WARD ENGINEERING GUIDE BOON TO STUDY OF WEST VIRGINIA MARITIME HISTORY

The early decades of the twentieth century have been referred to as the "The Barge Age" in America by some historians, due to the immense traffic in natural resources and other freight that moved along the nation's inland waterways during the period. Though rarely thought of today as a maritime state, West Virginia’s rivers were among the most crowded in the nation at the time. In fact, according to Charles Ambler, the Monongahela River was the busiest river in the world during the 1920s. The Ohio and Kanawha rivers were no doubt close behind. Even the humble Little Kanawha River, not much more than a trickle in some places today, experienced an age of navigational glory that is just a dim memory (see WVRHC Newsletter Fall 1987).

Considering the above, it really should be no surprise that a small West Virginia engineering firm played a leading role in developing the technology that powered this era. Based in Charleston, the Ward Engineering Company revolutionized river navigation in America during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The company’s achievements are documented in detail in the Ward Engineering Company archives at the Regional History Collection. An inventory and guide to the collection, which contains voluminous correspondence, business records, photographs, and nearly 5,000 technical drawings of boats and barges built by the company between the 1880s and 1930s, was recently completed under the supervision of Assistant Curator Michael Ridderbusch. The work was supported by a grant from the Sons and Daughters of Pioneer Rivermen.

A shoemaker’s son, Charles Ward grew up in Leamington, England, where he was apprenticed to a pipe fitter at age sixteen. After working for gas and iron companies in Leamington and Liverpool, he emigrated to America during the early 1870s. Settling in Charleston, he received employment supervising

The James Rumsey, ca. 1903. Nicknamed the "Little Giant," this famous towboat made history by proving the superiority of screw propulsion over the paddlewheel in a 1903 duel against the most renowned sternwheeler on the Kanawha River, the D.T. Lane.
a new gas works and also opened a store that sold gas fittings and provided plumbing services.

Ward soon left the gas company to concentrate his efforts upon designing and manufacturing steam boilers for transportational use. Rather than relying on traditional boiler design in which coils of hot air were used to bring drums of water to a boil, Ward developed a method in which coils of water were heated in a chamber of hot air. The result represented a dramatic increase in heat production per unit of water. Ward tested his new design on a steam packet called the *Wild Goose* with mixed success during the late 1870s. When he finally patented the Ward Water Tube Boiler in 1879, his new invention was met with skepticism by most riverboatmen who were accustomed to the old "Scotch Boiler" design. Yet, gradually over the next two decades, water tube boilers built by Ward and his competitors came to dominate the industry.

Ward faced similar skepticism when he advocated the elimination of the bulky, if picturesque, paddle wheel as a means of propulsion in favor of the screw propeller during the 1890s. After testing screw propulsion on small family yachts, Ward offered to build a towboat for the U.S. Engineering Service that he claimed would be the equal of any boat then in government service. When the boat was launched in 1902, the U.S. Government had every intention of holding him at his word. In response to ridicule by veteran rivermen, an inspector from the Engineering Service's Pittsburgh Office was brought in to pass judgment on the slender craft, which Ward had named the *James Rumsey* after the Shepherdstown steamboat pioneer. When the inspector pronounced it inferior to a sternwheeler, a

(Continued on page 9)
A BRIEF GUIDE TO PUBLISHED RESEARCH RESOURCES IN THE WEST VIRGINIA AND REGIONAL HISTORY COLLECTION

Harold Malcolm Forbes

Editor’s note:

To assist the many researchers who visit the Regional History Collection each year, Associate Curator Harold Forbes recently compiled the following guide to published research resources available in the West Virginia Collection. The guide is a useful tool for embarking upon research in literally any field of West Virginia history. As it references many publications, and also internet sites, that are accessible across the country, the guide is reprinted here for the convenience of our readers.

STATE AND LOCAL HISTORY PUBLICATIONS

The most comprehensive listing of published West Virginia local histories, state histories, and biographies, including books, pamphlets, and articles is:


This work includes bibliographies of each county and region as well as sources for both common topics and special interest topics including Blennerhassett's Island, the Mason-Dixon Line, mound builders, the Hatfield-McCoy Feud, ghosts, folk music, the John Brown Raid on Harpers Ferry, religion, the salt industry, mineral springs and others. When using the West Virginia Collection's card catalog or MountainLynx online catalog to search for any topic, users may construct subject searches according to the Library of Congress Subject Headings, the large red volumes found near the computers. These volumes list the precise headings that are used in the Libraries' catalogs. When a term in these volumes is followed by (May Subd Geog), add - West Virginia to that subject heading in order to narrow the search to entries concerning West Virginia.

The best general surveys of West Virginia's communities, counties, and regions include historical, biographical, and genealogical data from the earliest settlements to the period immediately preceding the book's publication. Such local histories have been published in West Virginia since the 1870s. Citations to these histories may be found in Forbes' West Virginia History and in the online catalog. For accessing these materials in either the card catalog or the online catalog, search by author or title, or perform a subject headings search using the following formats:

Brooke County
Jefferson County W Va
Kanawha County W Va - History

An excellent starting place for searching state history on the World Wide Web is the West Virginia Archives and History site:

http://www.wvculture.org/history/index.html

The following are useful sources for brief introductions to the history and geography of West Virginia's counties and regions:


Eminent West Virginia historians describe and examine the available historical resources concerning politics, education, economic history, labor, immigration and ethnicity, women's history, African Americans, and environmental issues in:


(3 vols., 1958). These are significant sources for brief biographies and family histories of West Virginians of state and local prominence.

Of particular importance are the 51 volumes of the West Virginia Heritage Encyclopedia (Richwood, W. Va.: Jim Comstock, 1974-78). The first 25 volumes are a traditional encyclopedia of names, places, and topics presented alphabetically. Numerous entries in these first 25 volumes refer to the second 25 volumes, which contain fuller treatment of selected subjects and reprints of important works of West Virginia history. Volume 51 is an oversized "coffee-table book" of West Virginia pictures and portraits.

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GENEALOGICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL RESOURCES

A wide assortment of works with compilations of brief biographies of West Virginians of state and local prominence include:

- Bench and Bar of West Virginia (1919)
- Prominent Men of West Virginia (1890)
- West Virginia Women (1974)
- Encyclopaedia of Contemporary Biography of West Virginia (1894)
- Who’s Who on the Ohio River and Its Tributaries (1931)
- West Virginia: Special Limited Supplement (1928)
- Men of West Virginia (1903)
- Pioneer Leaders of Western Virginia (1935)
- Talent and Courage: Outstanding West Virginia Women in the 1990s (1992)
- Progressive West Virginians (1905, 1923)
- West Virginia Today (1941)
- A Reminiscent History of Northern West Virginia (1895)
- West Virginians: A Work of Biography (1928)
- West Virginians of 1934-1935 (1935)
- Who’s Who in West Virginia (1916, 1939, 1983)

Additional printed sources for biography include the Personal Name Index, a card index for 50 works of West Virginia history, and the West Virginia Civil War Union Soldiers Index. Both are located in the West Virginia Collection’s Robert C. Byrd Reading Room. The West Virginia Heritage Encyclopedia is also an excellent source for biographical sketches of hundreds of West Virginians.

Individual works of family history can be identified by searching for the family name in the card catalog, the online catalog, and the various guides to manuscripts. When searching, users should treat the family name as a subject heading, for example, Chapman Family, or Morgan Family.

The West Virginia Collection holds numerous guides and bibliographies to assist researchers in conducting genealogical or biographical searches. Researchers without previous knowledge or training in genealogical research would find it useful to consult introductory guides, such as the following, before starting research:


Excellent guides to research resources available on the World Wide Web include the following:


Cherri Melton Flinn. Genealogy Basics Online. (Cincinnati, Ohio: Muska & Lipman, 2000.)


http://www.libraries.wvu.edu/wvcollection
http://rootsweb.com/~wvgenweb/
http://rootsweb.com/~hcpd/
http://cyndislist.com/wvhtm
http://wvculture.org/history/genealog.html

When conducting genealogical research into West Virginia historical resources, the following will provide essential information:

Genealogy at the West Virginia and Regional History Collection. (West Virginia and Regional History Collection, 1986.)

Carol McGinnis. West Virginia Genealogy: Sources & Resources. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1988.)


Elizabeth Shown Mills. *Evidence! Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian*. (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub Co., 1997.)


*Ancestry's Concise Genealogical Dictionary*. Compiled by Maurine and Glen Harris. (Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1989.)

Genealogical research in the West Virginia Collection almost inevitably leads researchers to other archives and research libraries across the country. Included among the published guides to important sources of American records are:


Genealogical researchers can find much helpful advice in the numerous specialized guides for researching ancestors of a particular national or ethnic background, such as Irish-Americans, Hispanic, Italian-Americans, Polish, African-Americans, English, Native Americans, etc.

**West Virginia Newspapers**

The West Virginia and Regional History Collection maintains an extensive collection of West Virginia newspapers dating from 1790 to the present. *West Virginia Newspapers, 1790-1990: A Union List* describes specific holdings for about 1200 West Virginia newspapers that are available on microfilm at the Collection. The West Virginia University Libraries receives and preserves on microfilm all the newspapers that are currently published in the state. Current issues of state newspapers are held at the Periodicals Department in Wise Library. The list of currently received titles is available at http://www.libraries.wvu.edu/wvcollection/newspapers. Newspapers are microfilmed after the daily or weekly issues have accumulated for one to two years, and the microfilm is available at the West Virginia and Regional History Collection.

Information about the holdings of a particular newspaper can be located in the MountainLynx online catalog by searching the title of the newspaper. To determine which newspapers are available for a particular West Virginia city or town, perform a Guided Keyword search. Enter the name of the town in the first "Search for" box. In the second
"Search for" box enter the words daily weekly newspaper and then change all of these to any of these. Click on "Search."

Several newspaper indexes are also available. The Charleston Newspaper Index from 1973 to 1988 is available in book format. The searchable web site for the Charleston Newspapers’ News Library beginning with January 1985 is accessible online at http://library.cnpapers.com/. Published indexes also exist for Clarksburg newspapers for the years 1810 to 1825, Kanawha Valley newspapers from 1855 to 1865, the Martinsburgh Gazette published from 1810 to 1855, and Mannington newspapers from 1890 to 1899.

**MAPS, ATLASES, AND GAZETTEERS**

Sources for West Virginia maps include atlases, history books, and the extensive collection of individual maps which are available at the West Virginia and Regional History Collection. In addition to statewide, regional, and county atlases, local histories frequently include detailed maps. Atlases are a good place to start in the search for specific counties, towns, districts, mountains, rivers, and other geographical locations.

White's New County and District Atlas of the State of West Virginia. (Philadelphia: S. A. Mitchell, 1873.)


West Virginia Atlas & Gazetteer. (Yarmouth, Maine: DeLorme, 1987.)

New Descriptive Atlas of West Virginia. (Clarksburg: Clarksburg Publishing Co., 1933.)

C. J. Puetz. West Virginia County Maps. (Lyndon Station, WI: Puetz Place, 1988.)

Edgar B. Sims. Making a State: Formation of West Virginia, including Maps, Illustrations, Plats, Grants, and the Acts ... Creating the Counties. (Charleston: State of West Virginia, 1956.)


In addition to maps, useful sources listing and locating geographical features include gazetteers, place name directories, history books, and post office directories, such as the following:

West Virginia Gazetteer of Physical and Cultural Place Names. (Morgantown: West Virginia Geological and Economic Survey, 1986.)

West Virginia Geographic Names. (Reston, Va.: U.S.G.S. Topographic Division, 1981.)


Hamill Kenny. West Virginia Place Names, Their Origin and Meaning. (Piedmont, W.Va.: The Place Name Press, 1945.)

**DOCUMENTARY SOURCES**

The following historical document compilations consist of reprinted and annotated manuscripts, early publications, excerpts from government reports, and selected articles from early newspapers and periodicals. Such resources are valuable because they provide contemporary documentation of important people, places, and events in the history of West Virginia from 1609 to 1990.

The Thirty-Fifth State: A Documentary History of West Virginia. Edited by Elizabeth Cometti and Festus P. Summers. (Morgantown: West Virginia University Library, 1966.)


**COUNTY COURT RECORDS**

County court records are essential resources for historical and genealogical research. Records from the offices of county clerks and circuit clerks include deeds, surveys, property tax lists, business licenses, voter registration, election returns, school reports, naturalizations, road maintenance, births and deaths, marriages, wills, estate settlements, criminal trials, and various other types of official court functions. Many of the court records from the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries are preserved at the West Virginia and Regional History Collection. Others are still held in the state’s court houses.
The earliest court records in published form are from Augusta County, the District of West Augusta, Yohogania County, and Ohio County. Augusta County records (1745-1800) were abstracted by Lyman Chalkley. Records for southwestern Pennsylvania and northwestern West Virginia for the years prior to 1785, when both Virginia and Pennsylvania claimed the region, are in the books edited by Boyd Crumrine and Richard W. Loveless. Kenneth Fischer Craft is currently issuing a series of indexes for the court records of Ohio County and Brooke County. Seven volumes of the Ohio County index and nine volumes of the Brooke County index have been published so far.

In a continuing series of volumes, Melba Pender Zinn has transcribed and indexed the records of the district, superior, and county courts of Monongalia County, chronologically covering the years 1776-1822. Court records of Greenbrier County, including surveys, deeds, tax lists, court minutes, marriages, deaths, and wills, have been abstracted and indexed by Larry G. Shuck. Several books of the early 19th century court records of Cabell County have being abstracted by Carrie Eldridge.

Numerous other publications provide transcriptions, abstracts, or indexes for the information found in county court records, including births, marriages, deaths, wills, public service claims, and naturalizations. These may be located by searching appropriate subject headings in MountainLynx:

- Court records
- Registers of births, etc.
- Marriage records
- Naturalization records
- Wills
- Land grants

Add — West Virginia or — Virginia to any of these subject headings to geographically focus the search.

**Census Record**

The federal government has enumerated the population of the United States every ten years since the first time in 1790. Census records provide various types of information depending upon the data that was collected. Different information was recorded in every census count. Additional types of information were gathered with each new census.

Although the 1790 and 1800 census were strictly population counts, the returns for Virginia have not survived. A substitute for the 1790 census was constructed from the 1782-1785 state tax enumerations of the following counties that are now part of West Virginia: Greenbrier, Hampshire, Harrison, and Monogalia. These were published as:


The counties not included in that publication were subsequently covered in the following book:


Beginning with the 1810 census, census takers collected social and economic statistics, including data on manufactures, agriculture and industry, along with the names and numbers of people.

Census returns for Virginia from 1810 through 1860 and for West Virginia from 1870 to 1920 are available on microfilm. Published indexes are available for all counties from 1810 through 1850 and for 1870 and 1880. Indexes for some but not all counties, from 1860 through 1920 are also available in printed form. Indexes for the 1880, 1900, 1910, and 1920 census returns, known as the Soundex, are available on microfilm and computer disk. Most of the 1890 Census was destroyed by a fire, and only the special census of Civil War veterans and widows survives for that enumeration.

Census returns through 1840 include the name of only the head of the household and the number of other family members, which are enumerated according to sex and age groups. Beginning with 1850, the name of each free person in the household is recorded with his or her age, race, sex, and place of birth. Separate slave schedules for 1850 and 1860 include the name of the slave owner, but not the names of the slaves. For the census years from 1850 to 1880, records of persons who died during the preceding year (called mortality schedules) are available on microfilm and in printed form. In order to protect the privacy of those whose names appear in the census records, population schedules are closed to researchers for 72 years after the census is taken.

In searching the card catalog or the MountainLynx online catalog for references to census records and census indexes, perform subject searches using these subject heading formats:

- West Virginia—Census 1880
- Harrison County W Va—Census 1850
Statistics and statistical analysis based upon the data collected during the census enumerations from 1910 through 1990 may be found using the following subject heading formats:

- West Virginia—Census 1990
- West Virginia—Population
- West Virginia—Population—Statistics

**Sources for Statistics**

Listed here are selected statistical reports that are issued on a periodic basis. In addition to these, the annual reports of state agencies, federal agencies, and businesses are valuable sources for statistics.

- **Annual Report, Vital Health Statistics of West Virginia.** (Charleston: West Virginia Bureau for Public Health, Health Statistics Center)
- **County Business Patterns: West Virginia.** (Washington, DC: U. S. Bureau of the Census)
- **Crime in West Virginia. Formerly: Annual Uniform Crime Report.** (South Charleston: West Virginia Department of Public Safety, Uniform Crime Reporting Section)
- **Hourly Precipitation Data: West Virginia.** (Asheville, NC: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Climatic Data Center)
- **Local Climatological Data: Elkins, WV.** (Asheville, NC: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Climatic Data Center)
- **Statistical Handbook.** (Charleston: West Virginia Research League)
- **Statistical Profile of Higher Education in West Virginia.** (Charleston: State College and University Systems of West Virginia)
- **Statistics. Formerly: Human Services Statistics.** (Charleston: West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Office of Audit, Research and Analysis)
- **West Virginia Agricultural Statistics.** (Charleston: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and West Virginia Department of Agriculture)
- **West Virginia Business & Economic Review.** (Morgantown: West Virginia University College of Business and Economics, Bureau of Business and Economic Research)
- **West Virginia County Profiles.** (Charleston: West Virginia Bureau of Employment Programs, Office of Labor and Economic Research)
- **West Virginia Economic-Statistical Profile.** (Charleston: West Virginia Chamber of Commerce)
- **West Virginia Economic Summary: A Monthly Newsletter on Economic Activity in West Virginia.** (Charleston: West Virginia Bureau of Employment Programs, Office of Labor and Economic Research)
- **West Virginia Higher Education Report Card.** (Charleston: State College and University Systems of West Virginia)
- **West Virginia Report Cards: State, County, & School Data.** (Charleston: West Virginia Department of Education)
- **West Virginia Statistical Abstract.** (Morgantown: West Virginia University Bureau of Business Research)
- **West Virginia University Statistical Profiles.** (Morgantown: West Virginia University Office of Institutional Analysis and Planning)
duel was arranged between the Rumsey and the sternwheeler D.T. Lane, one of the most powerful boats on the Kanawha.

Thousands of spectators lined the banks of the Kanawha as the Rumsey and the Lane were lashed together on Saturday, March 7, 1902, on the Charleston riverfront. To many it appeared to be a battle between David and Goliath, as indeed it proved to be. Despite a poor start, the Rumsey was soon pushing the Lane about at will as the throng looked on in amazement. In the words of a Pittsburgh Gazette correspondent who was in attendance, the sight of the powerful "Little Giant" manhandling the majestic D.T. Lane was one that "broke old hearts and changed a river axiom" forever.

Though the advantages of screw propulsion were convincingly demonstrated in this and subsequent trials, acceptance came slowly, compelling Ward Engineering to continue manufacturing sternwheel vessels while simultaneously developing and building propeller-powered craft.

With the failing of Ward's health, Charles Ward's son, Edwin, assumed stewardship of the company in 1909. When Charles Ward died on January 7, 1915, he left an admirable legacy—from humble beginnings his company had achieved a position of leadership in marine engineering recognized around the world.

Continuing in his father's footsteps, in the ensuing decades Edwin Ward developed Ward Engineering into a major supplier of "shallow draught" boats capable of functioning in as little as two feet of water. The times were ripe for such craft as this was truly the heyday of the barge age. From 1920 to 1930 Ward Engineering produced about 80 hulls and many more boilers for vessels such as barges, ferries, lighthouse tenders, packet boats, and towboats for service throughout the United States and beyond.

Among the most impressive boats built by the company during this period was the immense ferryboat Sainte Genevieve. Constructed to transport railroad cars across the Mississippi River, the craft was 360 feet in length and could carry as many as 21 freight cars in a single trip. The Vicksburg (1921) and the Indiana (1930) were the most

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*The 720 H.P. Diesel Towboat Duncan Bruce, July 1927. Due to irregularities in its operation, this craft was nicknamed the "Drunken Brute."*
powerful boats ever built by Ward, each with 2500 horsepower. The U.S. Lighthouse Tender Greenbrier was reportedly "the most beautiful steamboat ever built" in the Kanawha Valley. President and Mrs. Hoover rode the Greenbrier during a regatta celebrating the completion of the canalization of the Ohio River by the Ohio Valley Improvement Association in 1929.

With the onset of the Great Depression, declining health, resistance to unionization, and increasing government regulation combined to induce Edwin Ward to close the Ward Engineering plant in December 1931. Thus ended a notable chapter in the history of maritime technology.

THE GUIDE TO THE WARD ENGINEERING COLLECTION

The Guide to the Ward Engineering Collection represents a detailed finding aid to one of the premier collections in "barge age" American navigational history, a field in which there is a surprising dearth of information. The largest component of the Guide consists of an item level inventory to some 4600 technical drawings, most dating from 1910 to 1930. The drawings provide thorough documentation of the innovative marine technology developed by Ward Engineering, including plans for boilers, diesel engines, fuel oil systems, gear drives, generators, paddle wheels, propellers, rudders, and so forth. Other drawings include plans for bulkheads, cabins, decks, engine rooms, and masts and pilot houses. The types of vessels documented are diverse, including barges, derrick boats, dredges, ferries, inspection boats, lighthouse tenders, packet boats, snag boats, survey boats, towboats, and assorted other crafts. In their scope and diversity, the Ward drawings have much to contribute to an understanding of the history of marine technology.

Also included in the Ward Engineering Collection are more than 60 feet of business correspondence and financial records, primarily for the period 1917-1931, regarding all aspects of the company's operations. Since many of the clients represented in these documents were located in Charleston, the records afford much insight into the city's economy and industry during the early 20th century. An additional quantity of Ward family and business records include title papers, real estate documents, insurance records, deeds, leases, and title reports, dating from 1871 to the 1940s. Last but not least, the Collection contains a wealth of photographic documentation of boats and boilers manufactured by Ward Engineering between the 1890s and 1930s.

To learn more about the Ward Engineering Company readers are referred to: George Parkinson and Brooks McCabe's "Charles Ward and James Rumsey: Regional Innovation in Steam Technology on the West Rivers" in West Virginia History, 39 (January-April 1978), 143-180.
SELECTED RECENT ACCESSIONS:

Records of the Morgan ShirtsMakers, a shirt manufacturer located in Marilla Park of Morgantown, W.Va. The company was originally a plant of the Raritan Shirt Company of New Brunswick, N.J. The Morgantown factory began operating in 1937. During World War II the plant assisted the war effort by making shirts for the military. Primarily, though, the factory produced men’s high fashion semi-custom shirts for major labels including Brooks Brothers and Saks Fifth Avenue. For a period beginning in the late 1940s it also produced ladies shirts and opened a second plant in Grafton, W.Va. With corporate ownership changes in the 1980s and 1990s, it was by 1994 the company’s last remaining U.S. plant in which only men’s shirts were made. Records include a corporate profile, plant inventory, financial records, personnel records, equipment manuals and general sewing data.

Employees at work in the Morgan Shirt Factory, ca. 1950. The factory made high fashion shirts for major labels including Brooks Brothers and Saks Fifth Avenue from 1946-1996.

West Virginia University Women’s Studies papers, particularly local women’s history collected by Lillian Waugh. There are conference papers of the WVU Women’s Studies Department covering a range of issues from female workplace pay to domestic violence. There are several items of the WVU Women’s Centenary Project. These include scrapbooks such as that of Carrie Kathryn Fleming (Class of 1920), the constitution and by-laws of the 1899 formation of the WVU sorority, Phi Pi Alpha, and a project time capsule. Local history resources include the papers of the Morgantown Glassware Guild, the Velma Miller papers, and those of J. Guthrie. The J. Guthrie papers (1938-1975) concern Home Economics and consist primarily of photographs and guest registers. The Velma Miller papers are those of a local interior decorator who owned Miller’s Wallpaper & Paint Co. and who was a prominent member

Velma Miller, owner of Miller’s Wallpaper and Paint Co., and member of the Morgantown Chamber of Commerce, dons a hard hat at a Chamber function on site at the Morgantown Energy Center in May 1976.
of the Morgantown Chamber of Commerce, presiding over the latter during the U.S. Bicentennial. The Morgantown Glassware Guild papers are mainly business correspondence and company audits. In existence from the early years to the middle of the twentieth century, it was partly owned and managed by Mrs. Arthur Mayer.


Genealogical research papers documenting the Hill Family in West Virginia and elsewhere from approximately the 1700s to 1800s. Included are correspondence, clippings, photocopies of original documents and other manuscripts.

*Members of WVU's Phi Epsilon Omicron pose at a rural retreat, location unknown, ca. 1925.*

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West Virginia and Regional History Collection NEWSLETTER
Colson Hall
PO Box 6464
Morgantown WV 26506-6464

The Duncan Bruce, a.k.a. "Drunken Brute," see story, p. 1.