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Manuscripts & Folklife Archives
 Department of Library Special Collections
 Western Kentucky University
 Bowling Green, KY 42101-1092

MSS 77 GREEN River Research Collection

Descriptive Inventory

8 boxes. 96 folders. 1,850 items. 1700-1995. Photocopies.

1986.99.1

COLLECTION NOTE

The collection contains chiefly photocopies of research materials that relate to the Green River and its tributaries, including the towns and counties which embrace the Green River Valley. This data was obtained by researching materials in WKU's Department of Library Special Collections, through interviews, field trips, and visits to the technical libraries at the Tennessee Valley Authority facilities in Knoxville, Tennessee, and at Norris Dam's experimental technical station located near Knoxville. The gathering of the material occurred in the fall of 1984, in August 1985, and in February 1986. The collection's arrangement is organized topically and further arranged by date and/or alphabetical order.

Following a request for further research in August 1986, the Helen Bartter Crocker Collection in Manuscripts was consulted. Boxes 6 and 7 contain photocopied materials from the collection. An additional request resulted in a visit being made on February 6 and 7, 1986, to Tennessee Valley Authority's facilities and technical libraries in Knoxville, Tennessee, and at Norris Dam's experimental technical station. These materials comprise Box 8.

SHELF LIST

BOX 1	Green River Valley: River and tributaries	1700-1979	253 items
Folder 1a	Descriptive inventory		1 item
Folder 1	Bridges – Rockport, KY, Munfordville, KY, Hartford, KY, Livermore, KY, Honaker's Ferry, KY, workers repairing bridge in Hartford, Calhoun, KY, swinging bridge, foot bridge over Barren River at Bowling Green, KY, table list of bridges over Green River, Civil War account from diary of Williamson Dixon Ward, 1861-1862	1861-62, 1954, 1965, n.d.	10 items

Folder 2	Clearing of Green River Valley and its tributaries, problems incurred by James Rumsey Skiles, sketch of snagboat, government boats, diver, visuals of snagboats	1830, 1850-1930, n.d.	13 items
Folder 3	Civil War: Spottsville and Rumsey, KY, Col. P. H. Hobson's correspondence, South Union Shaker's journal entries, Green River map and correspondence of 23 rd Army Corps, Gen. John Hunt Morgan Rochester, KY, Woodbury and Thomas Hines, Morgantown, KY, L&N's role, loyalties and division, Battle of Tebbs Bend	1860-1863	24 items
Folder 4	Cultural life: River poems, trips by Bowling Green Business University, personal recollection of wildcat whistle boat, whistle poems, excursion season to Mammoth Cave, swimming in river, calliope, showboats and cultural aspects canoe trip, Brown's Lock #1 on Barren River	1800, 1821, 1855, 1865-1867, 1887, 1900-1913, n.d.	28 items
Folder 5	Economics: Products sent on river, expenses, sales vouchers, KY House of Rep. report, KY Board of Internal Improvement report, sales receipts accounts of Stubbins and Lucas Pork House, Crescent City packet, court decisions, Green and Barren River Navigation Co., coal mining, petroleum sand, stone, grain, personal accounts, improvements to river, barging, railroads and river packet schedule	1800-1885, 1865-1867, 1887, 1900-1913	59 items
Folder 6	Flat boats and keel boats: cargo, the Barrens, personal accounts, wharfage fees for flat boats, produce shipped	1700-1932	22 items
Folder 7	Geology/Geography: Topical description, early life, survey, James Rumsey Skiles and his settlements, trip made by Janice Holt Giles, Karst, Barren River Development League reports, KY Water Resource Commission report	1794-1824, 1922-1970	17 items

Folder 8	Green River tributaries and valleys: Filson's Survey, topographical sketches, internal improvements, Long hunters, pioneers, river towns overview of river and tributaries, liquor advertisement, navigational chart	1769-1803	79 items
BOX 2	Indians, cultural life and interviews, Corps of Engineers and the locks and dams, steamboat families and personalities, other transportation	1700-1984	272 items
Folder 1	Indians: Prehistoric era, Cherokees, frontiersmen, settlements, Indian words, tribes	1700-1787	9 items
Folder 2	Interviews: Joyce Hammers in Morgantown, KY, Chuck Parrish who is employed by the Corps of Engineers, Janice Holt Giles interviews of John P. Hines	1898-1984	3 items
Folder 3	Locks/Dams: Government chart by Corps of Engineers, Board of Internal Improvement report, Green and Barren River Navigation Company, letter from Acting Sec. of War, mileage table, personal accounts, flood control, town where locks, dams are located, overview of KY navigation and recreation, Lockmaster J.C. Stinson at Woodbury, KY, James Ford a builder of the Greencastle Locks on Barren River, visuals and maps of locks/dams	1840-1980	48 items
Folder 4	Names: John Porter I and family, Capt. E.W. Johnson, Schroeter Floating Studio, Valentine Johnson and his saw boat, advertisements, Aberdeen hotel	1715-1984	51 items
Folder 5	Misc. names: Capt. Anderson and the Williams Brothers, the calliope, Capt. John W. Cannon, topics of research by Helen B. Crocker, George Dabbs river boat photographer, roustabouts, dredge boat Nolin, KY Tobacco Assoc., bridge designer Albert Fink, Green and Barren	1769-1957	80 items

River Navigation Co., the Harpe Brothers, John Porter Hines and Courtney Ellis, boatman J. F. Hope, Capt. Carl Johnson, Capt. E. W. Johnson, early history, lockmaster Kebler C. Moore, woman pilot Dixie Palmore, poems and songs describing captains, pilots, and roustabouts, John B. Rodes history, Schroeter's Studio Boat, Capt. Smith, flatboatman John W. Stephens, Capt. Charles Sturgeon, Capt. Thomas, Capt. C. J. VanMeter, Joseph R. Underwood, ferry Capt. Hobert Vincent, home of Capt. John Wallace in Bowling Green, KY, Capt. Frederich Way, Jr., pilot James O. Westerfield, pilot "Buck" Whayne, Chapman Wickliffe, Capt. Edgar Williams, pilot Tom Woods

Folder 6	Paradise and Airdrie, KY	1800-1976	7 items
Folder 7	Sallie's Rock and Sally Beck Erickson	1872-1970	9 items
Folder 8	James Rumsey Skiles	1784-1880	14 items
Folder 9	Other transportation: towboat poem, complaint suit against Green and Barren River Navigation Co., Skiles and the railroad in Bowling Green, KY, first railroad, collapse of the steamboat traffic, L&N Railroad, Giles rides a towboat, first diesel freight train, first ferry at old Aberdeen, KY, stagecoach days, coal barging on Green River	1816-1880, 1889, 1949	51 items
BOX 3	Federal and State Politics, navigation law suits, products, religion, further research sources	1752-1976	149 items
Folder 1	Politics: Federal government reports, Locks #1-4 on Green River, Lock #1 on Barren River, James Skiles addresses, locks and dams, history of 1868 charter by Green and Barren River Navigation Co., condition of locks/dams,	1836-1890	6 items

bridge proposal, commercial values, lease and petition from citizens against lease of Green and Barren River Navigation Co.

Folder 2	Politics: Green and Barren River Navigation Co., report of Chief Engineer lock improvements, surveys, cleaning/clearing the river and tributaries, William H. Natcher's appeal to restore Lock/Dam #4 on Green River, personal overview by Corps of Army Engineers, charts and Corps of Engineers report on locks/dams from 1880-1930, excursion ticket	1830-1976	10 items
Folder 3	Kentucky Board of Internal Improvement Report: Annual reports, roads/turnpike and cost improvements, tolls charged and collected, expenditures, cost figures, condition of the line, excerpts from diary of R.W. Lucas as a KY state legislator establishing Lock #2 on Barren River	1821-1865	8 items
Folder 4	Kentucky State Acts: Settlers of Green River Valley, roads, mills, dams, locks, improvements to Green River and its tributaries, incorporation of the Green and Barren River Navigation Co., appointing an engineer to survey Green River	1798-1839	36 items
Folder 5	Legal cases: Green and Barren River Navigation Co., Chesapeake, Ohio, and Southwestern Railroad, toll collection suit	1885, 1888	2 items
Folder 6	Products and Resources: Evansville and Bowling Green packet stationery, farming and selling by the South Union Shakers, oil leases, jewelry sales, coal, logging, kyrock and asphalt, groceries and dry goods, Baker's Inn furnace, tobacco, mills, Three Brothers merchandise boat, warehouses, maps of minerals, limestone, and dolomite in KY,	1800-1976	65 items

	industrial resource maps, Barren River asphalt blocks, visuals on commerce		
Folder 7	Religion: Great Revival and Rev. James McGready, history of revivals, maps, influence, Red River Church, baptisms in Green River, personal accounts, name of Beaver Dam, First Baptist Church in Green River area, religious steamboat	1754-1922	14 items
Folder 8	Sources for further research on the Green River and its tributaries: Archaic mounds, boatmen tales, recordings of whistles from boats, the Paradise Steam Plant on the Green River, Woodbury Lockhouse Museum, steamboat mirror	1752-1965	8 items
BOX 4	Steamboat Research Information	1823-1984	308 items
Folder 1	Steamboat advertisements	1868-1956	6 items
Folder 2	Steamboat disasters on the Ohio River, at Pittsburgh, PA, at Cincinnati, OH, St. Charles, MO, various other steamboats not plying Green River and its tributaries	1868-1918	12 items
Folder 3	Steamboat equipment such as bells, stacks and whistles	1898-1940	13 items
Folder 4	Steamboat interiors aboard the packets <i>Bowling Green</i> , <i>J.C. Kerr</i> , and <i>Joe Fowler</i> , Also other steamers	1854-1910	26 items
Folder 5	Steamboats as mail and freight vessels which include: <i>Antoinette</i> , <i>Betty Turner</i> , <i>Caruthersville</i> , <i>Charlie Curlin</i> , <i>Emerald</i> , <i>Indian</i> , and <i>Isabelle</i>	1903-1942	20 items
Folder 6	Steamboat as mail and freight: <i>Kalista</i>	1892-1917	7 items
Folder 7	Steamboat as mail and freight: <i>Long Fellow</i> , <i>Lumberman</i> , <i>Penguin</i> , <i>Peter Hontz</i> , <i>Standard Oil</i> , <i>Three Bros.</i>	1872-1908	16 items

Folder 8	Steamboats as packets on the Green and its tributaries: steamboat burning as described by the South Union Shakers, personal accounts, experiences on the river, rules and regulations of steamboats, licensing, first steamboat on Green River, packet history, vessel table for inland waterways, Capt. Dixie recalls experiences, captains on Green River and its tributaries, navigation techniques.	1823-1938	23 items
Folder 9	Steamboats, models, plans, description for building	1884-1913	8 items
Folder 10	Steamboats plying the Green River and its tributaries: Updated list as a result of Vicki Slocum's research. <i>Avalon, Beulah Ray, Blue Wing</i>	1872, 1984	5 items
Folder 11	Steamboat <i>Bowling Green</i> #1, 2, and 3	1871-1920	30 items
Folder 12	Steamboat <i>Chaperon</i>	1908-1917	11 items
Folder 13	Steamboats <i>ET Sullivan, Eleanor, and Emma</i>	1897, n.d.	4 items
Folder 14	Steamboats <i>Evansville/ Crescent City</i>	1880-1931	20 items
Folder 15	Steamboats, <i>G.L. Gillespie, Gordon G Greene, Green River, Hazel Rice, and Houghland Line</i>	1903-1956	11 items
Folder 16	Steamboat <i>JC Kerr</i>	1884-1917	7 items
Folder 17	Steamboats <i>JM Bowell, Joe Fowler, Kenois, LH Fuhrman, Liberty, Maggie Belle</i>	1877, 1906	11 items
Folder 18	Steamboat <i>Mammoth Cave</i>	1907-1927	5 items
Folder 19	Steamboats <i>Margaret, Martha H Hennen, Mary Lacy, McGhee</i>	1910-1927	9 items
Folder 20	Steamboat <i>Nettie Johnson</i>	1920	9 items
Folder 21	Steamboats <i>Nettie Willett, New Era and Nolin</i>	1938	4 items

Folder 22	Steamboat <i>Park City</i>	1883-1924	10 items
Folder 23	Steamboats <i>Racket, Sailor Boy, Samuel Scioto, Shawnee, Speed, Spottsville, Sprague, and Tom Williams</i>	1898-1912	15 items
Folder 24	Steamboats: unidentified	n.d.	5 items
Folder 25	Steamboat <i>William Preston Dixon</i>	1902-1905	3 items
Folder 26	Steamboat poems and songs	1888-1900	10 items
Folder 27	Steamboats as showboats; list of showboats, <i>Hollywood</i> showboat	1930-1933	2 items
Folder 28	Steamboat as wharf scenes not on Green River and in Evansville, IN, Nashville, TN, and Memphis, TN	1880-1917	6 items
BOX 5	Time periods, towns and counties of the Green River and its Valley	1770-1983	392 items
Folder 1	Time Period: Pre-historic, personal accounts, commerce, Cumberland Trace and Wilderness Road maps, Daviess Co. history, pioneer dress, Edmonson Co. history, Filson's map of KY, Giles KY history, Kentucky Barrens, Mammoth Cave, Ohio Co. history, Ohio and Green rivers, immigration, boating, and other transportation	1770-1925	43 items
Folder 2	Towns and counties: Barren, Butler, Bowling Green, Warren, Brownsville, Centertown, Daviess, Greensburg, Hartford, Henderson, Lincoln, Livermore, McLean, Morgantown, Paradise, Rochester, Skillesville, Vienna, Woodbury, Rockport, emigrants, floods, population tables, US Congressional Districts, pioneer Abraham Lincoln, Senior	1770-1950	33 items

Folder 3	Time Period: <i>Green River Log</i> article about trip to Calhoun via Green River, Thomas Kite excursion through the Barrens, F.A. Michaux explores the Barrens, Ralph Ringwood travels, stage trip in central KY, W. Underwood diary accts. on steamer from Bowling Green on the Barren and Green Rivers, young women on a boat excursion	1784-1850	8 items
Folder 4	Tributaries: Old tavern at boatlanding in Bowling Green, KY, personal accounts of floods, practicality of steamboat navigation Barren River's first steamboat, flour and grist mill, Rough River and Capt. Harold Durham, suspension of Evansville and Cincinnati navigation, maps of Green River headwaters, coal fields and maps personal accts. of the packet Bowling Green, Big Barren and Drake's Creek, Barren River improvements	1836-1970	14 items
BOX 6	Economics, Transportation, Flood Control, and Culture	1797-1986	294 items
Folder 1	Economics: Products and resources from the beginning to present day	1797-1986	110 items
Folder 2	Economics: Declining years	1930-1966	10 items
Folder 3	Economics: Prosperous years	1890-1926	38 items
Folder 4	Flatboats and keel boats	1898-1970	6 items
Folder 5	Flood control	1952-1972	4 items
Folder 6	Green River and its tributaries	1846-1983	45 items
Folder 7	Indians	1898-1983	5 items
Folder 8	Leisure time	1944-1977	19 items
Folder 9	Locks and dams personnel	1896, 1969	9 items

Folder 10	Locks and dams construction, costs advantages	1837-1973	12 items
Folder 11	Names: Airdrie, Paradise	n.d.	1 item
Folder 12	Names: Green and Barren River Navigation Co.	1830	3 items
Folder 13	Names: Miscellaneous	1898-1969	32 items
BOX 7	Research Materials from Helen Bartter Crocker collection	1812-1978	144 items
Folder 1	Names: James Rumsey Skiles	1838-1969	10 items
Folder 2	Names: William and Hines families	1897-1969	7 items
Folder 3	Other Transportation: Mailboat, Railroad	1812-1975	19 items
Folder 4	Steamboats: Advertisements, river	1884-1898	8 items
Folder 5	Steamboats: Disasters	1854-1972	9 items
Folder 6	Steamboats: Equipment (bells, whistles and stacks)	1969	2 items
Folder 7	Steamboats: Mail/freight, personnel	1969	3 items
Folder 8	Steamboats: Packets	1884-1978	33 items
Folder 9	Steamboats/showboats: Excursions and songs	1914-1969	35 items
Folder 10	Towns/counties: Green River Valley, the 1832 census, farming acres census for 1958 and 1967, history of Rochester, Spottsville/Henderson, Central City's 1935 flooding	1832-1983	18 items
BOX 8	Research materials from the technical libraries at TVA, Knoxville, TN	1891-1995	38 items
Folder 1	Coals reports and coal operation of the Paradise Steam Plant on Green River	1983	1 item

Folder 2	Fish collection, monitoring reports	1974-1981	4 items
Folder 3	Mussels of Green River	1974	1 item
Folder 4	Paradise Steam Plant's coal docking facility	1986	1 item
Folder 5	Paradise Steam Plant: Description	1964, 1976	2 items
Folder 6	Paradise Steam Plant: Tipples	1976	1 item
Folder 7	Paradise Steam Plant: Water temperature	1964	1 item
Folder 8	Peabody Coal Co. and Paradise Steam Plant	1963	1 item
Folder 9	Planktonic study of Green River for the years of 1961, 1965, and 1970	1983	1 item
Folder 10	Resource contacts for further research and contacts and material gathered from trip made by researcher Vicki Slocum in February 1986 to TVA in Knoxville, TN. Diagram of proposed Kentucky Museum exhibit	1986	3 items
Folder 11	TVA newspaper handed out at 1983 World's Fair in Knoxville, TN	1983	1 item
Folder 12	TVA's organizational structure	1984	1 item
Folder 13	TVA's public relations brochures	1982-1995	17 items
Folder 14	Tennessee River map and Inland Waterway System map	1891	2 items
Folder 15	Waterway Transportation Info Catalog	1985	1 item

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS GREEN River Research Collection 1700-1995
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Chiefly photocopies of research materials relating to the Green River and its tributaries. This data, gathered during 1984-1986, supported a Kentucky Museum grant proposal for a future exhibit focusing on the Green River Valley.

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SUBJECT ANALYTICS

Barren River

Boats and boating

Bowling Green and Barren River Navigation Company – Relating to B3,F2; B6,F12

Bridges, 1859, 1900 B1,F1

Civil War, 1861-1865 B1,F3

Dams, 1861-1984

Erickson, Sallie Beck, 1872-1957 – Relating to B2,F7

Flatboats B1,F6; B6,F4

Green River

Inland water transportation

Keelboats B1,F6; B6,F4

Locks, 1861-1984

Politics, 1798-1890

Railroads, 1851,1861,1949

Sallie's Rock B2,F7

Skiles, James Rumsey, 1798-1885 – Relating to B1,F2&7; B2F8-9; B3,F1; B7,F1

Social life and customs, 1821-1931

Steamboats, 1880-1964

Tennessee Valley Authority, 1959-1995 – Relating to B7,F11; B8,F10-13

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