

Chapter Title: HOW TO USE THIS DIRECTORY

Book Title: Archives in Appalachia

Book Subtitle: A Directory

Book Editor(s): Ellen Garrison

Published by: Appalachian State University

Stable URL: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt1xp3mqp.4>

---

JSTOR is a not-for-profit service that helps scholars, researchers, and students discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content in a trusted digital archive. We use information technology and tools to increase productivity and facilitate new forms of scholarship. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

Your use of the JSTOR archive indicates your acceptance of the Terms & Conditions of Use, available at <https://about.jstor.org/terms>



This content is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License (CC BY-NC-ND 4.0). To view a copy of this license, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>.



Appalachian State University is collaborating with JSTOR to digitize, preserve and extend access to *Archives in Appalachia*

JSTOR

## HOW TO USE THIS DIRECTORY

This directory consists of entries describing 181 repositories in 195 counties\* in south central Appalachia which hold historical records documenting the political, social, cultural, and economic history of the region, and a list of "Coming Attractions," agencies which do not currently collect manuscript materials but which plan to do so in the future. Also included are indexes by type of material and by subject which will enable researchers to locate selected genres of documentary material (e.g. photographs) or materials related to a particular subject.

The questionnaires from which this directory was compiled were mailed to all colleges and universities, public libraries, museums, historic sites, and historical and genealogical societies in the region listed in published directories and to selected secondary schools, businesses, and churches known to hold historical records. We included cultural facilities operated by federal, state, or local governments and public libraries which serve as a repository for local government records. However, we omitted facilities which operate solely as government records repositories and the two state archives (West Virginia Department of Archives and History and the Western Office of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History) in the region.

Each main entry, based on the questionnaire completed by the repository staff, includes information on the name, location, and hours of the repository; the type of repository; the types of material held by the repository; the broad subject areas covered by these records; the geographical area that the records cover; and the inclusive dates and size of the holdings\*\*. We have also included the name of the staff member primarily responsible for manuscripts in each repository. Researchers are urged to contact these individuals for additional information about a repository's holdings.

The main entries are arranged first by state and second alphabetically by the name of the repository. The form of entry used for a repository depended primarily on the form used by the individual completing the questionnaire. Generally, a repository which is a division or department within a larger agency is filed and alphabetized under the name of the department or division (i.e. Special Collections) not the name of the larger agency (i.e. Berea College). However, collections of local historical or genealogical societies which are housed in public libraries are frequently listed only under the name of the public library. Also, the directory was alphabetized by a computer, and computers are intractable little beasts. Therefore all repository names are alphabetized absolutely by the first word in the name (i.e. Frank H. McClung Museum is found under "F").

Because of inconsistencies in form of entry and computer alphabetizing by perhaps unexpected first words in an entry, it is advisable to check under possible variations of a repository

\* Information on the counties can be found following this section.

\*\* Abbreviations are used for type of repository, type of material, and subjects; a key to these abbreviations precedes the "Main Entries."

name when a listing for a specific repository cannot be located. To facilitate such searches, there is a list of all repositories in each state included following the "Coming Attractions."

Each entry is numbered in the order in which it is filed, and all index citations are by this repository number. However, because duplications were discovered during final proof-reading, five entries had to be deleted after all entries were numbered. Thanks again to our intractable computer, renumbering was impossible in the time available, and therefore there are no entries for numbers 29, 105, 107, 109 and 120.

We hope this directory will provide researchers who seek to explore Appalachia's rich heritage with access to the local documentary resources which make such work possible. However, we could not include the many repositories outside the region which hold significant documentary material related to Appalachia. For information on these collections, researchers should consult the National Historical Publications and Records Commission's **DIRECTORY OF ARCHIVES AND MANUSCRIPT REPOSITORIES** and the **NATIONAL UNION CATALOG OF MANUSCRIPTS** published by the Library of Congress.