Primary Source Material on Educators and Education in Special Collections and Archives*

--From the Postcard Collection

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*This is a selected list of resources from our holdings. For a comprehensive list of materials in Special Collections, please consult the Regional History and the University Archives Collections Guides.
Recording of lecture by Ackenhead, a teacher who moved to Missouri where he was hired as a field representative for the Missouri Commission on Human Rights in 1955. In July 1966, he moved to Kennett and became a full-time investigator of human rights violations. In this recording, which took place on July 7, 1969, he addressed an audience at Southeast Missouri State University on the difficulties inherent in school desegregation in the 1960s. The end of the recording is a question and answer session with the audience. Running time: 01:06:51.

Recording of speech “What’s it All About,” a description of the role of an historian and the process of research, by Bergeron given on behalf of Phi Alpha Theta, Southeast Missouri State University chapter. This was part of an all-day event of the Missouri chapters of Phi Alpha Theta. Dr. Bergeron obtained his Ph.D. in History from Vanderbilt University in 1965. At the time of this lecture, he was a professor at the University of Tennessee, Memphis. Running time: 00:50:43.

Letters, newspaper clippings, photographs (13) and yearbooks (2) relating to Bowden, a prominent African-American educator in Southeast Missouri and principal of the Lincoln High School, Charleston, [Mo], for 23 years. Yearbooks are from Lincoln High School (1950) and Lincoln University, Jefferson City, [Mo] (1950).

Cavano Copy Book, John, circa 1809. 1 item. 2008.115.
19th century copy book belonging John Cavano. Students used copy books to copy the teacher's lessons.

Clippings Collection, 1871-2001. 12.0 linear feet. 2007.204.
Consists of newspaper clippings, from a variety of sources, on topics relating to the history of southeast Missouri and the surrounding region. Clippings are arranged by subject.

Printed address (14p) by W.S. Dearmont, president of the Missouri State Normal School—Third District, given before the University, College and Normal School Section of the Missouri State Teachers Association at St. Joseph, November 11, 1910, on “Moral and Religious Training in the Higher Educational Institutions.”

Mimeograph typescripts, typescripts and carbon typescripts of essays and speeches by Duckworth, Curator of Museums at Southeast Missouri State Teachers College for 19 years beginning in 1931. Subjects include: the Beckwith Collection; medicinal plants of the aborigines; prehistoric textile art; stone art; pottery of the aborigines; foods and methods of preparation [primitive man]; interesting trees of Southeast Missouri; fossil leaves from Lower Wilcox, Idalia, [Mo]; anthocyanins; mound builders; North Polar explorations; and Shintoism.

Illustrated bulletin from the Presbyterian school for young women at Farmington, [Mo]. Provides information about the course of study, faculty and alumnae.

Maps, photographs, slides, scrapbooks, pamphlets, newspaper clippings, publications and ephemera collected by the Historical Association of Greater Cape Girardeau, Inc., and formerly housed in the historic D. A. Glenn House Library. Collection documents regional history, primarily personalities, historic homes and sites, churches, schools, businesses, clubs, and a broad spectrum of Southeast Missouri regional history, culture and life. *Oversized
Recording of interview with Harold O. Grauel, retired Professor of English, from Southeast Missouri State University, during which he describes his life experience growing up in Ohio and eventually moving to Missouri and obtaining work at the university (then Southeast Missouri State Teachers College). Interview took place over the course of several days between June 26-July 3, 1979. Disc 1 running time: 00:53:29. Disc 2 running time: 00:50:00.

Recording of speech made by Dr. Harold O. Grauel, a Professor of English at Southeast Missouri State University from 1928 to 1971, before the English Club in May 1971. His presentation focused on his experiences during his first decade of teaching at the college. Running time: 01:17:14.

Greene, Miss May Scrapbook, 1939-1948. 1 item. 2007.171.
Articles relating to events, organizations, and people at the May Greene School. Also includes event programs and invitations.

High School Athletic and Oratorical Association of Southeast Missouri Programs, 1907-1947. 1 linear foot. 2002.188.
Illustrated programs from contests in athletics and oratory held on the campus of the Missouri Normal School at Cape Girardeau, listing high school competitors, their schools, and competition events.

Correspondence, financial papers, scrapbooks, newspaper clippings, and drafts of Hill’s thesis from his years as a student at Southeast Missouri State Teachers College and later as a member of the faculty at the same institution, where he served as professor of education and psychology from 1928 to 1965, and as chair of the Department of Education and Psychology from 1956 to 1965.

Mimeograph typescript (18p) by Peter Hilty, a Southeast Faculty member in the English Department, entitled “One Hundred Years of English at Southeast Missouri State [College].”

Handbooks, judging and grading instructions of oratorical league of state colleges of Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Wisconsin.

Journal (52p) kept by Louis A. Krueger, a student at the Missouri State Normal School—Third District, recording his teachers at the Lorimier and Normal Schools, courses he took at the Normal School, officers and members of the Hesperian and Benton Societies, compositions he wrote and the grades he received, and books he had read.

Lamb Interview, Charles, 1952. 2 items. 2001.004.
Recording of interview with Charles Lamb, Industrial Arts Instructor at Southeast Missouri State Teachers College from 1901 until his retirement in 1952. When he began teaching, his duties were that of “manual training.” In this interview, which took place on July 30, 1952, he describes his teaching role as well as the construction of various buildings on campus, including Academic Hall, and the fire of the Old Normal building. Disc 1 running time: 00:50:32. Disc 2 running time: 00:40:28.
Mimeograph typescript of resolution (10p) commemorating the life of Magill, issued by the Rotary Club of Downtown Cape Girardeau, following his death in 1970.  Magill was a member of the Rotary and Head of the Science Department at Southeast Missouri State Teachers College for 28 years.  Provides a biographical sketch of Magill, his educational and professional achievements and his civic work.

Materials relating the exhibit on Horace Mann, the education pioneer, in Academic Hall by Southeast Missouri State Teachers College’s Library.

Millner, Louise R. Sparks Collection, 1941-1986.  21 items.  2008.014.
Newspaper clippings, correspondence, and other materials relating to the life of Louise R. Sparks Millner, a prominent African-American businesswoman of Southeast Missouri.  Millner owned and operated the Sparks Funeral Homes of Cape Girardeau and Sikeston, Mo for 48 years, and was an active member of the community, focusing especially on the educational needs of children.

Missouri State Teachers Association Records, 1893-1996.  44.0 linear feet.  1998.097.
Organizational documents, minutes, correspondence, financial papers, committee reports, annual meeting materials, publications and scrapbooks of the Southeast chapter of the state’s professional organization for educators established in 1856.

Parker Address, W. W., 1944.  1 item.  1998.018.
Mimeograph typescript (14p) by W. W. Parker, President of the Southeast Missouri State Teachers College, given before the High School Principals Conference, University of Missouri, October 6, 1944, entitled “Work as an Educator.”

Parker Address, W. W., 1952.  1 item.  2001.003.
Recording of address delivered by W. W. Parker, President of the Southeast Missouri State Teachers College at the laying of the cornerstone for the new Central High School in Cape Girardeau, July 10, 1952.  Running time: 00:00:57.

Printed manual (25p) by Parker, future president of the Southeast Missouri State Teachers College, but then at Central Missouri State Teachers’ College, Warrensburg.

Parker Lecture Notes, W. W., circa 1930s-1940s.  0.5 linear feet.  2002.041.
Filecards containing the lecture notes of W. W. Parker, President of Southeast Missouri State Teachers College from 1933-1956. Notes pertain primarily to poetry and literature.

Two copies of typed manuscript (11p) entitled “The Founding of St. Mary’s Seminary: An Historical Sketch, 1818-1968.” Author is unknown.

Booklets commemorating the 100th anniversary of St. Vincent’s College, founded by the Vincentian Order in Cape Girardeau in 1843, and informational leaflets on the history of the school and Jesuit education, 1962-circa 1970s.  Illustrated anniversary booklet (24p) provides a history of the school and Catholic education, information on former presidents, and current staff and students.
Records primarily dealing with the proposed restructuring of Cape Girardeau County School Districts as a result of a Missouri state law passed 1949. Included are reports, correspondence, news articles, ballots, and voting results. Also included are lists of Cape Girardeau county teachers and school district clerks from 1947-1967, as well as enrollment statistics from those years. Additionally, there are copies of Cape Girardeau county records: the Assessment Book of Cape Girardeau County from 1911 and the Tax Book of Cape Girardeau County from 1911.

Reports, programs, handbooks from Cape Girardeau, Charleston, Crystal City, Farmington, Ripley County and Ste. Genevieve public and private schools.

Programs from the recognition dinner honoring Schultz, Superintendent of Cape Girardeau Public Schools from 1935 to circa 1956.


Serena family correspondence and correspondence concerning Keuka College [New York], William Woods College [Fulton, Mo], and Southeast Missouri State Teachers College, at which Serena held presidencies, as well as the activities of the Christian Church. Also included are family financial papers, genealogy records, and poetry written by Virginia Hearne Serena, who married Joseph in 1915.

3 scrapbooks of poems, songs, stories, and plays, some published, written by Myrtle Sheppard, an African American school teacher in rural southeast Missouri. Many of Sheppard’s works in the collection relate to directly Sheppard’s life experiences. Also included are articles written about Sheppard shortly before her death in 1979.

Recordings of Snider’s lectures to the Home and Community Relations class at Southeast Missouri State University in February and March of 1973 on historical aspects of Cape Girardeau and Southeast Missouri. In the February presentation, Snider described the geology, manmade water works, and pre-Columbian history of the area. In the March lecture, Dr. Snider described the “people and places” of Southeast Missouri from an historical perspective. These were two of his last public speaking engagements before his death in March 1973. Dr. Snider was a well-known local historian, longtime director of Kent Library at Southeast Missouri State University, and ran a book publishing company, the Ramfre Press. Disc 1 running time: 00:32:07. Disc 2 running time: 00:45:32.

Southeast Missouri High School Literary and Track Meet Scrapbook, 1933-1942. 1 item. 2007.161.
Newspaper clippings, photographs, programs pertaining to the regional meet held on the campus of Southeast Missouri State Teachers College. Articles relate to high school organization in southeast Missouri. Includes information for track and field meets, band competitions, typewriting contests, etc.

Photographs, news clippings and other materials documenting the life of P.J. Stearns, a prominent educator and business man in New Madrid County, Mo.
Unruh Lecture, Dr. [?], 1972. 1 item. 2001.012
Recording of presentation by Unruh to students from the education program at Southeast Missouri State University as they are about to embark on their student teaching assignments. Lecture focuses on teacher accountability. Dr. Unruh was a professor from St. Louis University’s School of Education. This on-campus program was given on April 2, 1972, and introduced by Dr. Mayberry. Running time: 00:44:31.

University Schools Collection, 1923-1987. 4.5 linear feet. 2006.016.
Compilation of materials regarding the University High School, University Junior High School, and the University Elementary School which were operated by Southeast Missouri State University from 1896-1987.

Photocopied typescript (45p) by Vandiver (1854-1932), former Professor of Natural Science and President of the Missouri State Normal School at Cape Girardeau, and Missouri Congressman credited with originating Missouri’s “Show-Me State” nickname. Manuscript covers Vance and Vandiver family genealogies, Vandiver’s educational and religious upbringing, professional training, years in Cape Girardeau and as a Congressman, and other personal and political reminiscences. Accompanied by four photocopied news clippings and photocopied image of Vandiver.

Materials resulting from a 1985 grant-funded oral history/preservation project on rural schools in southeast Missouri. Includes administrative materials including the grant, funding paper work, presentations and exhibits done on the project. Also included are photographs (85), slides (177), and negatives (42) as well as a 7 inch sound reel (1) and audio tapes (18) of oral history interviews.

White Rural Schools Collection Accretion (Microfilm), 1897-1934, 1985. 1 item + 7 reels. 1999.026.
Microfilm reels of various Cape Girardeau County tax records from 1897-1911 and farm ledgers of Charles S. Tanner of Sikeston Missouri. Historical US County Outline Map Collection, 1840-1980. *Oversized*.

A compilation of materials related to Dr. Duncan Wilkie’s archaeological work in southeastern Missouri. Includes contract and academic work with Southeast Missouri State University, photographs, slides, maps, reports, correspondence, and newspaper clippings.