

Preservation Matters at the National Archives on May 5

Have you made your reservation to attend “Preservation Matters: Caring for Personal Papers, Pictures, and Paraphernalia” on Saturday, May 5, at the National Archives at Kansas City? This all-day **free** event will feature talks highlighting practical steps you can take to preserve irreplaceable family heirlooms and stories. The presentations will focus on



This image shows the use of tape on an oversized document. Tape damage is often a culprit in destroying documents and photographs. Tips on how to properly care for documents and photographs will be included at the Preservation Matters event.

family papers and keepsakes, photographs, electronic records, personal papers, and oral histories. The speakers include staff from the Kansas City Public Library, Linda Hall Library, National Archives at Kansas City, and University of Kansas.

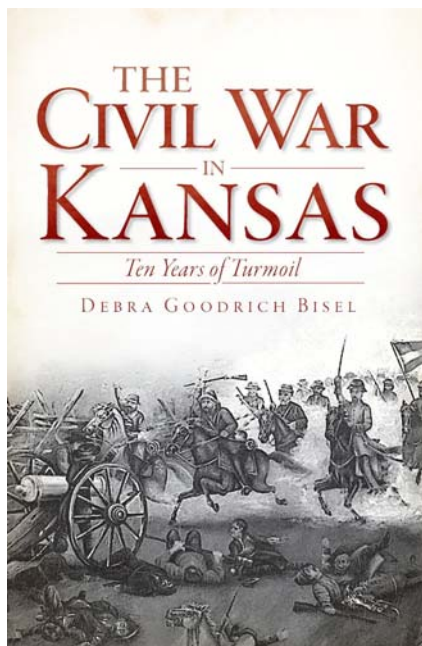
Attendees are welcome to come and go as they please, stop by for one presentation or all. To register for this **free event** call 816-268-8010 or email kansascity.archives@nara.gov.

(See page 2 for additional information.)

Debra Goodrich Bisel to discuss *The Civil War in Kansas: Ten Years of Turmoil*

On **Tuesday, May 15, at 6:30 p.m.** the National Archives at Kansas City will host Debra Goodrich Bisel for a discussion and signing of her book *The Civil War in Kansas: Ten Years of Turmoil*. A **6:00 p.m. reception** will precede this event.

By the time the Civil War officially began in 1861, Kansas and Missouri had already been fighting for six years. The passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act left the Kansas Territory wide open for white settlement, and the stage was set for a battle that would ignite the nation. The hopes and dreams of settlers and the exploits of John Brown to the Lawrence and Pottawatomie Massacres and the many other battles and skirmishes are highlighted in this new publication.



Copies of *The Civil War in Kansas* will be available for purchase via The Kansas City Store onsite. Following the program the author will sign copies of her book. To make a reservation **free event** call 816-268-8010 or email kansascity.educate@nara.gov.

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Upcoming Events

All events are held at the National Archives
400 West Pershing Road
Kansas City, MO 64108

- MAY 5 -
8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
PRESERVATION MATTERS
- MAY 9 - 10:00 A.M.
GENEALOGY WORKSHOP:
INTRODUCTION TO
GENEALOGY
- MAY 15 - 6:30 P.M.
AUTHOR EVENT: *THE CIVIL
WAR IN KANSAS*, DEBRA
GOODRICH BISEL
- MAY 31 - 6:30 P.M.
LECTURE: *THE HISTORY OF
THE FBI IN KANSAS CITY*,
JEFF LANZA

PRESERVATION MATTERS

CARING FOR PERSONAL PAPERS,
PHOTOGRAPHS, AND PARAPHERNALIA

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2012

8:30-9:30 AM

Practical Preservation:
Easy Tips to Use at Home

Pamela Anderson, National Archives at Kansas City

9:30-10:30 AM

Caring For Your Print Photographs

Lucinda Adams, Kansas City Public Library

10:30-11:30 AM

From Scrapbooks to Quilts:
Preserving Family Keepsakes

Jessica Schmidt and Dee Harris, National Archives
at Kansas City

11:30 AM-12:00 PM

Vital Records in a Digital World

Christopher Magee, National Archives at Kansas City

12:00-12:30 PM

Tips on Organizing Your Genealogical
Documents, Records, and Files

Evie Bresette, Certified Genealogist

12:30-1:30 PM

Preserving Your Family Heirlooms

Roberta Woodrick, University of Kansas Stannard Conservation Lab

1:30-2:30 PM

From Greeting Cards to Posters:

Preserving Paper Ephemera

Whitney Baker, University of Kansas Stannard Conservation Lab

2:30-3:30 PM

Preserving Digital Images: Caring for
Your Photos in the Digital Age

Keri Cascio, Linda Hall Library of Science, Technology
and Engineering

3:30-4:30 PM

Something to Talk About: Preserving Family
Memories through Oral History Interviews

Lori Cox-Paul, National Archives at Kansas City

10:00AM-2:00 PM

“Preservation One-on-One” Clinic

You're invited to bring in one personal or family item for practical advice on preserving it. National Archives staff members will offer one-on-one consultations on preserving your family photo, letter, scrapbook, quilt or other heirloom. No appraisals will be given. Limit one item per person.

THE NATIONAL
ARCHIVES AT
KANSAS CITY

National Archives at Kansas City
400 W. Pershing Road
Kansas City, MO 64108
816-268-8000
www.archives.gov/central-plains

FREE!

Reserve Your Seat Today! Call 816-268-8000 or
email: kansascity.archives@nara.gov

"They're Not Going to Get Me:" Crime in the 1930s

Brother Where Art Thou?: The Eastham Prison Break

Eastham Prison Farm had a reputation for being one of the worst places in the entire Texas criminal justice system. Clyde Barrow knew firsthand that this 13,000 acre cotton farm was a hellish place, having spent 17 months there enduring beatings, back-breaking work, rape, and starvation. It comes as no surprise that Clyde would seek revenge for his prison abuse a year after his release when former Barrow gang member Raymond Hamilton was arrested and sentenced to Eastham.

The prison break plan was devised by Raymond's brother Floyd Hamilton. Clyde's connection to Raymond and Eastham Prison Farm made him a likely participant in orchestrating the escape, but Clyde's considerable success in driving his way out of situations was also fortuitous. The prison break occurred in January 1934 and was such a success that a few other convicts came along for the ride, including Henry Methvin, Hilton Bybee, J. B. French, and Joe Palmer. The escapees expanded the size of the Barrow Gang, providing additional men needed for future bank robberies. But the audacity of the raid caused the Texas Governor's Office to hire Former Texas Ranger Frank Hamer as "Special Escape Investigator for the Texas Prison System."

A meticulous officer with a formidable reputation, Hamer tracked Bonnie and Clyde to their inevitable end in April 1934. After their death, various friends and family members of the Barrows and Parkers were arrested and put on trial for aiding and abetting the fugitives. Of the twenty defendants who eventually stood trial, all either pleaded or were found guilty and sentenced to prison time. Floyd Hamilton received a two year sentence in Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary--the longest sentence of any of the defendants. This admission summary for Floyd Hamilton survives as a part of Hamilton's inmate case file, and is on display in the exhibit "They're Not Going to Get Me:" Crime in the 1930s, open through August 18, 2012.

Right: Admission Summary for Floyd Hamilton, March 27, 1935. RG129, Records of the Department of Justice, Bureau of Prisons, U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth.

Crime in the 1930s Lecture Series

The following lecture will be offered in conjunction with the *Crime in the 1930s* exhibition.

Thursday, May 31 at 6:30 p.m. - *The History of the FBI in Kansas City* presented by Jeff Lanza, retired Federal Bureau of Investigation agent. A 6:00 p.m. reception will precede the event. To make a reservation for this **free event** call 816-268-8010 or email kansascity.educate@nara.gov.

UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS		
Reg. No. 46303-L	Detainers:	
Date: 3-27-35	ADMISSION SUMMARY	
Name: HAMILTON, Floyd Garland	Date Received: 2-22-35	Sentence: 2 Years
Color: White	Offense: Conspiracy Harbor Fugitive	Eligible for parole: 10-25-35
Nationality: American	District: 10-Texas-Dallas	Eligible for C. R.: 10-4-36
Age: 25	Citizenship: U. S.	Maximum expires: 2-25-37
Birth date: 6-13-1908	Last Residence: Dallas, Texas	
Marital Status: Married		
Religion: None		

1. Previous Record	1. Previous Record ;
2. Deputy's Report	Division of Investigation Report : Not yet received.
3. Social Service	
4. Medical	
5. Neuro-Psych.	
6. Educational	
7. Employment	
8. Religious	
9. Recreational	
10. Committee Recommendations:	
1. Custody and Discipline	
2. Transfer	
3. Social Service	
4. Treatment	
(a) Medical	
(b) Psychiatric	
5. Training	
(a) Education	
(b) Employment	
(c) Religious	
(d) Recreation	

2. In his unsigned statement, Floyd Hamilton said that he and his wife, Mildred Hamilton, visited Raymond Hamilton at the Eastham Prison Farm the Sunday before Raymond escaped (he escaped on January 16, 1934). Shortly after his escape, L. C. Barrow and Floyd Hamilton drove in Floyd's Model A. Ford Coupe from Dallas to a country dirt road close to Rhome, Texas, where they contacted Raymond, Clyde Barrow, Bonnie Parker, Jimmie Mullin, and some other men, one being Henry Methvin. Shortly after this meeting, Floyd and James Mullin drove from Dallas to a country dirt road west of Rhome and contacted Raymond, Clyde, Bonnie and Henry Methvin. Raymond gave James Mullin \$1,000.00 in bills. Mullin kept \$600.00 and gave Floyd \$300.00. A short time after this, Floyd and Mildred drove to Wichita Falls and returned with Mary O'Dare Pitts to Dallas, where they stayed all night at Floyd's home. John Basden, Floyd, Mildred, Mrs. Alice Davis and Mary O'Dare Pitts met Clyde, Bonnie, Raymond and Henry Methvin at a point the other side of Greenville. There was also a meeting at that time with L. C., Mrs. Emma Parker, L. C.'s wife, Andy Fay Barrow and his sister, Marie. The entire party drove to a point on a country road close to Rockwall. After that meeting they left Mary O'Dare Pitts with Raymond and returned to Dallas. Just prior to the West bank robbery, Joe Chambliss and Beulah Praytor brought Mary O'Dare from Wichita Falls to Floyd's home, and Mary O'Dare advised Floyd where he could meet Raymond. Mary O'Dare, Mrs. Alice Davis, Beulah Praytor and Joe Chambliss entered Joe Chambliss' car and Floyd, Mildred and their two children rode with Jimmie Lallont in his Studebaker coupe, and they contacted Raymond somewhere between Cedar Hill and Arlington, where they left Mary O'Dare with Raymond and Raymond and James Lallont discussed the robbing of a bank, but they did not have any special bank in view. A day or two after Easter,

Gems for Genealogists

The National Archives at Kansas City will be offering one free genealogy workshop in May. *Introduction to Genealogy: Using Federal Census Records to Find Your Ancestors* will be held on Wednesday, May 9 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Workshop Description:

Introduction to Genealogy: Using Federal Census Records to Find Your Ancestors

Wednesday, May 9 at 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

This course will introduce beginning genealogists to the United States Federal Census while providing direction with how and where to start researching your family history. Learn to discover clues, codes, and other telling details about your ancestors' lives.

To make a reservation for this **free event**, please call 816-268-8000 or email kansascity.archives@nara.gov.

Hidden Treasures from the Stacks

Early Attempts to Tame the Missouri River

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for managing the flow of water on the Missouri River. However, few people may realize just how far back in time the Corps efforts to tame the river go. As far back as the 1830s the Corps sent snag boats up the river to attempt to clear the lower Missouri River of trees and brush that had fallen into the river or were overhanging the river and threatening to fall into the river. Robert E. Lee was sent to St. Louis in 1837 to supervise a project to protect the St. Louis harbor from shifts in the channel of the Mississippi River and also supervise work on the Missouri River. In 1838 the snag boats *Helipolis* and *Archimedes* worked on the lower Missouri from St. Louis to near Liberty to clear snags and remove trees. In 1838 the two snag boats removed 2,100 snags and cut 2,311 trees

from the river banks. At the same time the Corps also worked to protect the banks from eroding, caving in, and changing course.

Revetments are used to hold the river in desired alignment by stabilizing the river banks. They are placed on the outside banks of the bends in the river where the river's attack is most destructive. In the 1880s bank were stabilized by placing flexible "mattresses" of bound willow brush along the banks. When willow brush was used and covered with earth, the willow would sprout and grow instead of rotting providing additional support to the stabilization of the bank. Sometimes the banks were covered with earth, stone riprap, or even concrete to further stabilize them.

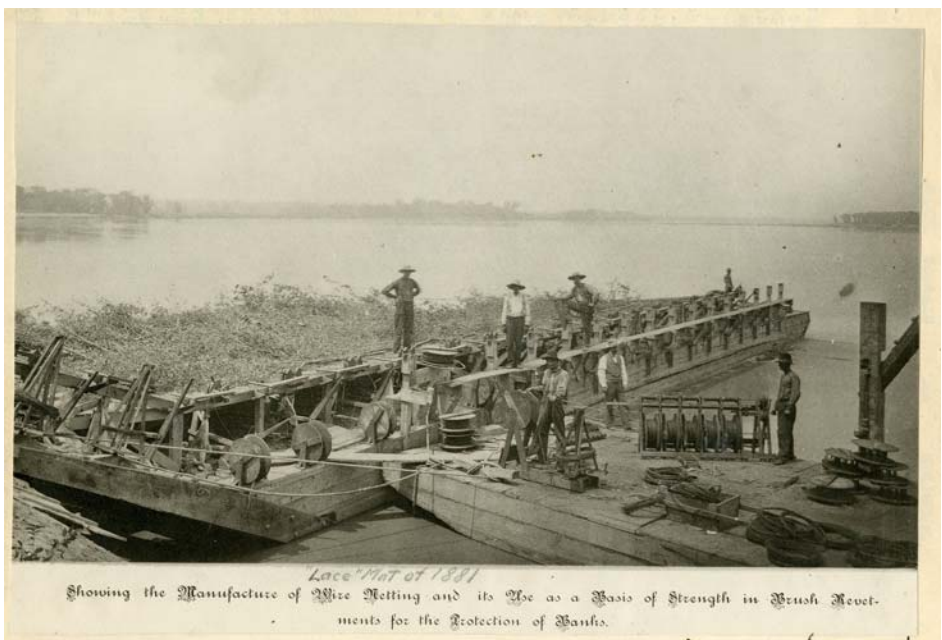


Original caption: *Brush revetment, Glasgow, MO circa 1880. Completed mattress of previous view and view of mat boat fingers; note heavy layer of bank brush. RG 77, Records of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.*

In 1880-1881 the Corps worked on a project to improve the area of the Missouri River in the vicinity of Glasgow, Missouri, by adding brush revetments to the river bank. A Mat boat moved along the river bank and a crew fed brush into it to produce the mats. In 1881 the Corps manufactured wire netting ["lace" mat] and used it as a basis of strengthening the brush revetments. The work was usually done in late summer and into the fall when the water level had fallen in the river. The 1880 work done at Glasgow, Missouri, depicted in the photographs shown here, was "suspended on November 8, 1880, with 5,630 linear feet of revetment and 600 linear feet of dike in place. The amount expended during the year for plant, revetment and dike was \$25,746.39."

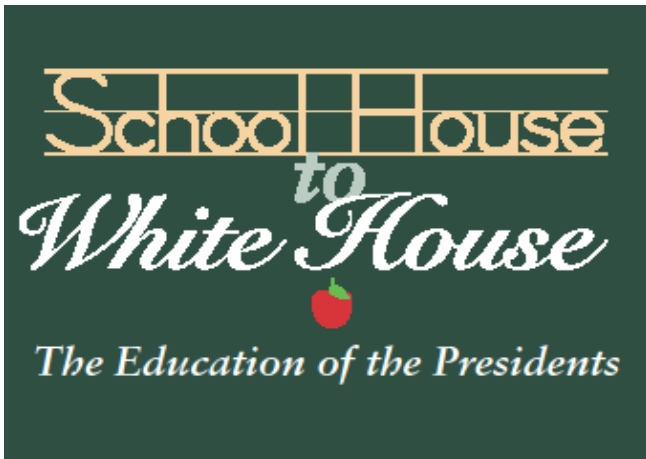
While the Corps no longer lays mattresses along the Missouri River, they still work to maintain a navigation channel from Sioux City to St. Louis. They do this by building rock dikes to direct the river's flow. For more information visit www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odr/revetment/main.asp.

The National Archives at Kansas City has thousands of documents related to proceedings in U.S. Army Corps of Engineer records. For more information, email kansascity.archives@nara.gov or view the Archival Research Catalog at www.archives.gov/research/arc.



Original caption: *Showing the manufacture of wire netting and it's use as a basis of strength in brush revetments for the protection of banks. RG 77, Records of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.*

News and Notes



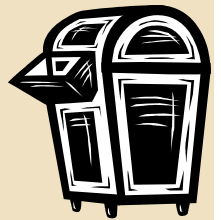
- **Exhibition Opening, Tuesday, June 12, 2012** -- The National Archives at Kansas City will open *School House to White House: The Education of the Presidents*, an exhibition focused on the United States presidents and their education from primary school through college. It will be available for viewing through February 26, 2013. To schedule a school or group tour call 816-268-8013 or email Mickey.Ebert@nara.gov.

- **Primarily Teaching 2012** -- The National Archives at Kansas City is pleased to announce that it is one of seven locations across the country to host **Primarily Teaching: Original Documents and Classroom Strategies**. The week long institute will be held **June 25 - 29, 2012**, at the National Archives at Kansas City. *Primarily Teaching* is designed to provide access to the rich resources of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) for educators at the elementary, secondary, and college levels. Participants will learn how to research historical records, create classroom materials based on the records, and present documents in ways that sharpen students' skills and enthusiasm for history, government, and the other humanities. Each participant will research the holdings of the National Archives at Kansas City for documents suitable for classroom use and develop strategies for using these documents in the classroom or design professional development activities to help classroom teachers use primary source documents effectively.
 - The fee for the workshop is \$100, which includes all materials.
 - Participants will receive a stipend upon successful completion of the course and submission of a project.
 - Graduate credit from a major university is available for an additional fee of \$100 per credit hour.

Space is limited; interested persons are encouraged to apply early. Deadline to apply is May 11, 2012. An application and more information is available online at www.archives.gov/education/primarily-teaching/.

Are you on the National Archives at Kansas City mailing list?

If the answer is "no," then send us an email with your U.S. postal mail information to kansascity.educate@nara.gov or call 816-268-8000. By providing your address, you grant the National Archives at Kansas City permission to send you information about upcoming exhibitions, special events, and programs. Per the Privacy Act of 1974, we will not share your personal information with third parties.



The National Archives at Kansas City is one of 15 facilities nationwide where the public has access to Federal archival records. It is home to historical records dating from the 1820s to the 1990s created or received by Federal agencies in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. For more information, call 816-268-8000, email kansascity.educate@nara.gov or visit www.archives.gov/central-plains/kansas-city. Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity

HOURS OF OPERATION

RESEARCH ROOMS: Tuesday through Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

EXHIBIT GALLERIES: Tuesday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Closed on Federal holidays. Hours are subject to change due to special programs and weather.