Information Sheet

R Wiley, Robert S., collector.
521 Collection, 1869-1997 (bulk 1930s-1980s).
Eighty-four folders.

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

This is a collection of legal documents, newspaper clippings, magazines and printed material, advertising items, and miscellaneous paper ephemera pertaining to the history of Stone County, and to travel, tourism, and recreation in the White River Lakes region of southwestern Missouri. Much of the collection pertains to Stone County, Missouri, but there is also material on Greene, Lawrence, and Taney counties in Missouri, and some locations in Arkansas.

Robert S. Wiley was born at Hurley in Stone County in 1942. He attended Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield and received his law degree from Washington University in St. Louis. In 1969 he established a legal practice at Crane, Missouri, and from 1970 to 1973 was the prosecuting attorney for Stone County. In 1985, Wiley published *Dewey Short, Orator of the Ozarks*, a biography of the long-time representative of the 7th Congressional District. Currently, Wiley owns and operates an abstract company and continues his practice at Crane.

The Wiley collection is a large assemblage of paper ephemera generally concerning Stone County and southwestern Missouri. The broad scope of the collection will make it useful for regional historians and genealogists. Virtually every kind of paper item is represented, from obsolete legal forms, letterheads, stationery, business cards, personal papers, estate papers, bank checks, newspaper clippings, advertising brochures, calendars, maps, and magazines. Some of the legal documents and miscellaneous personal papers date to the late nineteenth century, but most of the items date circa 1930 to the present. The beginning of modern development of the tourism and recreation industries generally throughout the Ozarks is represented by a collection of regional magazines from the 1930s, while the development of the White River Lakes region (Table Rock Lake, Lake Taneycomo, and Bull Shoals), circa 1950s-1970s, is well documented by brochures and other advertising items by lakeside tourist developments and hunting and fishing resorts.

The collection is topically organized in three broad subject areas. Section 1 concerns Stone County and includes folders on county officials, municipal officers, and the towns of Crane, Galena, Hurley, Ponce de Leon, and Reeds Spring. Section 2 includes miscellaneous materials for other areas in southwestern Missouri as well as Eureka Springs and Hot Springs, Arkansas. This section also includes unique items such as the yearbook for the reunion of the 35th Infantry Division at Springfield (1928), and the dedication program for the Mississippi River bridge at Cape Girardeau (1928). Section 3 consists of magazines, travel guides, maps, and other printed material which might be classed as “Ozkarkiana.” Included are such items as *Arcadian Life* (1928) and *Ozark Life* (1928-1931) magazines, and regional guides such as Lon Scott’s *Ozarks* (1928), and Keith McCanse’s *Where To Go in the Ozarks* (1931-1932). There is also a group of publications by local and state tourism associations from the 1960s.

Section 4 contains the most recent accessions to the collection. This section is a photograph file consisting of original views as well as copies of photographs of Stone County at the turn of the century from the Wiley collection. The images include the Aurora Clubhouse on the James River at Cape Fair; the Galena Blues baseball team; road or railroad construction southeast of Galena; an unidentified Stone County school group; construction of a railroad tunnel at Reeds Spring; a photo of a sinkhole near Reeds Spring; and a selection of 35mm slides of photographs and postcards in the Wiley collection, including views by postcard photographers George Hall, Fox, and Wright. Among the significant views are those of the canning factory at Hurley; a gigging party on the White River;
the roundhouse and depot at Crane; and several views of Galena, Missouri. There are also two folders of unidentified photographs of individuals presumed to be Stone Countians.

Section 5 consists of additional items accessioned on 17 October 2002, including a 1930 yearbook for Crane High School, with tipped-in photographs of teachers and students, a script for the 1951 Stone County centennial pageant, and miscellaneous items concerning Fairy and Spanish caves, and the Stone County courthouse. Among the latter is a photocopy of a pass issued to witness the hanging of Roscoe "Red" Jackson at Galena in 1937.

Folders 81-84 contain the papers and scrapbooks of Leonard J. Williams, a native of Crane and long-time school administrator in Stone County. Williams began writing on local history after his retirement in 1976. The scrapbooks contain clippings of historical items published by the Crane Chronicle and Stone County Republican, 1976-1983, in columns titled "Much in a Basket" and "Weekly Local History Lesson." The columns featured items on the history of Crane and the communities of northern Stone County including Cape Fair, Curran, Hurley, Scholten, and Virgin Bluff. The scrapbooks include many of the columns and stories written by Williams, as well as other newspaper items of local interest.

Shelf List

This is a collection of legal documents, newspaper clippings, magazines and printed material, advertising items, and miscellaneous paper ephemera pertaining to the history of Stone County, and to travel, tourism, and recreation in the White River Lakes region of southwestern Missouri. Much of the collection pertains to Stone County, Missouri, but there is also material on Greene, Lawrence, and Taney counties in Missouri, and some locations in Arkansas.

SECTION 1

Folders 1-22, Topical Files: Stone County, Missouri

F. 01 Collector’s Office, papers, 1869-1945
F. 02 County officers, miscellaneous material
F. 03 County officers, stationery, letterhead, and business card collection
F. 04 Crane, miscellaneous material, Part 1
F. 05 Crane, miscellaneous material, Part 2
F. 06 Bank of Crane
F. 07 Bank of Crane, canceled checks
F. 08 Crane Broiler Festival, 1952-1993
F. 09 Crane churches
F. 10 Crane Masonic Cemetery records, compiled by Harlan Gatton and Mary Hemphill, n.d.
F. 11 Galena, miscellaneous material
F. 12 Galena Abstract Co.
F. 13 Galena/boating
F. 14 Galena/Thomas S. McCord family
F. 15 Hurley, miscellaneous material
F. 16 Ponce de Leon Bank, papers, 1918-1929
F. 17 Reeds Spring, miscellaneous material, ca. 1904-1990
F. 18 Stone County, miscellaneous historical material
F. 19 Stone County scrapbook, ca. 1950s (organized topically for advertising and real estate sales purposes)
F. 20 Stone County Fair, programs, 1976-1992
SECTION 2

Folders 23-39, Topical Files: Miscellaneous

F. 23 Baker Hospital (Eureka Springs, Ark.), pamphlets, ca. 1940
F. 24 Cape Girardeau, Mo., miscellaneous, 1928-1929
F. 25 Greene County/Springfield, Mo. 35th Infantry Division, 10th annual reunion yearbook, 29-30 September 1928
F. 26 Greene County/Springfield, Mo., miscellaneous, ca. 1920-1993
F. 27 Hot Springs National Park (Hot Springs, Ark.), visitors’ guides
F. 28 Lawrence County, Mo., miscellaneous
F. 29 Lawrence County, Mo., Aurora Centennial book, 1970
F. 30 Lawrence County, Mo., Marionville
F. 31 McCleary Sanitarium (Excelsior Springs, Mo.), booklets, 1939
F. 32 New Madrid County, Mo., letter and draft of regional history by Rhod Reaves, 1988
F. 33 “Ozarkians” (Hollister, Mo.), program, 16-18 August 1928
F. 34 Ozarks, miscellaneous
F. 35 Pineville, Mo., “Jesse James Days” souvenir program, July 1969
F. 36 Table Rock Lake, tourist guides, 1959-1978
F. 37 Taney County, Mo., Branson magazines, 1994
F. 38 Taney County, Mo., Marvel Cave, brochures, n.d.
F. 39 Taney County, Mo., miscellaneous material

SECTION 3

Folders 40-64, Travel and tourism publications: magazines, pamphlets, yearbooks, guides, etc.

F. 40 American Sportsman (June 1948) Ozark Lakes issue.
F. 41 Arcadian (February, March 1931)
F. 42 Arcadian Life Magazine (1928)
F. 43 Bull Shoals Gazette (September-October 1952)
F. 45 Lake of the Ozarks (Union Electric Co., ca. 1940s)
F. 46 McCanse, Keith. Where To Go in the Ozarks (1931, 1932)
F. 48 Missouriana (September 1938)
F. 49 The Open Road, yearbook, 1929
F. 50 Outdoors (June, July 1959). The June issue features the Ozarks.
F. 51 Ozark (January-February 1915)
F. 53 Ozark Life (1928-1931)
F. 54 Ozark Life Outdoors (November 1931)
F. 55 Ozarks, edited by Lon Scott. (Springfield, Mo.: 1929)
F. 56 The Ozarks Advertiser. (Thayer, Mo.: September, November 1939)
F. 57 Playgrounds of the Ozarks (Joplin, Mo.: ca. 1960)
F. 58 The Thinker (April-June 1928)
F. 60 U. S. Highway 66/Will Rogers Highway, map, ca. 1950s
F. 61 Missouri State Division of Resources and Development. Recreational booklets, ca. 1960s:
  *Lake of the Ozarks Country of Missouri*
  *Missouri Invites You*
  *Ozark Playgrounds of Missouri*
  *White River Country of Missouri*

F. 62 Missouri and Arkansas travel and tourism calendars

F. 63 Ozark Playgrounds Association, tourism and travel publications:


F. 65 Selected political correspondence from the Robert S. Wiley scrapbook, 1931-1997

**SECTION 4**

Folders 66-75, Photograph File

F. 66 Aurora clubhouse (Cape Fair, Mo.), August 17, 1916
F. 67 Galena Blues baseball team, n.d.
F. 68 Road construction southeast of Galena, Mo., n.d.
F. 69 Campers on Galena to Branson float, White River, n.d.
  (This is a copy of a George Hall postcard, #757.)
F. 70 Unidentified school group, Stone County, Mo., n.d.
F. 71 Construction of railroad tunnel near Reeds Spring, Mo., n.d.
F. 73 Photographs and postcards from the Robert S. Wiley collection
  (copied on 35mm slides)
F. 74 Photographs of unidentified individuals, ca. 1880-1900
F. 75 Photographs of unidentified individuals, ca. 1900-1940

**SECTION 5 (accessioned 17 October 2002)**

Folders 76-80, Miscellaneous topical files

F. 76 *The Acorn*, Crane High School yearbook, 1930
F. 77 Stone County Centennial, pageant script, 1951
F. 78 Stone County Courthouse/hanging of Rosco “Red” Jackson, 1937-1984
F. 79 Fairy Cave/Spanish (or Wildcat) Cave, 1927-1960
F. 80 *History of the Mars Hill Church & Cemetery* (Barry County, Mo.), 1969

Folders, 81-84 Leonard J. Williams papers

F. 81 Miscellaneous historical and biographical material
F. 82 Scrapbook, 1976-1977, 1982
F. 83 Scrapbook, 1978-1982
F. 84 Scrapbook, 1982-1983

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*618  8 February 1995  Robert S. Wiley  Gift
627  25 April 1995  Layne Merrill  Gift
759  26 September 2000  Robert S. Wiley  Gift
895  17 October 2002  Robert S. Wiley  Gift*
**Index Cards**

Advertising—Tourist trade.
Ashcroft, John.
Aurora Clubhouse (Cape Fair, Mo.).
Ayers, Artie.
Bailey, Wendell.
Baker Hospital (Eureka Springs, Ark.).
Bank of Crane (Mo.).
Barry County (Mo.).
Baseball—Missouri—Stone County.
Blunt, Roy D.
Boating industry—Missouri—Stone County.
Bond, Christopher S.
Brumley, Albert E.
Buckley, William F. (William Frank), 1925-
Bull Shoals Lake (Ark. and Mo.).
Bush, George R.
Camp Hideaway (Galena, Mo.).
Camp Rock Haven (Cape Fair, Mo.).
Canoes and canoeing—Missouri—Stone County.
Cape Fair (Mo.).
Cape Girardeau (Mo.).
Carney, B. F.
Cason, William J.
Caves—Missouri—Stone County.
Crane (Mo.).
Crane Broiler Festival (Crane, Mo.).
Crane High School (Crane, Mo.).
Curran (Mo.).
Danforth, John C.
Fairy Cave (Stone County, Mo.).
Galena (Mo.).
Galena Blues (baseball team).
Galena Boating Company.
Greene County (Mo.).
Hagler, Vivian.
Hall, George.
Hatfield, D. F.
Hollister (Mo.).
Hoover, Herbert, 1874-1964.
Hot Springs (Ark.).
Hurley (Mo.).
Lake of the Ozarks. SEE Ozarks, Lake of the (Mo.).
Lawrence County (Mo.).
Limberlost Club (Galena, Mo.).
Marionville (Mo.).
Mars Hill Church(Barry County, Mo.).
Marvel Cave (Mo.).
McCanse, Keith.
McCleary Sanitarium (Excelsior Springs, Mo.).
McCord, May Kennedy.
McCord, Thomas J.
McCord Bend Resort (Galena, Mo.).
McCullah, John Wesley, -1864.
Moulat, George.
New Madrid County (Mo.).
O’Neill, Callista.
Ozark Mountains—Description and travel.
Ozark Playgrounds Association.
Ozarks, Lake of the (Mo.).
Photograph collections—Missouri—Stone County.
Picture postcards—Missouri—Stone County.
Pineville (Mo.).
Ponce de Leon (Mo.).
Railroad construction—Missouri—Stone County.
Randolph, Vance, 1892-
Rayburn, Otto Ernest.
Reaves, Rhod
Republican Central Committee of Stone County (Mo.).
Reeds Spring (Mo.).
Road construction—Missouri—Stone County.
Rural schools—Missouri—Stone County.
Scholten (Mo.).
Scott, Lon.
Short, Dewey.
Spanish Cave (Stone County, Mo.).
Springfield (Mo.).
Standish, William H., -1923.
Stone County (Mo.).
Stone County Courthouse (Galena, Mo.).
Stone County Development Association (Mo.).
Stone County Fair (Galena, Mo.).
Stone-Taney County Baptist Association (Mo.).
Table Rock Lake (Mo. and Ark.).
Taney County (Mo.).
Taneycomo, Lake (Mo.).
Tourist trade—Ozark Mountains.
Tourist trade—Arkansas.
Tourist trade—Missouri.
United States. Army. Infantry Division, 35th.
United States Highway 66.
Virgin Bluff (Stone County, Mo.).
White River Lakes Association.
Wildcat Cave (Stone County, Mo.).
Wildwood Park Company (Galena, Mo.).
Wiley, Robert S.
Will Rogers Highway. SEE United States Highway 66.
Williams, Leonard Joseph.