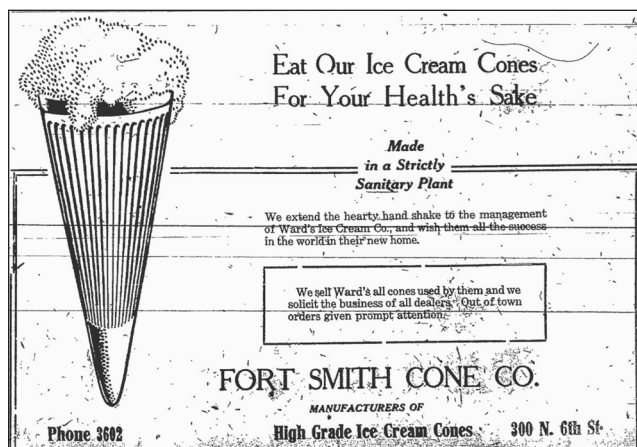
Mr. Elkan was not present in person, but a telegram from him informed the board that as soon as the contract was awarded to him, he would forward the necessary bond, and would immediately begin loading machinery and material, that beginning of the construction work might not be delayed. The contract calls for the bridge to be completed in fifteen months.

Sunday, February 2, 1919

CONE FACTORY IS TO BE OPENED HERE

The All-American Cone company for the exclusive manufacture of ice cream cones, will begin operations in Fort Smith within the next ten days, announcement of the establishment of the new concern having been made last night by T. J. Pate and W. T. Roper, local men.

The plant will have a capacity of 25,000 ice cream cones



Eat Our Ice Cream Cones
For Your Health's Sake

Made
in a Strictly
Sanitary Plant

We extend the hearty hand shake to the management
of Ward's Ice Cream Co., and wish them all the success
in the world in their new home.

We sell Ward's all cones used by them and we
solicit the business of all dealers. Out of town
orders given prompt attention.

FORT SMITH CONE CO.
MANUFACTURERS OF
High Grade Ice Cream Cones

Phone 3602 300 N. 6th St

per day, as a starter, and it is planned to supply these delicacies to the entire Fort Smith trade territory. As the business grows, the output will be increased. The plant will be located at 14 North Third Street.

Mr. Pate has been a traveling salesman for Watson & Aven the past two years, and has experience with the sale and distribution of cones, while Mr. Roper has been experienced not only in the ice cream business, but in the manufacture of cones.

Tuesday, February 11, 1919

COURT ORDERS BOOZE DESTROYED

Shall the people of Fort Smith hold a jubilee celebrating national prohibition with a great bonfire, with the fuel supplied by the government and worth \$50,000 at present Fort Smith prices—the bonfire to be kindled on the old federal jail square? The only possible handicap to such a jubilee bonfire would be the much-mooted problem of whether bootleg whiskey will burn.

The opportunity for the jubilee came yesterday when, upon the motion of Assistant Prosecuting Attorney J. Seab Holt, Judge Youmans in federal court declared forfeiture of the stock of contraband liquors held by Marshal Parker in the old federal jail. The court gave orders to the marshal to destroy said liquors.

An unprecedented feature of the court procedure was that it is the first order for destruction of liquor under federal procedure and an outgrowth of national prohibition. The customary federal procedure in such cases hitherto has been for the court to forfeit the liquor and order it sold.

What sized job the court has put up to the marshal and his force may be suggested by the fact that the liquor thus included for destruction includes, according to the order, “four large boxes of whiskey, three trunks full, 74 suitcases full, three five-gallon kegs of whiskey and a like number of wine, one lot of 2,500 half-pint bottles, another of 258 quart bottles and sundry other quantities of liquor including brandy, alcohol gin, whiskey and wine.”

TO WELCOME NEGRO SOLDIER BOYS HOME

Arrangements have been concluded for “welcoming exercises” for the local colored soldier boys, to be held at the A. M. E. church, corner of North Eighth and H. streets, Wednesday night, starting at 8 o’clock.

Dr. S. W. Harrison, one of the leaders among the local colored people will act as chairman, and there will be talks by Mayor Arch Monro and a number of white soldiers who have seen service. The exercises will be held under the auspices of the county colored committee of the Y.M.C.A.,

and the general public is invited to attend.

Friday, February 14, 1919

MORRIS-MORTON CO. TO ERECT BUILDING

The Morris-Morton Drug company yesterday closed a deal whereby they purchased from J. E. Hayes of Webber’s Falls, Okla., for a consideration of \$10,000, the 100x140 feet tract of land at Third street and Rogers avenue, upon which the company intends to erect a handsome modern building, to be occupied as its headquarters, offices, laboratory, salesrooms and storehouse.

Plans for the new building have not yet been taken up by the company, nor has it been decided when the work of construction is to begin. Because the company intends, however, to have a building sufficiently large to house all its departments and its big stock, it is understood that at least a three-story building will be erected.

For the past two years the company has been compelled to occupy two warehouses outside its own quarters. The volume of the company’s business has grown by leaps and bounds the past five years and the growth is continuing,

***A Man Can Borrow Money
on What He Puts Into
a Home***

He can't on what he pays out for rent.
A man can save money by building with permanent materials.

He can't when his building has upkeep expense,
high insurance and fuel bills.

"THERE'S A DIFFERENCE."
For permanence and beauty,
"BUILD WITH BRICK."
"THE BUILDING MATERIAL ETERNAL."

Fort Smith Brick Co.

617-18-19 Merchant Bank Buildings

We manufacture Fort Smith "HI-QUA" FACE
BRICK. We are agents for all
kinds of clay products

making larger quarters absolutely necessary. The present quarters of the company, which are owned by the company, likely will be leased or sold, when the new building is ready for occupancy.

Manager J. H. Carnahan said yesterday that the company's plans are not yet definite as to detail, but that there is no doubt whatever about the early erection of the new home.

"In the new building, the company will have a model up-to-date laboratory," said Mr. Carnahan, "wherein it will manufacture chemicals and patent medicines. The company manufactures 'Swamp Chill Tonic' and 'Dixie Fever and Pain Powder,' both of which are sold extensively through the south, and the demand for which is constantly growing. Our company has about 80 persons employed in its building, and maintains a staff of eight traveling salesmen, with permanent sales headquarters established at Shreveport, La., Austin Tx., and Oklahoma City. We have outgrown our old quarters, hence the decision to erect a new and larger home."

Tuesday, February 25, 1919

CITY PARK MAY YET BE USED AS CIVIC ENTERTAINMENT PLACE

For many years the 7.17 acres of Fort Smith city park have not in any sense been a city playground and recreation resort as was contemplated in the congressional grant to this city. For many years, on the other hand, the city park has been a constant city expense in lighting and caretaking as a preventive of its becoming a vice resort.

It cannot be successfully controverted that the general public can never be drawn into the habit of recreation uses of the park except by locating therein city organized amusements. Even Electric park died as an amusement resort of habitual service to the public when its owners ceased to maintain organized amusements and recreations there.

Movements are crystallizing in this city for making the city park a real playground and recreation center of Fort Smith. City civic organizations have appointed investigating committees to report on ways and means. Plans have not yet crystallized, but they include the establishment of an athletic field and stadium, a baseball park, with suggestions also that the city erect a convention hall or similar public building for the entertainment of the people of the city.

Ever since the government granted that ground to Fort Smith "for a park," there has been occasional discussion of getting the 7.17 acres into practical service to the people of

the city. As the years passing the first score have passed, every move to put the city park into use has awakened in some quarters vehement opposition—even threat of appeals to the courts. Opponents have asserted that to do any of the many things which have from time to time been proposed, would cause the city to lose back to the government both the park and the courthouse square which was part of the same grant. Even now some citizens are reported to threaten to go into the court to enjoin even the cutting of a tree.

Now that Fort Smith demands the right to make the most possible use of its park, it will clarify the situation for the public to understand just what rights and privileges the people of this city have in the city park. Here are some history and some facts from the records.

Congress granted the reserve to the city of Fort Smith on May 13, 1884.

The grant was in four separate parts. First, nine acres for "public buildings, a county courthouse and a park." Second, all lots and blocks in the reserve dedicated to the city as trustee for the Fort Smith second district. Third, all grounds necessary for streets, alleys and avenues to serve

THE ONLY

Complete Office Supply House

In Western Arkansas and Eastern Oklahoma



Anything From a Pen Point to a Desk for the modern Business Office.

Our Plant Covers 7,000 Square Feet Floor Space and

We are equipped to manufacture binders, loose leaves, cards, etc., to suit your individual needs. "Our goods all fit."

We only sell such Standard lines as Y. & E. and Art Metal Wood and Steel Office Equipment.

J. P. Loose Leaf Systems
Corona Typewriters.

And all leading brands of small supplies for the modern Business Office.

Mail Orders Promptly Filled.

Ft. Smith Printing Co.

13-15 North Ninth St.
Phone 982 Fort Smith, Ark.

those blocks. Fourth, stipulated grounds for the National cemetery federal buildings and jail.

Keep this point in mind. The United States issued two patents to cover the grant. The first conveyed the lands for school uses, streets and alleys. The second conveyed that nine acres of land "for county courthouse and other purposes and for a park."

In the first patent there was no proviso for reversion of title to the government whatever. In the second patent and the act authorizing there was just one restriction placed upon the grant of that nine acres of land for city and county purposes—IT WAS PROVIDED THAT THE CITY SHOULD OPEN AND PERPETUALLY MAINTAIN A 60-FOOT STREET BETWEEN GARRISON AVENUE AND THE GATEWAY TO NATIONAL CEMETERY.

At the request of the city civic clubs and with the approval of Mayor Monro, Attorney J. B. McDonough made an exhaustive survey of the records and laws and rendered an opinion. His finding is that the complete control and administration of the city park is vested in the city commission and that it has power to build any of the proposed buildings or improvements in the park and to put the property to any amusement and recreation service it sees fit, further the charge of an admission to any amusement does not in any way invalidate such action. He holds further that the city may build any public buildings on the park site it chooses.

In view of the fact that threats of injunction against removing any park trees, the opinion calls attention to the fact that there were no trees upon the plat when the government grant was made, neither has any citizen any proprietary right in trees now there.

ICE CREAM FACTORY ANOTHER INDUSTRY ESTABLISHED HERE

One of the latest enterprises for Fort Smith is a new ice cream plant, which will soon be in operation. James Bourland is the promoter as well as the proprietor of this new industry.

While the new industry is separate and distinct from the Bourland ice plant, the ice cream plant will be supplied with refrigeration from the ice plant. It will be located immediately across Grand avenue from the Bourland ice plant, in the brick building formerly used as a blacksmith shop.

The building has been enlarged and remodeled, the machinery has been ordered and as soon as this arrives, it will be installed, and the completion of the plant pushed. Mr. Bourland proposes to manufacture pure, sanitary cream, and his machinery will be the most modern.

James Bourland has been associated with his father, Fagan Bourland in the wholesale grocery business and this

is his first venture in this line. However, he is a young man of recognized business ability.

Wednesday, February 26, 1919

200 ARE VICTIMS OF DREADED FLU

The city health department has completed its compilation of influenza epidemic statistics for Fort Smith. It shows a total of 200 deaths in this city from the epidemic for the months of September, October, November and December.

The record by months shows three deaths in September from pneumonia; for October 23 deaths of influenza and 63 of pneumonia; for November 53 deaths of influenza and 10 of pneumonia; for December 46 deaths from influenza and 3 of pneumonia.

Friday, February 28, 1919

BRIDGE WORKERS QUIT THEIR JOBS

Thursday noon the labor forces including five or six white men ceased work on the excavation work at the bridge site and did not report back to work during the day. In the afternoon spokesmen for the men declared that the men had been working at 30 cents per hour for a ten-hour day, and that they had demanded 40 cents per hour for an eight-hour day. During the afternoon the men applied to the

HUNT'S
SATURDAY SPECIAL

A 25c Can of Home Use Oil For
14c

A Half Bushel Market Basket
With Two Handles For
14c

Hunt Hardware Co.
"THE DIAMOND EDGE STORE"
802 Garrison Ave. Phone 219

labor federation and asked for an organizer to organize an unskilled labor union. This the officers of the federation declined to do, but advised the men that they themselves might use a room in the labor temple if they desired to hold a meeting.

At the meeting several heads of local unions told the boys that the Fort Smith federation would not at this time countenance an organization, but advised the men to themselves hold their meeting and take whatever concerted action seemed good to them, saying that the federation would offer its assistance in any reasonable movement for conciliation.

The result was that it was agreed among the laborers that the white men should appoint a committee of two and the colored men a like committee and that the joint committee shall go to the mayor's office at 10 o'clock this morning and invite Superintendent Smith, contractor, to meet them there, and set in motion plans for solving the employment on the bridge contract.

At the meeting there were approximately 75 laborers, about half of whom were negroes. Only a half dozen members of the labor federation were present and they declined to take any part in the meeting with the exception of giving advice.

Some of the speakers were inclined to inflammatory remarks and Jack Adams of the federation sharply rebuked them, telling them that they cannot win unless they have the approval of the people of the city. The people would be with them in an orderly businesslike presentation of labor rights, but not otherwise.

Sunday, March 2, 1919

BOARD OF HEALTH CANNOT ACT UPON GARBAGE DUMPING

The Board of Health of Fort Smith will take no action in the matter of the dumping of the debris from the ruins of the commission house fire at the foot of Garrison avenue, said Dr. Foltz Saturday, "There is no danger to the health of the community unless the stuff should be eaten, and as I hardly think anyone would eat it, I do not believe the matter is one for the board of health to consider. Rather it appears to me a matter for police regulation, and not the health authorities."

The debris dumped at the foot of Garrison avenue has been a subject of considerable complaint, and at this particular time is particularly objectionable by reason of the building of the Garrison avenue bridge. There are many tons of charred merchandise piled on the banks of the river which will have to be removed before the bridge can be

completed, but just who will this fall upon is not stated.

Wednesday, March 12, 1919

LIONS CLUB CHARTERED

At the first regular meeting of the Lion's club Tuesday noon, the following officers were elected:

Wood Netherland, president; Dr. Charles Holt, first vice president; W. B. Barton, second vice president; Ralph Reese, secretary-treasurer; S. A. Wilson, J. S. Parks and John Brizzolara, trustees. These officers compose the executive committee. The standing committees appointed were:

Program and entertainment—S. A. Wilson, Eugene Bly, Raymond Lee,

Constitution and By-Laws—John Brizzolara, Roy M. Johnston, Waite L. Hinton.

The charter list was closed with the following as charter members; Dr. Clarence L. Hunt, John Brizzolara, S. A. Wilson, H. O. Wolf, Ralph E. Reese, C. S. Kidd, W. K. Donohue, Dr. Chas. S. Hold, Fred B. Johnston, Hoyt Kirkpatrick, Walter L. Hinton, Eugene R. Bly, Wood Netherland, George E. Ellefson, J. Rudolph Woods, Raymond Lee, J. B. Fink, J. G. Putman, S. E. Gearhart, Collier Wenderoth, W. B. Barton, Roy M. Johnston, Harry E. Johnson, F. W. Dyke, O. O. Jenkins, J. S. Parks, Louis Cohen. Several other names have been favorably reported by the membership committee, but have not been elected to membership as yet.

The club meets every Tuesday noon at the Hotel Main.

Tuesday, March 18, 1919

ELECTRIC PARK ADDITION SUFFERS BIG STORM DAMAGE

The cyclone which swept over Fort Smith Saturday midnight, dipped to earth in a number of small areas through the city and wrought damage. Aside from the unroofing of the large Berry-Beall wholesale dry goods house in Garrison avenue, the storm did the most damage in the Electric Park addition in the northern end of the city.

HOLLAND-AMERICAN HAS FINE PROSPECTS

A Fort Smith industry that will likely become one of the really large plants of the city in the near future is that of the Holland-American Fruit Products company. This concern operates a canning factory and is planning on so enlarging that plant that it will be able to operate twelve months in

the year instead of three or four as most factories of the character run.

The company built its plant two years ago. The farmers of the section were not accustomed to raising produce for a canning factory, the locality had no trained workers in the business and labor conditions were bad, yet the first year of the business resulted in a net profit.

HOTEL MAIN PROPERTY IS SOLD FOR \$242,000

The biggest transfer of real estate for years in Fort Smith was consummated yesterday, when I. H. Nakdimen sold to Fagan Bourland the Hotel Main property for \$242,000. It was a cash transaction closed when the deed to the property transferred to Mr. Bourland by Mr. Nakdimen who received in turn a check drawn on the First National Bank.

Sixty-five years ago—in 1854—the entire square of which the Hotel Main property forms a part was sold by Mrs. Rebecca Bourland, grandmother of Mr. Bourland for \$700—the difference in the price showing plainly the growth of Fort Smith and the great increase in realty values. Mr. Nakdimen purchased the Hotel Main property about six years ago and netted a neat profit by the deal closed yesterday.

Sunday, March 23, 1919

CHERO COLA WILL BE BOTTLED HERE BY AL HENDERSON

Thomas L. Hackett, a special representative of the Chero Cola company of Columbus, Ga., is registered at a local hotel from “Chero Cola, Ga.,” which is the name for the city of Columbus that the many representatives of the firm use when on the road. Mr. Hackett is conferring with Al Henderson of this city in the matter of the establishment of a Chero Cola bottling in Fort Smith. All of the machinery has been ordered and will when installed, comprise a most modern and up-to-the-minute plant.

The apportionment of this territory to Mr. Henderson and his associates for the installation of a plant in Fort Smith is only one of the many new plants that the Chero Cola company contemplates opening this year.

Mr. Hackett states that the present year promises to be a good one for the parent



company that the lifting of the restrictions placed by the government for conservation purposes necessary to winning the war has enabled them to put into execution extensions which had formerly been planned.

Chero Cola as a bottled soft drink that has been on the market only about eight years, but during that time has made a wonderful record in development. It has its own individual qualities and is very popular in sections where it has been introduced. The drink is at present sold in thirteen states through the medium of several hundred bottling plants.

Mr. Henderson is working hard to hurry the installation and completion of his plant and will make public further plans in the near future.

FIRST CONCRETE FOR NEW BRIDGE READY ON MONDAY

Weather permitting, on Monday, March 24, 1919, the first concrete will be poured of Fort Smith's 3,000-foot, half million dollar concrete bridge across the Arkansas river into Oklahoma from Fort Smith.

The first carload of re-enforcement steel arrived and was unloaded Saturday. It came from Blairsdale, N. Y., mills and there was 90,000 pounds of the steel. Before closing hour Saturday night, the concrete forms were in place for the south side retaining wall on the Garrison avenue approach and the first steel re-enforcement gridirons were laid ready for use. The big mixer was tuned up and ready. The first pouring will be in the south retaining wall base at Second street.

There was considerable concern on the works over the rise of the river. It had risen over five feet up to night and was still rising quite rapidly. The rise had filled and completely put under water the pier excavation at the bank. The forecast was not for a rise which will in any way hinder or delay the construction. It may delay the getting of sand and gravel from the bar, but large quantities are already stored on the works.

Tuesday, March 25, 1919

FRISCO TRAIN HITS STALLED CHEVROLET

The north-bound Frisco passenger train Sunday morning struck a Chevrolet automobile, at the Country club crossing on Van Buren road, smashing the auto but doing no other damage except to disrupt train schedules and disjointed dispatcher's nerves.

The auto was the property of Dr. Tobe Hill of Mulberry and is said to have been occupied by three boys. The boys were driving the car along the road when it skidded, going into the ditch in such a manner that it still rested partly

upon the railroad tracks. The boys started to Van Buren afoot for assistance, when the train came along and smashed their car.

Wednesday, March 26, 1919

15-YEAR-OLD WIFE SUING FOR DIVORCE

In chancery court, a petition was filed yesterday by a 15-year-old wife who alleges that she was only 13 years old when married, that her father was dead and neither her mother nor older sister gave consent to the securing of the license by the groom, who is charged with having made fraudulent representations to secure the license.

The wife who thus seeks freedom, is Alice Ross Glover, who alleges that she was married to Elmer D. Glover at Conway in January 1917. She charges the defendant with having treated her with cruelty and neglect.

BOY RANGERS IN PLEASANT OUTING

Saturday morning at 4:35 C. F. Wilmans, Grand Commander Rangers, and fourteen of the Boy Rangers left for the Rangers camp in the Big Piney mountains, 13 miles north of here. Arriving at Rudy at 5:15 a.m. they hiked to the mountains, three miles north of there. Breakfast was served on the creek bank, where the boys cooked their own food. The mountain was ascended to a high elevation commanding a splendid view of the creek and the country for miles around.

The descent was made through the Boy Rangers Gap and a real mountain climb was made for nearly a mile farther, beneath high rocky cliffs, over great piles of rock on the steep bank where you had to hang to trees to keep from falling down. The creek went rushing over its rocky course and was churned into foam.

The boys amused themselves by throwing sticks into the water to see how fast they would travel, carving their names into the moss covered rocks like green velvet and riding trees down. When Mr. Stewart's house was reached some of the boys tried their hand at plowing while others rode horses through the woods and forded the creek and hunted Indian relics of which quite a number were found.

In addition to the leader, the party consisted of Ray Lester, Charlie Brown, Foster Henly, Cecil Marr, Theo Meier, Edward Shibley, Gordon Bonner, Dale Calvert, James Miscampbell, Bruce Martin, Gerald Payne, Paul Northum, Carl Everett and Elizha Fisher.

ELECTRIC PARK IS TO BE DISMANTLED

It was announced yesterday by the officers of the newly organized lodge of Moose that because of the decision of

the owners of Electric Park to dismantle that property, the Moose dance will be given on April 8 at the Eagles' hall, instead of at the park, as was first arranged.

Officers of the Moose lodge had perfected all their plans for the big outing at the park. Yesterday they were informed by the management of the traction company that orders had been received from Chicago to dismantle the park property, following which the Moose lodge obtained the consent of the Eagles for the use of the hall, and made the announcement of the change necessitated in their plans.

LOCAL PHYSICIANS STUDY TWO CASES

What are said to be typical cases of the "sleeping sickness" the first to be discovered in the Fort Smith territory, are receiving treatment at Sparks Memorial hospital, where local physicians are studying the disease with interest.

The patients who are said to be affected with the newest malady are Ed Balentine, a Hartford coal miner, and Gladys Davis, 12-year-old daughter of Will Davis, coal miner of Bokoshe, Okla. Both recently suffered attacks of influenza. Davis had been "sleeping" only about ten days while the girl has been ill 33 days now. Both are reported improving and favorable outcome is expected in each case.

Thursday, April 3, 1919

LODGE CHARTER FOR ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED FOLK

A charter has been granted for the formation in Fort Smith of a local lodge affiliated with the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, with Rev. W. M. Jones president, Dr. R. Q. Campfield secretary. The new organization starts out with a charter membership of 100. Public meetings are to be held monthly with interesting programs, the first of which is to be held at Rev. Whittington's church on North Eighth street, tonight at 8:30 o'clock.

The national headquarters of the body are in New York and it is stated that 200 locals have already been organized, with a membership of over 200,000. As the name implies, the purpose of the association is stated to be to advance the colored race in all lines making for American citizenship.

WEEDS AND GRASS MUST BE REMOVED

Mayor Arch Monro announced yesterday, that the police have received instructions to vigorously enforce the city ordinances which prohibit the growing of grass and weeds in lots and yards and along the sidewalks to the city.

"The people must cut and remove the grass and weeds" declared the mayor. "The police will enforce the law by

summoning negligent persons to police court, where the efforts of the police are to be upheld by the court.”

Friday, April 4, 1919

**BRIDGE BONDS BRING RECORD PRICE
OF 97.17 FOR 5 PER CENT ISSUE**

After four hours of negotiations with bidders representing ten or more bond companies, the Sebastian Bridge District commission yesterday sold \$514,000 worth of district five per cent bonds at 97.19 realizing \$501,556 dollars in cash to be deposited in a local bank or banks immediately upon delivery of the bonds and to draw four percent interest in favor of the district on daily business. The purchasers were Mississippi Valley Trust Company, G.H. Walker & Company and Mortgage Trust company jointly of St. Louis.



**SALE OF
HATS**
—SATURDAY ONLY—
TWO LOTS

An opportunity to select a smart Hat for
Easter at a great saving

Lot No. 1 Hats formerly priced to \$10 on sale at \$1.95	THE	Lot No. 2 Hats formerly priced to \$15 on sale at \$5.00
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ROBINS
703 Garrison

SHOP
Phone 664

Wednesday, April 9, 1919

MUNICIPAL BAND MAKING HEADWAY

The Lions club, at the regular luncheon-meeting at the Hotel Main yesterday, added its approval to the proposition of arranging for a series of Sunday evening musical concerts, by what might be termed a municipal band, during the four-month period beginning early in May. The club also decided to meet Wednesdays instead of Tuesdays, in future.

The concert proposition has already been discussed quite extensively and it is planned, if the arrangements can be perfected, to form a band of something like 24 pieces, for the concerts to be held before evening church services, probably at the plaza, and for the concerts to last about two hours each Sunday evening.

Saturday, April 12, 1919

**FORT SMITH AIR ACE ROBERTSON
ARRIVES TODAY**

Lieutenant Wendell Robertson—Fort Smith boy who won high honors with the American army aviation forces abroad and one of the two Arkansas aces—will return home this morning on the Frisco cannonball, and the people of his hometown last night were discussing among themselves the form of the tribute that is to be shown him.

Western Arkansas can boast of both the aces from this state, an ace being an aviator who has brought down five or more enemy planes, Fields Kindley of Gravette and Wendell Robertson of Fort Smith. Robertson is the first of the pair to return home, his work done, although it is not known here whether he is on furlough or has received his honorable discharge.

When the Frisco train arrives at 9 o'clock this morning, fellow townsmen of the air ace, who has six Hun planes to his official credit, will be present in large numbers to give him a cordial welcome and spontaneous tribute that will mean more than any formal greeting, because of its very spontaneity.

Sunday, April 13, 1919

AUTO WORKS MAKES \$7,000 IMPROVEMENT

The Armbruster & Co. Auto Works, 233 North Ninth street, are putting \$7000 into additional improvements in their plant. They are building a large brick addition to their present quarters which will be equipped with motor-driven

machinery and will include a dust-proof finishing department second to none in the country.

The Southwest American representative learned that this rapidly increasing business here is one of the most prosperous, having 10 men in its employ now and proposing to double the force as soon as the improvements are completed. They make a specialty of re-topping and "dolling up" cars which are in good mechanical shape but show the vintage of 1915 or so.

The firm is composed of A. K. Armbruster, C. M. Kayser and Walter Walkord.

CHIEF OF POLICE WAS INVITED TO "ATTEND" BIG CHICKEN FIGHT

Ross Young, A. G. Ragland, Bud Fraley, Tom Fraley, Frank Edelman and Frank Trigg were fined \$20 each in the justice court of I. N. Fishback yesterday on complaints charging them with being present at the cock fighting near the fair grounds last Sunday morning. Eight defendants had been fined previously on similar complaints and the fourteen gave notice to appear at the termination of the trials of the six yesterday.

The appeals are taken, it is said, on the ground that no one can be compelled to testify against himself or to testify in a case where his testimony would subject him to prosecution based on his testimony. The state used these defendants, or some of them, in the preliminary trials of Noah Basham and Homer Long, charged with holding up the crowd and robbing it Sunday morning. The defendants believe that they would not have been prosecuted for witnessing the cock fights but for the fact that two men held them up and robbed them and in order to prosecute the alleged robbers, it was necessary for them or some of them at least, to admit that they were at the grounds that morning.

But an unsigned postal card received by Chief of Police Ross April 3, would indicate that the robbers "beat the officers to it" as the chicken men had been relieved of their

ready cash and had scattered before the officers reached the scene. Following is the card...

"Dear Mr. Ross—What is there to prevent yourself or some of your men to attend the big cock fight—also crap game, that is to be Sunday April 6, between 5:30 and 9 o'clock out at the Jenny Lind road on hill back of fair grounds. Possibly the crap game will continue the whole day as it did on March 23. There will be numbers of small boys there as well as young and middle age and old men. This is a cordial invitation, so go if you can."

Wednesday, April 16, 1919

ENGINE OF DESTRUCTION GIVEN CORDIAL WELCOME

Thousands of people were gathered at the foot of Rogers avenue yesterday, along Garrison avenue from Second street to the Plaza, to give greeting to the whippet tank used by American soldiers in the battle of Argonne forest, where the hordes of the enemy were mowed down and dispersed, in the most desperate fighting of the entire world-war.

The tank will be at the plaza all of today and until late this evening. There will be exhibitions and maneuvers during the forenoon. For the especial benefit of the school children of the city there will be more demonstrations and maneuvering at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon and it will be urged upon the school authorities today that all the children be instructed to attend to see how the tank is operated and some of the things it can do.

Friday, May 2, 1919

BRIDGE EMPLOYEE DROWNS IN RIVER

Henry Glaumer, 18 years old and employed with the M. M. Elkan Construction company in building the Arkansas river bridge in this city, lost his life in the river Thursday afternoon when the skiff in which he was rowing overturned. Power boats with grappling irons dragged the river all afternoon without being able to locate the body.

Young Glaumer, who was fireman on the big dredge boat, in company with Max Brown, barge engineer, were passing the barge in the skiff, going down stream when the prow of the skiff struck a submerged cable which anchors the barge to the mid-stream sand bar. The barge was located near the Oklahoma shore and several hundred feet of cable stretching to the bar was under water for most of its length.

The river, at the ten foot stage, was running like a mill

**WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED
A 1919 MODEL**

Harley Davidson

'The Motorcycle that helped win the war'
We are exclusive agents for Fort Smith
and vicinity. Glad to have you call
for a demonstration.

W. F. PENNY

102 North 5th Street

race on that side, and the current instantly swung the skiff broadside and overturned it throwing both men into the water. Mr. Brown succeeded in grasping the cable, pulled himself to the boat and threw a rope to the boy who failed to grasp it soon after disappearing.

Henry Glaumer was a son of Henry Glaumer Sr., who is foreman for the Elkan company. They came to this city with the construction force under Superintendent Smith, coming from their home at Lynchburg, Virginia, where the young man's mother, a sister and grandmother reside. He was a rosy-cheeked young man of genial disposition and high spirits and his untimely death threw its shadow over all the force. Dozens of men on the work offered the stricken father all possible assistance in the search of the body. Wires were sent to members of the family. The Fentress ambulance was called to the scene, but up to a late-hour last evening no trace of the body had been found.

The accident happened at the very center of the west-side channel and the high water, 25 feet deep at that point and with a swift current, would probably carry the body far down the river for the channel has a straight away flow for two or three miles below that point. Last night an additional motor boat was secured here and two from Van Buren, and with lights, grappling hooks and troll lines the search was carried far into the night.

FLYING CIRCUS WILL EXHIBIT HERE MONDAY WITH VETERAN "ACES"

The Victory Loan Flying Circus with its special train of 13 cars will arrive in Fort Smith at 6 a. m., Monday, May 5, and will exhibit on the Williams and Alexander farms on the Oklahoma side of the Arkansas river.

The circus is composed of some of the greatest fliers in the world, and carries with it four aces who have to their credit 77 Hun aeroplanes, as follow: Captain Andrew B. Proctor, English ace, 64 ships; Captain Thomas E. Taill, English ace, 6 ships; Major Edgar G. Tobin, American ace, 6 ships; and Captain William P. Erwin, American ace, 11 ships.

The rest of the pilots are the oldest men in aviation today and have for a total approximately 800 hours in the air. The enlisted personnel are from Lafayette escadrille and have all been cited for bravery on three different occasions by the French Army.

Friday, June 11, 1919

BRICK COMPANY IS ENLARGING PLAN

The Arkansas Brick company, whose manufactory is on the Greenwood road, put into operation the largest steam

shovel ever installed in this field. It was one feature of new extensions which will increase the plant capacity output by a third. The piece of machinery named weighs 70 tons and has a three-yard capacity. It is a \$12,000 machine.

From the offices of the company it was stated yesterday that the increase of capacity was made necessary by rapidly growing and extending demand for their product with accumulated orders far ahead of output. Yesterday large contracts were closed for brick for a school building and a church at Hugo Okla. Some carloads for central Texas points have also gone forward within the last week.

It is stated that the company plans to install tile-making machinery next fall, which will still further extend the operation of this large and important branch of Fort Smith manufacturing.

Friday, June 13, 1919

TWO LOSE LIVES IN FROG BAYOU

A. H. Croyle, 823 North Fifteenth street, auditor for the Speer Hardware company, and Bryton Fletcher, aged 14, son of W. W. Fletcher, 906 South Nineteenth street, president of the Fort Smith Paper company, were drowned

"SAY IT WITH FLOWERS"

George Rye

"SOME FLORIST"

The Plaza Telephone 116

Flowers delivered anywhere in the United States in one hour.

Flowers are very scarce this Easter and hard to get, the following prices will prevail for Easter:

Easter Lillies ..	\$10.00 a dozen
Carnations....	\$2 to \$3 a dozen
Roses	\$4 to \$6 a dozen
Sweet Peas.....	\$4 a hundred
Tulips	\$2 a dozen
Jonquils	\$2 a dozen

Potted Blooming Plants very limited, but will be from \$2 to \$5 a pot—Lillies, Spireas, Hydrangeas and other varieties. Get your order in early to be sure of receiving same. Will telegraph anywhere in the United States on short notice for delivery.

SAY IT WITH FLOWERS

yesterday at 1:45 o'clock, in Frog Bayou, near Bushmaier ford, in Crawford county.

Mr. Croyle, together with young Fletcher, Lee Ben Putnam, aged 11, 922 North Eleventh street, George Packard, aged 13, 807 South Twenty-fifth street, and Jerome Johnstone, aged 14, 720 North Fourteenth street, were on a picnic and swimming trip. The drowning resulted when young Fletcher got in deep water, lost control of himself, and went under. All of the party, with the exception of Mr. Croyle, were swimming at the time and the other boys went to young Fletcher and attempted to rescue him.

It was at this time that Mr. Croyle observed the difficulty from the small island on which the party had encamped and on which he was standing at the time. Taking no time to undress, he immediately plunged into the water and made his way to where the other boys were struggling to rescue young Fletcher.

The other boys withdrew as Mr. Croyle approached. In the meantime young Fletcher had already rose to the surface three times, went down again and rose the fourth time just as Mr. Croyle raised him half out of the water and made a desperate effort to get him ashore. But in the grapple he was clinched by the drowning boy and they both sank, after which neither of the bodies came to the surface again.

Over on the island a negro, whose name could not be learned, observed the drowning and immediately rushed over to the roadway leading into Alma. As he reached the roadway a woman was passing in a buggy on her way to Alma. He notified her of what had happened and the woman rushed to Alma and spread the alarm. The people of Alma closed their places of business at once and rushed to the scene of the drowning. They threw out a drag as soon as they arrived and both bodies were recovered at about the place where they went under. The body of young Fletcher being recovered first—the people made an effort to restore him to life by means of artificial respiration, but were unsuccessful. The bodies were recovered at 4:15 p. m.

WAS SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC

Mr. Croyle was an active leader of the Sunday school of the First Christian church and made arrangements last Sunday to carry the boys in his class on a picnic and outing. It was originally intended that Mr. Croyle and ten boys should make up the party. They were to assemble at the First Christian church Thursday at 9:30 a. m. Only the four boys mentioned showed up and joined the party, according to schedule, the party leaving the church in an automobile driven by George Packard. From the church they proceeded to Van Buren, secured fishing tackle and drove out the Kibler road to Bushmaier ford. There they left the car, took their fishing tackle and lunch, and made their way to the

small island in Frog Bayou, about 10:30 a.m.

SLEEPING SICKNESS VICTIM SUCCUMBS

Henry Edward Ballentine, aged 23, a victim of sleeping sickness, died at a local hospital yesterday afternoon at 5 o'clock after having been asleep for a period of three months. His home was at Huntington. The body will be taken there today for burial.

Saturday, June 21, 1919

GRAND JURY INDICTS POLICE FORCE HEADS

Chief of Police Philip Ross was indicted by the grand jury of the circuit court yesterday on a charge of giving away liquor; Night Chief of Police Omer W. Shaw was indicted on one charge of embezzlement and on four charges of nonfeasance, alleged to be in connection with the sale of liquor here; and Patrolman George Pinson was indicted on a charge of nonfeasance, alleged to be also in connection with the sale of liquor.

Each of the offices made bond and is at liberty pending the trial of the cases in circuit court.

Sunday, June 29, 1919

FINE NEW CHURCH ON NINTH STREET FOR COLORED FOLK

A handsome and modern two-story brick church, to cost, with its furnishing, between \$37,000 and \$40,000, is to be erected almost at once in North Ninth street, as the new home of the congregation of the Ninth street colored Baptist church.

Contract for the construction already has been let to the Five States Construction company of Memphis, which is gathering its material and construction forces. The new structure will be located at North Ninth and K. streets, will be what is known as an institutional building, planned to care for the congregation's present needs and demands as well as those of years to come. Pressed brick exterior with stone trimmings, and particularly handsome interior finish will make this one of the most handsome churches owned by colored people in this entire section.



Al Whitson selects from microfilm archives newsworthy articles from Fort Smith newspapers a hundred years ago to give readers an usually close up view of how things have changed and have not changed in our fair city.

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NOTES: # —Some sort of graphic, other than a portrait, is used.
 * —A portrait of the person(s) named is on page indicated.
 (---) —For such as title, marital status, degree, etc.
 "---" —For nickname or special emphasis.
 (-) —Dash between page numbers indicates the name of the person, place, etc., is carried throughout the story
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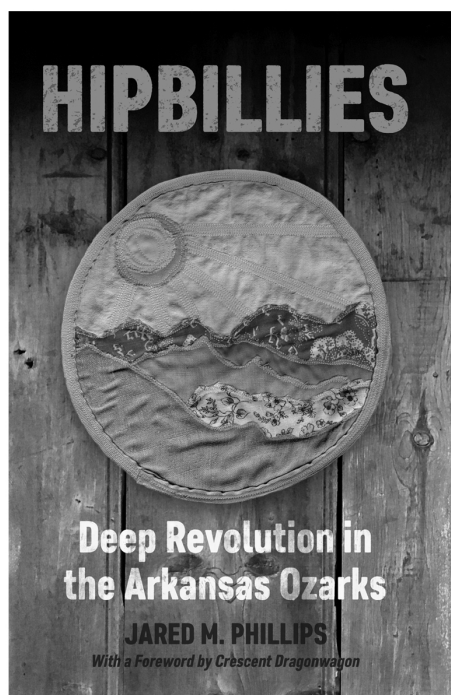
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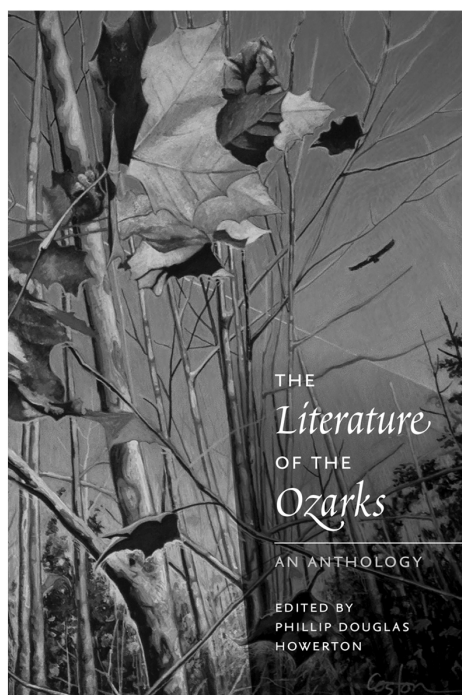
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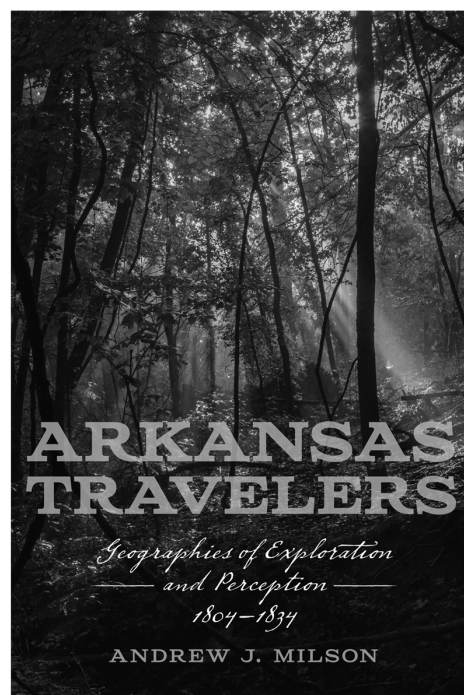
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