



Guide to the Jesse Pyrant Andrews photographs and oral histories, 1973-2024

This collection guide was produced in **2013**.

This PDF version was created on **April 2, 2026**.

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

411 Chapel Drive

Duke University

Durham 27708

askRL@duke.edu

URL: <https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

Table of Contents

Summary	3
Background	4
Arrangement	5
Administrative Information	6
Related Materials	7
Names and Subjects	7
Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements	8
Collection Inventory	8
13-Month Crop: One Year in the Life of a Piedmont Virginia Tobacco Farm	8
Bill Davis and Davis family	16
Portraits	21
Train Project, View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147	33
Virginia	38
Burlington Mills	57
Life at Large and Other Work	60
Veterans Project	74
Original Audiovisual Media	102

Summary

Collection Title:

Jesse Pyrant Andrews photographs and oral histories, 1973-2024

Creator:

Andrews, Jesse Pyrant, 1949-

Source:

Archive of Documentary Arts (Duke University)

Abstract:

Jesse Pyrant Andrews is an American photographer based in rural southern Virginia. Collection comprises 310 black-and-white photographs and 50 oral history interviews by photographer Jesse Pyrant Andrews, documenting rural and small-town life in the Piedmont region of Virginia and North Carolina. Major themes center on the landscapes and people of the region; tobacco cultivation; the lives of farmers, war veterans, small business owners, and laid-off workers; local architecture and historic sites; traditional crafts and music; and new patterns of economics and society in rural Virginia. Andrews's Veterans Project has become a larger focus over the years; it now comprises over 30 portraits and associated audio interviews, chiefly with veterans of the Vietnam and Gulf Wars. Additional projects include materials related to the Carter-Wooding families of southern Virginia; views from an Amtrak train; views of an historic plantation home, Mountainview; and street scenes and portraits taken in New York City, California, and Massachusetts. Acquired as part of the Archive of Documentary Arts at Duke University.

Extent:

16 Linear Feet (20 boxes)

63.9 Gigabytes (262 audio files)

Original negative identifiers and titles assigned by the photographer have been retained. The original identifier on the back of each print typically comprises codes for the body of work, negative file, and negative number. There are a few unnumbered prints. Each print also has been given a Rubenstein Library identifier.

Language:

Material in English

Collection ID:

RL.00043

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m14g6m>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Jesse Pyrant Andrews photographs and oral histories, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Background

Scope and Content

Collection comprises 310 black-and-white photographs and 50 oral history recordings by Jesse Pyrant Andrews documenting rural and small-town life in the Piedmont plateau of central southern Virginia and northern North Carolina. Most of the images are portraits of local people, along with scenes from homesteads, small towns, farms, and grave sites. Major themes include tobacco cultivation; the lives of farmers, migrant workers, war veterans, small business owners, and laid-off textile workers; regional architecture; historic sites; and traditional activities such as music-making, constructing handmade firearms, and working with leather. Together, the images and interviews speak to significant changes in this rural Piedmont region's cultures and economies as it has transitioned into the 20th and then the 21st centuries.

In the Veterans Project series, Andrews documents through portraits and in-depth audio interviews the experiences of U.S. military veterans, primarily in the Vietnam and Gulf Wars, but also in World War II. The series includes a Vietnam War veteran's manuscript memoir and a tribute essay to one veteran, written by Andrews. Some of these resources may contain disturbing content.

The Carter-Wooding Project, also comprising photographs and several oral histories, documents two Halifax County, Virginia families, the Carters and the Woodings, and their rural property dating back to an 18th-century Huguenot land grant. This project forms part of the Portraits and Virginia series in this collection. Interior and exterior shots of a former plantation, "Mountain View," in Tightsqueeze, Virginia (sold at auction in 2020) are featured in the series Life At Large.

Photographs from the series 13-Month Crop, documenting tobacco farming, were featured in a solo exhibit of Andrews' work hosted by the Rubenstein Library at Duke University in 2002.

Portraits and oral histories in the Burlington Mills series document the experiences of former southern Virginia textile workers.

Another series documents a trip on an Amtrak train. Rounding out the collection are images of street life and people in New York City, California, and Massachusetts, and a few of patterns in plants and ice.

Most of the photographs are accompanied by captions written by the photographer, commenting on the individuals, their life experiences, and aspects of local culture and society. Captions for the Veterans series include biographies as well as historical details related to several wars in which the U.S. was involved.

A large selection of photographs from the Andrews collection has been digitized and is available on the Duke Digital Collections website; links to this content are included in this inventory for corresponding prints.

Biographical/Historical

Documentary photographer and oral historian Jesse Pyrant Andrews (b. 1949) has photographed the changing rural landscapes of Virginia and North Carolina and the lives of its inhabitants since the mid 1970s. His documentary projects include in-depth oral history interviews that provide an important context for his portraits of Virginia veterans, farmers, immigrants, and former textile mill workers. Andrews studied at the New England School of Photography in Boston, Massachusetts, working primarily with photographers Olive Pierce and George Dewolfe. He shoots 35mm black-and-white film which he prints in his traditional darkroom.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

Arranged in the following project series: 13-Month Crop: One Year in the Life of a Piedmont Virginia Tobacco Farm; Bill Davis and Davis Family; Portraits; Virginia; Train Project, View from Amtrak Northeast Regional; Burlington Mills; Life at Large and Other Work; and Veterans Project.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

411 Chapel Drive

Duke University

Durham 27708

askRL@duke.edu

URL: <https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

Access Restrictions

Access note. Some materials in this collection are original audiovisual items that need to be reformatted before use. Contact Research Services for access.

Access note. Some materials in this collection are electronic records that require special equipment.

Access note. Some materials in this collection are digitized audiovisual materials that require special equipment. Contact Research Services with questions.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the Rubenstein Library's Citations, Permissions, and Copyright guide.

Images may not be reproduced in any form without permission by donor. Use is restricted to educational, non-commercial purposes; any other use requires permission of donor.

Acquisition Information

The Jesse Pyrant Andrews photographs and oral histories were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as purchases from 2003 to 2025.

Processing Information

Originally processed by Elizabeth Arnold, John Mayrose, 2007

Processed and described by Paula Jeannet and Matthew Warren, December 2012; Clare Callahan and Paula Jeannet, August 2013; Craig Breaden, Paula Jeannet, 2015-2023; Meghan Lyon, 2024; Tere Elizalde, August 2025

Accessions represented in this collection guide: 2003-0229, 2007-0029, 2007-0069, 2008-0040, 2008-0276, 2011-0012, 2012-0040, 2012-0043, 2012-0098, 2014-0212, 2016-0031, 2017-0094, 2018-0040, 2019-0148, 2020-0075, 2021-0161, 2023-0003, 2024-0018, 2025-0014

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Material

The Jesse Andrews Photographs digital collection at Duke University features 132 black-and-white images from several projects in this collection: "13 Month Crop," documenting tobacco farming, also a solo exhibit hosted by Duke University's Perkins Library; Bill Davis and the Davis family; a Portraits series of individuals in North Carolina, south-central Virginia, and New York City; photographs of life in Halifax and Pittsylvania counties; and a series of images taken by Andrews from train windows. <https://repository.duke.edu/dc/jesseandrews>

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- Agricultural laborers -- Photographs
- Agriculture -- Virginia -- Photographs
- Country life -- Virginia -- Photographs
- Documentary Photography -- United States
- Families -- Virginia
- Farm life -- Virginia
- Farms -- Virginia -- Photographs
- Folk musicians -- Portraits
- Medicine, Military -- Personal narratives
- Photographers -- Virginia
- Portrait photography -- United States
- Railroad travel -- United States -- Photographs

- Textile industry -- Virginia
- Textile workers -- Social conditions
- Tobacco farmers -- Virginia -- Pittsylvania County -- Photographs
- Tobacco industry -- Virginia -- Pittsylvania County
- Veterans -- Southern States -- Personal narratives
- Veterans -- United States -- Social conditions -- 20th century
- Veterans -- Virginia -- Portraits
- Vietnam War, 1961-1975 -- Personal narratives
- Halifax County (Va.) -- History
- North Carolina -- Photographs
- Virginia -- Photographs
- Pittsylvania County (Va.) -- History
- Southern States -- Rural conditions
- Black-and-white photographs
- Digital audio formats
- Gelatin silver prints
- Oral histories
- Audiovisual materials
- Andrews, Jesse Pyrant, 1949-
- Archive of Documentary Arts (Duke University)
- Burlington Industries, Inc. -- History
- Burlington Mills Corporation
- Amtrak

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements

Digital oral history audio files were derived from optical compact discs and consist of audio files in .wav (preservation copies, not included in this inventory) and .mp3 format (use copies).

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Collection Inventory

13-Month Crop: One Year in the Life of a Piedmont Virginia Tobacco Farm, 2000-2001

Series Overview

Series contains 38 11x14 inch black-and-white (gelatin silver) prints by photographer Jesse Pyrant Andrews, featured in a solo exhibit at Duke University's Perkins Library in 2002. Andrews spent one tobacco farming

season, April 2000 to April 2001, using a traditional film camera to document the lives of the people who cultivate tobacco on the Moore family farm in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. Images portray the white farm family members as well as seasonal migrant farmworkers. Tobacco farming is so labor-intensive that it is often called a "13-month crop."

Processing Information:

Photographs are arranged in order as received in rough chronological order. Original titles, captions, and negative identifiers as assigned by the photographer have been retained. Each print has also been assigned an institutional identifier.

Charles Moore and Terry Moore preparing land for planting, early spring 2000 (online item available)

Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0001

Digital Object: [Charles Moore and Terry Moore preparing land for planting, early spring 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 1-34

Lillian Moore at the Moore homeplace, 2000 (online item available)

Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0002

Digital Object: [Lillian Moore at the Moore homeplace, 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 1-20

Terry and his daughter Christine during a break from seeding greenhouse trays, early spring 2001 (online item available)

Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0003

Digital Object: [Terry and his daughter Christine during a break from seeding greenhouse trays, early spring 2001](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 5-33

Christine helping with the seeding of the greenhouse trays, early spring 2001 (online item available)

Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0004

Digital Object: [Christine helping with the seeding of the greenhouse trays, early spring 2001](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 6-19

Roy Younger placing seeded trays in the greenhouse bed, early spring 2001 (online item available)

Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0005

Digital Object: [Roy Younger placing seeded trays in the greenhouse bed, early spring 2001](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 3-24A-25

Terry with a tray of seedlings ready for planting, spring 2000 (online item available)

Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0006

Digital Object: [Terry with a tray of seedlings ready for planting, spring 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 3-18A-19

Loading the planter on the first day of planting, spring 2000 (online item available)

Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0007

Digital Object: [Loading the planter on the first day of planting, spring 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 3-9

First day of planting, spring 2000 (online item available)

Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0008

Digital Object: [First day of planting, spring 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 1-10

Planting, spring 2000 (online item available)

Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0009

Digital Object: [Planting, spring 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 1-22A

Eduardo Pineda Arzata, who has worked at the Moore farm for twelve years, at the curing barns, summer 2000 (online item available) Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0010

Digital Object: [Eduardo Pineda Arzata, who has worked at the Moore farm for twelve years, at the curing barns, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 4-2

Leonel Perez Gutierrez, who has worked at the Moore farm for four years, summer 2000 (online item available) Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0011

Digital Object: [Leonel Perez Gutierrez, who has worked at the Moore farm for four years, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 4-11

Maximo Perez Gutierrez, who has worked at the Moore farm for nine years, summer 2000 (online item available) Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0012

Digital Object: [Maximo Perez Gutierrez, who has worked at the Moore farm for nine years, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 4-8

Eduardo Pineda Arzata cultivating by hand, spring 2000 (online item available) Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0013

Digital Object: [Eduardo Pineda Arzata cultivating by hand, spring 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 5-24

Cam Moore, Terry's son, cultivating young tobacco, late spring 2000 (online item available) Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0014

Digital Object: [Cam Moore, Terry's son, cultivating young tobacco, late spring 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 5-29A-30

Terry in the final step of cultivation known as "laying by", late spring 2000 (online item available)

Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0015

Digital Object: [Terry in the final step of cultivation known as laying by, late spring 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 6-32

Christine Moore aboard Moira, and Renee, her mother, summer 2000 (online item available)

Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0016

Digital Object: [Christine Moore aboard Moira, and Renee, her mother, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 2-22

The Moore family gathered at the homeplace after Sunday dinner, summer 2000 (online item available)

Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0017

Digital Object: [The Moore family gathered at the homeplace after Sunday dinner, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 6-5

Terry and workers, from left to right, Leonel, Eduardo and Maximo spraying to control tobacco stalk shoots called suckers, summer 2000 (online item available)

Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0018

Digital Object: [Terry and workers, from left to right, Leonel, Eduardo and Maximo spraying to control tobacco stalk shoots called suckers, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 2-29A-30

Eduardo "topping" the flowered plants, summer 2000 (online item available)

Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0019

Digital Object: [Eduardo topping the flowered plants, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 6-24

Irrigating, summer 2000 (online item available) Box 1 > Image RL00043-P-0020

Digital Object: [Irrigating, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 2-33

Terry inspecting for suckers, summer 2000
(online item available) Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0021

Digital Object: [Terry inspecting for suckers, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 1-6

"Pulling" or harvesting the top leaves near
the season's end, summer 2000 (online item
available) Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0022

Digital Object: [Pulling or harvesting the top leaves near the season's end, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 2-9A-10

Charles Moore and workers with the final
trailer of tobacco of the season, late summer
2000 (online item available) Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0023

Digital Object: [Charles Moore and workers with the final trailer of tobacco of the season, late summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 5-36

Early morning, Terry sweeping out an empty
barn, summer 2000 (online item available) Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0024

Digital Object: [Early morning, Terry sweeping out an empty barn, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 3-22

Betty Starlin, Terry, and Eduardo Pineda taking
a break from barning, summer 2000 (online
item available) Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0025

Digital Object: [Betty Starlin, Terry, and Eduardo Pineda taking a break from barning, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 1-31

Pro-tobacco poster at Holland's Warehouse, late summer 2000 (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0026

Digital Object: [Pro-tobacco poster at Holland's Warehouse, late summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 6-26

Terry with cousins Caleb and George Moore at their farm, summer 2000 (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0027

Digital Object: [Terry with cousins Caleb and George Moore at their farm, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 5-6

Leonel Perez baling cured tobacco early morning, summer 2000 (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0028

Digital Object: [Leonel Perez Gutierrez baling cured tobacco early morning, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 6-22

Betty and Eduardo barning newly pulled leaves, summer 2000 (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0029

Digital Object: [Betty and Eduardo barning newly pulled leaves, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 2-32

Terry and Leonel sheeting cured leaves from the barns, summer 2000 (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0030

Digital Object: [Terry and Leonel sheeting cured leaves from the barns, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 3-28

Sheeting tobacco at Caleb and George's farm,
summer 2000 (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0031

Digital Object: [Sheeting tobacco at Caleb and George's farm, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 1-30

Eduardo, Leonel, and Maximo pushing an
850-pound bale of tobacco onto the loader in
preparation for market, summer 2000 (online
item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0032

Digital Object: [Eduardo, Leonel, and Maximo pushing an 850 pound bale of tobacco onto the loader in preparation for market, summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 2-19

Terry and Charles at Holland's Warehouse on
the first day of the market, Danville, Virginia,
summer 2000 (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0033

Digital Object: [Terry and Charles at Holland's Warehouse on the first day of the market, Danville, Va., summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 1-36

Terry with Dan and Danny Robertson, Owners
of Holland's Warehouse, Danville, Va., summer
2000 (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0034

Digital Object: [Terry with Dan and Danny Robertson, Owners of Holland's Warehouse, Danville, Va., summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 5-30

A tobacco auction in progress, Holland's
Warehouse, Danville, Virginia, late summer
2000 (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0035

Digital Object: [A tobacco auction in progress, Holland's Warehouse, Danville, Va., late summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 5-20

Terry receiving his check for tobacco sales,
Holland's Warehouse, Danville, Virginia, late
summer 2000 (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0036

Digital Object: [Terry receiving his check for tobacco sales, Holland's Warehouse, Danville, Va., late summer 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 6-25

Terry sows wheat as a cover crop, fall 2000
(online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0037

Digital Object: [Terry sows wheat as a cover crop, fall 2000](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCA 3-36

Terry Moore in his firefighter's gear, 2001 May
(online item available)

Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0119

Digital Object: [Terry Moore in his firefighter's gear, May, 2001.](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/13MCB 109-XX

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Bill Davis and Davis family, 1976-2006 and undated

Series Overview

Series is made up of 18 11x14 inch black-and-white (gelatin silver) photographs, the majority of which feature portraits of Bill and Nat Davis, brothers from an established rural family from the Piedmont plateau region of Pittsylvania County in south-central Virginia. Images range from the landscapes and sites around this family farm to the portraits of the two brothers Bill and Nat. One includes a sister, Nancy Paige Davis. There are several images of Bill's burial and gravesite. Eighteen of these photographs have also been digitized and are featured on the Duke Digital Collections site.

Processing Information:

Photographs are arranged in order as received. Original titles, captions, and negative identifiers as assigned by the photographer have been retained. Each print has also been assigned an institutional identifier.

William Arastus Davis (Bill), 1988, 1988 (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0038

Digital Object: [William Arastus Davis \(Bill\), 1984](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 4x5-1

Bill Davis braiding a belt from deer hide, 1988 (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0039

Digital Object: [Bill Davis braiding a belt from deer hide, 1988](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 88-20

Bill learned to braid leather when he was a child. His father did not want him to learn that craft so he would take the strands of leather under the covers of his bed at night and practice braiding simply by feel. He could do any sort of braid from the most simple to making what he called a "rosette," a round knot woven from 16 strands of leather, seemingly with no beginning or end.

Bill Davis playing a chromatic harmonica, 1988 (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0040

Digital Object: [Bill Davis playing a chromatic harmonica, 1988](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 45-26A

The chair he is sitting in was made by his grandfather, Simeon Benton Davis.

Bill Davis with his younger sister, Nancy Paige Davis, 1990 (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0041

Digital Object: [Bill Davis with his younger sister, Nancy Paige Davis, 1990](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 43-16A

Bill was much older than Nancy. When she turned 18, she wanted to attend the nursing school at the University of Virginia, but their father refused to pay for her to go. Bill eventually saved enough money to send her and she graduated in 1941. She never returned to the farm except to visit and lived in Richmond until her death in 2005. This image was made during her last

visit to see Bill. She always referred to him as her "angel" and thus she was making a halo for him.

Orbrey Nathaniel Davis (Nat), 1979 (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0042

Digital Object: [Orbrey Nathaniel Davis \(Nat\), 1979](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 88-38

Nat had been telling me about one of his first girlfriends. He was sad because he thought no one would ever care for him again.

Bill and Nat Davis playing music on their front porch, 1978 (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0043

Digital Object: [Bill and Nat Davis playing music on their front porch, 1978](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 42-27

They knew hundreds of old time tunes as well as hymns and ballads.

Bill Davis grave, 2006 November (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0044

Digital Object: [Bill Davis grave, November 2006](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 12-XX

The Davis family cemetery, 2006 (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0045

Digital Object: [The Davis family cemetery. November, 2006](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 12-XX

All that is left of what Nat Davis referred to as the "big woods," undated (online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0046

Digital Object: [All that is left of what Nat Davis referred to as the "big woods."](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 14-XX

This is where Hat and Bill hunted and trapped their entire lives. Bill used to say that the mound in the background was an Indian burial place.

Site of the Davis family spring, 2006 November
(online item available)

Box 2 > Image RL00043-P-0047

Digital Object: [Site of the Davis family spring, November 2006](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 14-XX

This spring was where they got their water for nearly 100 years. It is now a mosquito breeding ground.

Site of the Davis family homeplace, 2006
November (online item available)

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0048

Digital Object: [Site of the Davis family homeplace, November 2006](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 13-XX

William Arastus Davis (Bill Davis), 1900-1991,
on the Davis Farm near Chatham, Virginia, 1976
(online item available)

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0049

Digital Object: [William Arastus Davis \(Bill Davis\), 1900-1991](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 84-43

Bill was a friend of my grandmother. When I was a child, she would take me with her to visit the Davis farm. I knew the Davises very well. They are all dead now, their farm sold and is now a high-end housing development. The Davis family was a real link to the past. They never got accustomed to the Twentieth Century.

Bill Davis, 1989 November (online item
available)

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0050

Digital Object: [Bill Davis, November, 1989.](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 42-24

Bill had gotten out his wool army uniform for cold weather.

Bill Davis's burial, 1991 August (online item available)

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0051

Digital Object: [Bill Davis' burial, August 1991](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 51-12A

Pictured are (from left) Calvin Daniel, Ricky Adkins, and Dennis Daniel. Calvin Daniel inherited the Davis farm. These men dug Bill's grave. They and I were the only people at the burial. Bill asked me to make this last image of him at the family cemetery.

Orbrey Nathaniel Davis (Nat Davis), 1898-1987, at Davis farm, 1978 October (online item available)

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0052

Digital Object: [Orbrey Nathaniel Davis \(Nat Davis\), 1898-1987](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 88-39

This is Bill Davis' brother.

Nat Davis skinning foxes, 1984 November (online item available)

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0053

Digital Object: [Nat Davis, November 1984.](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 56-8ND

This was Nat's primary source of income. Occasionally he would trap a mink. Nat was also an avid turkey hunter.

Bill Davis on his birthday, 1989 May 21 (online item available)

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0054

Digital Object: [Bill Davis on his birthday, May 21, 1989](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 80-15

Bill Davis fleshing out a deer hide, Chatham, Virginia, 1982 (online item available)

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0055

Digital Object: [Bill Davis fleshing out a deer hide, Chatham, Va., 1982.](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 45-30

Bill would tan fresh deer hides to use in his leather work. He made a device which would split a hide into evenly sized strips for braiding. He made belts, sashes, hat bands, watch fobs, key holders, and guitar straps. He also did harness repairs and remade worn out shoes. But the first step in this process was to pick all the flesh off the hide. If left, the bits of flesh would attract insects to eat the hide and leave uncured spots on the finished hide.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Portraits, 1975-2024

Access Restrictions:

Access note. Some materials are electronic records that require special equipment.

Series Overview

Series houses 43 11x14 and 1 9x12 inch black-and-white portraits of individuals taken by photographer Jesse Pyrant Andrews in Virginia and North Carolina, with a few from Tennessee and California. Portrait subjects include men and women, teenagers, and fathers and mothers with their sons, friends of Andrews, musicians, small business owners, and farmers, chiefly from rural areas and small towns in the Piedmont of southern Virginia and northern North Carolina.

Andrews conducted oral history interviews with some of these individuals; the recordings are accessible through digital audio files and are available upon advance request.

A selection of photographs from this series has been digitized and is featured on the Duke Digital Collections website.

As portraiture is one of the photographer's favored formats, additional portraits - sometimes of the same people in this series - are found in other series.

Processing Information:

Photographs are arranged in order as received. Original titles, captions, and negative identifiers as assigned by the photographer have been retained. Each print has also been assigned an institutional identifier.

Mark Aaron, Esmont, Virginia, 2003

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0132

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 65-8

Mark Aaron, Callands, Virginia, 2001

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0133

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 147-9

Stewart Werner and his son Stewart Werner Jr.,
Halifax, Virginia, 2007

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0134

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 116-6

Rud Shupik, Callands, Virginia, 2002

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0135

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 57-14

Rud Shupik, Riceville, Virginia, 2001

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0136

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 2-15

Moira Riser, Pelham, North Carolina, 2003

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0137

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 4-3

John Riser, Pelham, North Carolina, 2003

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0138

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 14-7

Rachael Martin, Halifax, Virginia, 2008

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0139

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 123-8

Giles Motley, Pittsylvania County, Virginia, 1998

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0140

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 41-14

Watermelon vendor, Tightsqueeze, Virginia,
1992 Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0141

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 86-27

Richard Stoner and his mother, Beatrice Stoner,
2004 Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0142

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 106-12

Jerry Smith and his mother, Norma Smith, 2003 Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0143

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 4x5-9

David Crowder, near Crossville, Tennessee,
1977 August (online item available) Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0115

Digital Object: [David Crowder](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 40-33.

He picked me up hitchhiking.

Image is also available in digital format through the Duke Libraries digital collections (link below).

Fox and Willie May Hold, near Crossville,
Tennessee, 1977 August (online item available) Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0116

Digital Object: [Fox and Willie May Holt](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 40-13. Image is also available in digital format through the Duke Libraries digital collections (link below).

Crystal Graber, Ontario, California, 1992 (online
item available) Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0117

Digital Object: [Crystal Graber, Ontario Cal., 1992](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 88-21_A. Image is also available in digital format through the Duke Libraries digital collections (link below).

Helen Marshall at Forest Home, Blanch, North Carolina, 1997 (online item available) Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0118

Digital Object: [Helen Marshall at Forest Home, Blanch, N.C., 1977](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 4x5-24. Image is also available in digital format through the Duke Libraries digital collections (link below).

Holly Hernandsen, Pelham, North Carolina, 2002 October (online item available) Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0120

Digital Object: [Holly Hernandsen, Pelham, N.C., Oct. 2002](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 3-49. Image is also available in digital format through the Duke Libraries digital collections (link below).

Dirk and Jack, Marshall, Virginia, 1977 June Box 7 > Image RL00043-P-0150

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 42-44

Sadie Conklin, Ontario, California, 1977 August Box 7 > Image RL00043-P-0151

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 63-7

Ms. Conklin was born in 1884 in Conklin, California, where she lived her entire life. Her father "came to California in a covered wagon." Regrettably I have made no recordings of her.

Joe Thompson at home, Mebane, North Carolina, 2003 Box 10 > Image RL00043-P-0194

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 104-9

Born in 1919, Joe Thompson was the last of his generation to play American "old time" music, in a style which evolved among black musicians in the rural South as far back as the antebellum years. Joe's playing had a unique sound and rhythm, shaped by his association with older musicians in his childhood and by continuing to play with other black "old time" musicians throughout his life. His cousin Odell played banjo with him until his death. Joe Thompson was a veteran of WWII. Trained as a bulldozer operator, he told me that he "built roads and buried bodies from Normandy to Berlin." He worked in the

former White Furniture factory in Mebane until his retirement. He died in 2012.

Gary Lynch, Franklin County, Virginia, 2018
January 7

Box 12 > Image RL00043-
P-0203

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0041 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0041.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0042 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0042.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 172-16.

Gary Lynch grew up hard on a Franklin County tobacco farm. His father made white liquor and was in and out of jail. Gary was very much influenced by his grandmother, who taught him to love gardening and farming. He later earned a BS in horticulture and has been very successful with that career.

Oral history accompanies this print.

George P. Hunt, Jr. (Toby), South Boston,
Virginia, 2017 December 6

Box 12 > Image RL00043-
P-0204

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0039 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0039.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0040 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0040.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 172-11.

George Hunt's father was editor of Life magazine from 1960-1968. During this time, Toby worked in the photo lab and equipment room of the magazine and often accompanied Life photographers on assignments as an assistant. He knew the great photographers of that era, Eugene Smith, Ralph Morse, Larry Burroughs, and others.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Couple at family reunion, Whittles, Virginia,
2016 June

Box 12 > Image RL00043-
P-0212

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 162-3

Bill Jenkins, Rice, Virginia, 2017-2018

Box 12 > Image RL00043-
P-0213
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0028 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0028.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0029 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0029.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0030 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0030.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-
SET-CD0031.MP3 > Audio-file
RL00043-CD-0031.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-
SET-CD0032.MP3 > Audio-file
RL00043-CD-0032.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-
SET-CD0033.MP3 > Audio-file
RL00043-CD-0033.wav

Physical Description: 7 items
1 print; 6 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 170-31

Since 1964, Bill Jenkins has operated Jenkin's Blue and Gray Wayside, a general/convenience store established by his grandfather in the 1950s. Bill is an exceptionally friendly man who has met and befriended people from all over the world while operating the store. He is a fascinating story teller and loves talking about the people he has met as well as his dedication to and involvement in his community. Stores like Jenkin's and people of Bill's open and accepting nature are fast becoming a part of history.

Two-part oral history accompanies this print, conducted by Andrews on September 22, 2017 (RL00043-CD-0028 to -0030) and February 13, 2018 (RL00043-CD-0031 to -0033).

Bob Cage at his farm, Shanti, Halifax County, Virginia, 2011 July

Box 12 > Image RL00043-P-0214

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 145-28

Bob Cage grew up in Halifax, Virginia, serving in the Marine Corps during WW2. He later became a nationally ranked tennis player, and won the world's championship tobacco auctioneering contest in 1984. He was a prolific painter and sculptor, working primarily with found materials. His paintings and sculptures can be seen around Halifax and South Boston. He was a key figure in the fight against uranium mining in Virginia. He died in 2014 at age 91.

Armin Barnett, Halifax County, Virginia, 2019 June

Box 14 > Image RL00043-P-0229

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0073 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0073.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0074 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0074.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0075 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0075.wav

Physical Description: 4 items
1 print; 3 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 177-7.

Armin Barrett, born in Chicago and educated at the University of Virginia, returned to Chicago and served a four year apprenticeship in violin making at Kenneth Warren and Son, a long established instrument making shop. He opened his own shop in Seattle in 1977 and continues now to repair and make violins, violas and cellos. An accomplished musician in the Irish-American genre as well as American "old time" music, Armin primarily plays fiddle, but also banjo and guitar. He knows and has played with the most

famous players in the world. A longtime friend, Armin is possessed of a wonderful sense of humor and a direct but compelling nature.

Oral history interview accompanies this print.

Armin Barrett and Kinney Rorrer, Blairs,
Virginia, 2019 June

Box 14 > Image RL00043-
P-0230

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 177-24

Kinney Rorrer is a historian and musicologist. Posey Rorrer, his great uncle, was the fiddle player in Charlie Poole's band the New North Carolina Ramblers, who recorded hit records for Victor in the 1920s. Kinney plays banjo in the style of Charlie Poole, and the banjo he is holding (which he plays regularly) belonged to Charlie Poole.

Armin Barrett and his partner, Shierry
Nicholsen, 2019 May

Box 14 > Image RL00043-
P-0231

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 177-18

Armin Barrett and his partner Shierry Nicholsen, a psychoanalyst, live in Seattle.

Apprenti boulanger (Elise Lloyd), 2018

Box 14 > Image RL00043-
P-0232

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 174-15

Claude Dewey Boswell, Pittsylvania County,
Virginia, 1975

Box 14 > Image RL00043-
P-0233

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 84-39

Dewey Boswell was my maternal grandmother's brother, the youngest of five, born in 1899. During Prohibition he made and sold white liquor. He played clawhammer banjo in an "old time" band that he and his brothers formed before World War I. Later he farmed and worked as a housepainter.

Frank Joseph Wilcosky, Jr. and his brother,
Timothy Wilcosky, Chapel Hill, North Carolina,
2020 August

Box 16 > Image RL00043-
P-0246

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 180-12

Joe and Tim have been very close since childhood. Tim earned his undergraduate degree from Duke University in zoology in 1971. He then earned a degree from Ohio State University in Preventive Medicine, followed by his degree in Public Medicine (epidemiology) from UNC. Tim worked as an epidemiologist until his retirement.

Dr. Ralph Stanley on his tour bus, Ferrum,
Virginia, 2001 October

Box 16 > Image RL00043-
P-0247

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 31-19A

Roddy Moore, director of the Blue Ridge Institute at Ferrum College, asked me to photograph Ralph Stanley while he and his band were playing at the Ferrum folklife festival. This photograph was taken on his bus after he had played an hour-long show outside in freezing weather under an open sided tent. He was not happy that he was expected to play under such conditions and was warming himself with a down comforter before autographing CDs. He said, however, that after so many years on the road, he had come to expect just about anything and that he was looking forward to a more comfortable venue at his next concert in Tallahassee, Florida the following day.

Rud Shupik, Callands, Virginia, 2001

Box 16 > Image RL00043-
P-0248

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 46-35.

Rud Shupik plays Delta blues and rhythm and blues. He also operates an organic farm where he raises hogs and chickens which he sells at farmer's markets.

Wyatt Oakes and his sister, Virginia Oakes
Edwards at their homeplace, Callands, Virginia,
2001

Box 16 > Image RL00043-
P-0249

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 67-44

Wyatt Oakes farmed tobacco on his family farm in the Callands community of Pittsylvania County, Virginia. He served in the Korean conflict as an infantryman, 1952-53. He would never consent to an oral history but was a great neighbor and grew beautiful tobacco. Mr. Oakes introduced me to Rogers Royal, another local tobacco farmer who still cured his tobacco with wood - the last farmer in Pittsylvania County to do so. (See portraits of Royal in the Virginia series)

William Calvin Bennett, Jr. at Mountain View
plantation, Tightsqueeze, Virginia, 2020
September 19

Box 17 > Image RL00043-
P-0265

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 181-6

Bill was a close friend of both Steve Law and his father Jim Law, owners of Mountain View. He is now helping the new owners with their restoration efforts of the main house and the outbuildings in keeping with their original state.

Tony Young at home on his 60th birthday, 2020
July 5

Box 17 > Image RL00043-
P-0266

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 183-5

Tony was in an automobile accident at age 16 and spent two years in recovery. He was told he would never walk again, but he defied that prognosis and has been self-sufficient for many years. He worked with The Music Maker Foundation, promoting blues musicians including Boo Hanks and John D. Holeman, among others.

Beth Hartness and Adam Hurt, Danville,
Virginia, 2020 February 12

Box 17 > Image RL00043-
P-0267
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0094 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0094.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0095 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0095.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0096 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0096.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0097.mp3 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0097.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0098.mp3 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0098.wav

Physical Description: 6 items
1 print; 5 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 179-32

Well known in the world of American old time music, Beth and Adam both work to promote that genre through seminars and performances all over the world. Adam also teaches 50 students fiddle and banjo, primarily on Skype. Both are very talented and great musicians.

Oral history interview accompanies this print.

Harold Young, 2022 July 5

Box 18 > Image RL00043-P-0275
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0099 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0099.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0100 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0100.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav) Print sheet: 9x12 inches

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 189-19.

Born in 1943, Harold Young grew up on his family's tobacco farm near Virgilina, Virginia. At an early age he learned to love the music made by his relatives and other local musicians...this was American Old Time (as it is now known) and early bluegrass as well as gospel. He attended dances with his parents at the local American Legion Post, where he heard local musicians and got to know them. He learned to play and sing gospel music in his church. He began playing guitar and banjo around age 12, and spent as much time as he could with the community musicians, learning to play.

In 1965, he married Nancy Wilson, whose father, Asa Wilson, was a well known local fiddler and banjo player. He also listed Ralph Elliott and R.D.

Snead as important teachers. In 1980 he formed his band, Harold Young and Friends, playing and singing bluegrass and gospel music. They performed together for 16 years, during which time they produced two CDs and played on numerous radio and television shows. They played at more than 300 funerals as well as at church services, sometimes travelling long distances to do so. They never charged for playing at funerals or church services.

Harold Young died one month to the day after this oral history recording was made. He knew hundreds of songs, proficiently played guitar, banjo, mandolin, fiddle, and bass. At the time of his death he was mentoring his eight year old grandson, Crue Young, teaching him guitar and mandolin. Harold was always welcoming, always smiling...always ready to "scrub one off" (play a tune). He was one of the most spiritually graceful people I have ever known. He touched thousands of people with his music.

Oral history interview accompanies this print.

Christine Garren, 1992

Box 18 > Image RL00043-
P-0276

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 59-12. Print measures 12 7/8 x 10 1/4 inches.

Poet Christine Garren won the Poetry Magazine (University of Chicago Press) Phoenix First Book award for her collection "Afterworld", published in June, 1993. She asked me to make the cover photograph for that book, and sat for this portrait that same day. She has since published two other volumes of poetry, "Among the Monarchs" and "The Piercing". She lives in Greensboro, N.C.

George Riser, 2022 March 31

Box 18 > Image RL00043-
P-0277

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 188-18. Print measures 11x14 inches.

George Riser worked for over thirty years as a rare books specialist in the Special Collections department in the Alderman Library at the University of Virginia. He lives in Covesville, Virginia. An earlier photograph of Riser is located in the Virginia series of this collection.

George Riser and Mark Aaron at the old koi pond, 2023 June

Box 20 > Image RL00043-
P-0303

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 198-12

George Riser and Clem at the new koi pond,
2024 August

Box 20 > Image RL00043-
P-0304

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 199-11

Garland Anthony Lowery and his grandson,
Garland Maximus Shelton, Maple Grove Farm,
Halifax Co., Va., 2024 September 12

Box 20 > Image RL00043-
P-0305

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 195-10

Stewart Werner and his son, Stewart, Jr., at the
25th anniversary music gathering, Halifax Co.,
Va., 2024 November 16

Box 20 > Image RL00043-
P-0306

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: 201-20

Both Stewart and Stewie are professional musicians. Stewart has toured with the Harwell-Grice band and Stewie has toured with his own band. Stewie is now a candidate for admission at the Berklee School of Music in Boston, Mass. Part of the Local Musicians project.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Train Project, View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010 (online item available)

[View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010, Image 1](#) [View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010, Image 2](#) [View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010, Image 3](#) [View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010, Image 4](#) [View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010, Image 5](#) [View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010, Image 6](#) [View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010, Image 7](#) [View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010, Image 8](#) [View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010, Image 9](#) [View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010, Image 10](#)

[#147, 2010, Image 11 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 12 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 13 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 14 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 15 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 16 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 17 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 18 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 19 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 20 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 21 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 22 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 23 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 24 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 25 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 26 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 27 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 28 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 29 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 30 View from Amtrak Northeast Regional, Train #147, 2010,](#)
[Image 31](#)

Scope and Contents note

These 31 11x14 inch black-and-white images were taken by photographer Jesse Pyrant Andrews on November 19, 2010 during a train trip from New York City to Lynchburg, Virginia. Chiefly taken from the windows of the moving train, the images capture overpasses, traffic, graffiti, residential neighborhoods, train stations, and other urban landscapes. A few shots focus on train passengers and there is one of a railroad worker on the tracks, as well as the photographer's self-portrait.

Many of these images were digitized and are featured on the Duke Digital Collections website.

Processing Information:

Prints are arranged in order as received and are untitled; descriptions in brackets have been supplied by library staff. All of the photographs were printed in a traditional darkroom in 2011 and 2012. Original negative identifiers assigned by the photographer have been retained; each print also has been given an institutional identifier.

[Tracks underneath power lines], 2010 Nov. 19 Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0056

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_110_3A_4

[Boat on large river, bridge in distance], 2010
Nov. 19

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0057

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_110_33

[Graffiti reading "Depression"], 2010 Nov. 19 Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0058

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_108_24

[Woman sleeping in window seat on train], 2010
Nov. 19 Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0059

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_111_1A

[Graffiti beneath highway pillars], 2010 Nov. 19 Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0060

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_109_12A

[Houses and street with white car], 2010 Nov.
19 Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0061

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_110_21A

[Cars on highway and graffiti], 2010 Nov. 19 Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0062

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_109_30A

[Large graffiti on factory wall], 2010 Nov. 19 Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0063

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_108_17

[Large river and cars on highway], 2010 Nov. 19 Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0064

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_108_37

[Bare trees and field beyond], 2010 Nov. 19 Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0065

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_111_6

[Tall grasses and weeds underneath highway from moving train], 2010 Nov. 19

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0066

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_111_7

[Cemetery and trees from moving train], 2010 Nov. 19

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0067

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_111_30A

[River and trees next to tracks], 2010 Nov. 19

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0068

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_111_7A_8

[Tracks and white structure with graffiti beneath overpass], 2010 Nov. 19

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0069

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_111_25A_26

[Abandoned building with many glass windows], 2010 Nov. 19

Box 3 > Image RL00043-P-0070

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_108_15

["Sale Lease" sign behind wire], 2010 Nov. 19

Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0071

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_109_6A

[Fence and clouds framed by interior train window], 2010 Nov. 19

Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0072

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_111_36

[Narrow tree-lined canal and buildings beyond, from overpass], 2010 Nov. 19 Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0073

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_108_27

[White wall with graffiti, factories in distance], 2010 Nov. 19 Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0074

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_108_30

[Street with parked cars and church], 2010 Nov. 19 Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0075

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_108_19

[Crane and houses behind sheet metal fence with graffiti], 2010 Nov. 19 Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0076

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_108_25

[Globe Dye Works sign on factory roof behind trees], 2010 Nov. 19 Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0077

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_108_24

[Line of attached houses, tracks in foreground], 2010 Nov. 19 Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0078

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_111_13A

[Graffiti on wall, trees and power lines beyond], 2010 Nov. 19 Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0079

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_108_16

[Stone prison-like structure with corner tower, barbed wire fence], 2010 Nov. 19 Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0080

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_108_14

[Highway ramp and avenue running through town], 2010 Nov. 19

Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0081

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_108_20

[Overhead view of tree-lined tracks], 2010 Nov. 19

Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0082

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_108_36

[Worker on railroad bridge with street beyond], 2012 Mar. 23

Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0083

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_111_19A_20

[City station ramp with fence, opaque roof with arches], 2010 November 19

Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0084

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_109_5A

[Large covered train station platform with white stool], 2010 November 19

Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0085

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_109_14A

[Reflection of photographer's face on interior train window], 2010 November 19

Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0086

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA_LAL_111_20A_21

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Virginia, 1975-2016

Access Restrictions:

Access note. Some materials are electronic records that require special equipment.

Processing Information:

Photographs are arranged in order as received. Original titles, captions, and negative identifiers as assigned by the photographer have been retained. Each print has also been assigned an institutional identifier.

Series Overview

This series houses 76 11x14 inch black-and-white photographs taken mainly in the Halifax, Virginia area; other locations include the towns of Danville and Virgilina, and various locations in Franklin and Pittsylvania Counties. Andrews conducted oral history interviews with some of the individuals; these are available in the form of digital audio files upon advance request.

Many of the portraits form part of the Carter-Wooding Project and are primarily of farmers. Additional subjects include small business operators, townspeople, musicians, and rural farms and landscapes.

A note from the photographer on the the Carter-Wooding project: "The Carter-Wooding project is something I started in the late 1990s, documenting the 'old Carter farm' in Halifax County, where I now live. The property was originally a 5000-acre land grant from King George, divided into five parcels and given to the five (then) Carter brothers. As was common at that time, the Woodings and Carters intermarried over several generations, thus the name. The Woodings were prominent early settlers in both Halifax and Pittsylvania Counties. The Carters were prominent Virginia settlers since the beginning. The land grant extended from the Banister river, which borders the north side of Halifax (town), northward up what is now Rt. 501. It was probably little more than a footpath then. There are two fragments of the land grant remaining, one of them being a 200 acre parcel (the old Carter farm) and another smaller parcel located about a mile north of the other. One of them is owned by a friend of mine, who is in one of the photographs in the collection, an image of him standing in the doorway of the pack barn. His father is seated on the step in front of him. His father, Robert Wooding, died in 2004, and took a great deal of history with him. His son, Robbie (my friend) still lives on the farm and still grows a little dark-fired tobacco."

A selection of these prints were digitized and are featured on the Duke Digital Collections website. Links to the digital images are in the series entry for each digitized print.

Reid Carter, Chatham, Virginia, 1976 (online item available)

Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0087

Digital Object: [Reid Carter, Chatham, Va., 1976.](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 52-6

Reid Carter was a mechanic who worked primarily on pulpwood trucks. He lived with his mother in a cabin without running water or electricity. When she died in 1982, at age 100, Reid lost his mind and was committed to a state mental institution in Staunton. He died a few months later.

This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

Tattoo Red's, Danville, Virginia, 1994 (online item available)

Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0088

Digital Object: [Tattoo Red's, Danville, Va., 1994.](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 87-17

Red's was a gathering place for local outlaw bikers, the Scorpions. Red died in 2007.

This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

Lily Savage, Halifax, Virginia, 2007 (online item available)

Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0089

Digital Object: [Lily Savage, Halifax, Va., 2007.](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 97-25. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

Halifax County, Virginia, 2008 (online item available)

Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0090

Digital Object: [Halifax County, Va., 2008.](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 97-25. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

Edwin Wemple, Charlottesville, Virginia, 1976 (online item available)

Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0091

Digital Object: [Edwin Wemple, Charlottesville, Va., 1976.](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 4x5-3

Ed Wemple grew up in Charlottesville, Virginia, and graduated from the University of Virginia. He wandered the country during the depression of the 1930s. He worked as a longshoreman in New York, in lumber camps in Oregon and eventually went to Mexico, where he became a heroin addict. He cured himself by walking from El Paso to the Oklahoma border. He returned to New York, where he lived until 1964, taking in the bohemian and jazz cultures and working at odd jobs. He returned to Charlottesville in 1964 and lived there until his death in 1987. I lived in the same house with him for a year. He had not had a bath in nine years and spent his time reading and sleeping. He went by taxi once a week to the Alderman Library to replenish his book supply. A wonderful man who had endless stories to tell about his life. I regret that I did not record any of our conversations.

This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

Frank Joseph Wilcosky and his son, Frank Joseph Wilcosky, Jr., 2005 (online item available) Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0092
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0002 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0002.wav

Physical Description: 2 items
1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Digital Object: [Frank Joseph Wilcoski and his son, Frank Joseph Wilcoski, Jr. Sept., 2005, Halifax, Va.](#)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 146-53

Print measures 9 7/8 x 7 7/8 inches. Accompanied by oral history recording. Part of the Carter-Wooding project.

Mrs. Maynard Amos, circa 2000-2006 (online item available) Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0094

Digital Object: [Mrs. Maynard Amos](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 51-35

Mrs. Maynard Amos operated Amos' General Store at Callands, Virginia, with her husband until he suffered a stroke in 1999. Since then she has run the store on her own. One of only a handful of such rural businesses still in

operation, it remains a gathering place for local farmers and a source for gasoline, farm supplies, groceries, patent medicines, and just about anything else a person might need.

This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

Giles Herman Motley ("Mud" Motley),
1961-2003, near Climax, Virginia, 1998 August
(online item available)

Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0095

Digital Object: [Giles Herman Motley \("Mud" Motley\) 1961-2003.](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 41-16

Died of alcoholism, October, 2003. A close friend.

This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

Giles Herman Motley at Weal, Virginia, 2002
October (online item available)

Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0096

Digital Object: [Giles Herman Motley](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 49-28. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

James Bianchi, sandwich maker, at the Corner
Deli, Charlottesville, Virginia, 1976 September
(online item available)

Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0097

Digital Object: [James Bianchi, sandwich maker, 1976](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 38-28. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

Rogers Royal holding a stick of cured brightleaf
tobacco, near Climax, Virginia, 2000 (online
item available)

Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0098

Digital Object: [Rogers Royal](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 49-19

He is the last farmer in Pittsylvania County to cure his tobacco with wood. This is practically a lost art, having been replaced almost completely with oil and propane curing by the mid 1970s.

This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

Rogers Royal sitting under a tobacco curing barn shelter at his farm, 2000 October (online item available)

Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0099

Digital Object: [Rogers Royal sitting under a tobacco curing barn shelter at his farm, October 2000.](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 49-22

Born on this farm in 1930, one of sixteen children. His father was killed in a fall from a hay wagon in 1951.

This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

Lawrence Van Witcher (Larry Witcher), 1950-2004, Tomahawk Mill near Climax, Virginia, 1984 July (online item available)

Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0100

Digital Object: [Lawrence Van Witcher \(Larry Witcher\), 1950-2004](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 56-8LW

Larry was the miller at this water-powered grist mill, which had been in continuous operation since the 1870s. He died in 2004 from a heart attack. A lifelong friend.

This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

George Riser, Covesville, Virginia, 2005 January 1 (online item available)

Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0101

Digital Object: [George Riser](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 40-13. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

Parlor dance, Carter farm, Halifax, Virginia,
2006 May (online item available) Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0102

Digital Object: [Parlor dance](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 148-15. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

Part of the Carter-Wooding project.

Parlor dance, Carter farm, Halifax, Virginia,
2006 May (online item available) Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0103

Digital Object: [Parlor dance](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 147-10

Musicians are Glenn Waller, Tim Peade, Ken Peade, and Robert Anderson. The child dancing is Mark Aaron. Part of the Carter-Wooding project.

This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

Chatham Theater, Chatham, Virginia, 1976
(online item available) Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0104

Digital Object: [Chatham Theater, Chatham, Va., 1976](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 44-22. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

Storefront, Brookneal, Virginia [Anointed Hands
Car Care], 2006 March (online item available) Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0105

Digital Object: [Storefront, Brookneal, Va., March 2006](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 14-XX. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

Storefront, Brookneal, Virginia [American flag
reflection], 2006 March (online item available) Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0106

Digital Object: [Storefront, Brookneal, Va., March 2006](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 14-XX. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

Storefront, Brookneal, Virginia [Terra's Beauty Shop and Ron's Barber Shop], 2006 March
(online item available)

Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0107

Digital Object: [Storefront, Brookneal, Va., March 2006](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 14-XX. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

Farm auction, Grit, Virginia, 1976 September
(online item available)

Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0109

Digital Object: [Farm Auction, Grit, Va., Sept, 1976](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/SALES 7-25

This is the McFarland farm. They had become physically unable to continue farming.

This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

William Haskell Egan, Charlottesville, Virginia, 1976 (online item available)

Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0110

Digital Object: [William Haskell Egan, Charlottesville, Va., 1976](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 4x5-15. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

Frank Joseph Wilcosky, Halifax, Virginia, 2008
August

Box 7 > Image RL00043-P-0152
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0001 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0001.wav

Physical Description: 2 items
1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 138-33

Frank Joseph Wilcosky (Wil), was born December 12, 1914 to Polish immigrant parents near Latrobe, Pennsylvania. His father worked in the anthracite coal mines. Mr. Wilcosky truly lived the "rags to riches" American dream. He died in 2009, having amassed a fortune through hard work and his imaginative business sense.

This print is accompanied by an oral history interview.

Earl Link, Alton, Virginia, 2013 September

Box 7 > Image RL00043-P-0153

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 151-16A

Earl Link, a lifelong tobacco farmer, still lives on the farm where he was born in Halifax County, Virginia. He learned to play the fiddle from his uncles, who taught him the American old time fiddle style, which preceded bluegrass. In the 1940s, as bluegrass became more popular, he taught himself to play in that genre. Earl played with many bands for almost 60 years.

Don LaFlamme, Keeling, Virginia, 2014

Box 7 > Image RL00043-P-0155
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0005 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0005.wav

Physical Description: 2 items

1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 151-28A

Don LaFlamme has been making custom muzzleloading rifles and pistols for over 40 years. The guns he makes are highly prized works of art as well as functional firearms.

An oral history interview accompanies this print.

Clifford Kinney Rorrer, Danville, Virginia, 2015
June

Box 8 > Image RL00043-P-0160
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0007 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0007.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0008 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0008.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0009 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0009.wav

Physical Description: 4 items
1 print; 3 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 160-9

Kinney Rorrer lives in Southern Virginia and is a teacher, historian, and musician. He is a well known authority on the history of "country music" and has a collection of approximately 2500 78 RPM records of early country, blues, and gospel music recorded in the 1920s and 1930s.

An oral history interview accompanies this print.

Abandoned tobacco curing barn, Pittsylvania
County, Virginia, 2015 July

Box 8 > Image RL00043-P-0162

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 150-15

This curing barn is unusual in that it is built with a cinderblock foundation and with framed walls, as opposed to the traditional log-bodied structures that typically had foundations of field stones, with mud daubing between the logs. This barn had been covered with cement stucco, much of which has fallen off, revealing cured but badly deteriorated tobacco still hanging from the tier poles inside. The sign in front of the barn reflects the sentiments of many of the citizens of Pittsylvania County, as well as surrounding counties, in response to the efforts of Walter Coles to convince the state legislature to allow him to mine a potential 119,000,000 pound deposit of uranium that lies under his land, on the Colonial-era estate known as Coles Hill, located about fifteen miles northwest of where this barn stands.

For additional history notes, please refer to the caption list in the box containing this print.

Tractor accident, Rice, Virginia, 1998

Box 8 > Image RL00043-P-0163

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 83-9

Mary Lou Wood waits with her son, "Little Man" to learn the fate of her husband, Doug Wood, after he turned over a huge tractor while bush-hogging on an embankment a few minutes earlier. The owner of the dairy farm on which the Woods worked as tenants was on his way to the scene of the accident. Miraculously, Doug Wood was not seriously injured but the tractor

was badly damaged. Farming is dangerous business. The Woods family left Rice for West Virginia soon after this event took place.

Abandoned satellite dish, Shooting Creek Road,
Franklin County, Virginia, 2015 May

Box 8 > Image RL00043-P-0164

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 150-17

Franklin County, Virginia, has long enjoyed the dubious, albeit somewhat romantic reputation as the "moonshine capitol of the world." Franklin County is where the now fabled "moonshine conspiracy" took place in the 1930s, the subject of Dr. Charles Thompson's book *Spirits of Just Men*. During that time almost everyone in the county was involved in one way or another in the production of white liquor, everyone from the county sheriff all the way down to small children, who often acted as lookouts and laborers at the numerous stills that dotted the mountainsides, well hidden in the rhododendron and mountain laurel groves. Shooting Creek Road (State Route 860) was where many of the stills were located, and runs for several miles between Rocky Mount, the county seat of Franklin County, and Floyd County, located to the west.

For additional history notes, please refer to the caption list in the box containing this print.

Mrs. Inez Young and her grandson, Tony Young,
Virgilina, Virginia, 2015 January

Box 8 > Image RL00043-P-0165
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0012 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0012.wav

Physical Description: 2 items
1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 157-11

Mrs. Young had recently celebrated her 97th birthday. She was still living by herself and "keeping house" when this photograph was made.

An oral history interview accompanies this print.

Sam Thompson, Halifax, Virginia, 2015
February

Box 8 > Image RL00043-P-0166

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0013 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0013.wav

Physical Description: 2 items
1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 157-31

Sam Thompson can make anything out of wood. He has been a woodworker since high school, and his work encompasses every style, from simple cabinetry to the most ornate Williamsburg reproductions. This is a part of the Halifax project.

An oral history accompanies this print.

Steven Schopen, Halifax, Virginia, 2015
December

Box 8 > Image RL00043-P-0168
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0014 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0014.wav

Physical Description: 2 items
1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 162-11

Chef Steve Schopen opened the Molasses Grill restaurant in Halifax, Virginia in 2005, and has had ten very successful years as owner and head chef of that business. Born in Kent, England, in 1957, Steve has cooked all over the world. Schooled in the classic French style, he went on to learn many different styles of cooking at the restaurants in which he worked as a cook, finally earning the title "Chef" after coming to the United States in 1983. This is part of the Halifax project.

An oral history accompanies this print.

Mildred and George Christo, Danville, Virginia,
1978

Box 8 > Image RL00043-P-0169

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 38-19

Mildred and George Christo operated the Busy Bee Café in the Schoolfield district of Danville, Virginia until its closing in 1993. The Busy Bee was first

opened in 1912 by Mildred's uncle Gus James, an immigrant from Cyprus who became an American citizen.

For additional history notes, please refer to the caption list in the box containing this print.

Bill and Darnell Abbott, Halifax, Virginia, 2016 Box 8 > Image RL00043-P-0170
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0010 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0010.wav

Physical Description: 2 items
1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 163-15

Owners and operators of Abbott Farm Supply in Halifax, Virginia since 1980.
Part of the Halifax project.

An oral history accompanies this print.

Herman Martin, Danville, Virginia, 2016 Box 8 > Image RL00043-P-0171
January

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 163-18

Mr. Martin celebrated his 90th birthday February 3 of 2016. Born in the Calloway community of Franklin County, Virginia, he moved to Danville, Virginia, at age 15 to work in the Dan River Cotton Mill. He lost his right arm in a hunting accident when he was 16, but continued to work at Dan River until his retirement in 1990. Before losing his arm he had been an accomplished guitar player, playing what is now referred to as "American old time music." After the accident, he learned to play the same tunes on harmonica, and continues to play three or four times a week with friends. He knows many of the old fiddle tunes and has a wonderful musical style, sometimes playing two harmonicas at one time to accommodate key changes in a particular tune.

Floyd Sutphin, South Boston, Virginia, 2016 Box 10 > Image RL00043-
August P-0172
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0016 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0016.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0017 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0017.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 166-13

At age fourteen, Floyd Sutphin left the farm near South Boston, Virginia, where he was born, and migrated to Atlantic City, New Jersey, where he got work in the kitchen of a large hotel. At sixteen, he moved to Manhattan and settled in Harlem, where he again worked in a hotel kitchen. At eighteen, he and a partner opened the DeLuxe Barbeque Restaurant on 146th St. at 7th Ave. He operated that business for twenty years before moving back to South Boston to care for his elderly parents.

An oral history interview accompanies this print.

Stewart Werner, Halifax County, Virginia, 2006
September

Box 10 > Image RL00043-
P-0173

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 119-13

Stewart is a close friend and a wonderful musician. His intuitive and interpretive playing sets him apart from other banjo players. He is also a virtuoso guitarist. Stewart is currently playing with the Harwell-Grice band.

John Baker Wilcosky (Jack), Halifax County,
Virginia, 2016 February

Box 10 > Image RL00043-
P-0174

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 164-5

Jack is the older brother of Joe and Tim Wilcosky and second son of Frank Joseph Wilcosky (see his portrait and the oral histories in the collection).

Mike Vaughn and Jessica South, Ringgold,
Virginia, 2016 August

Box 10 > Image RL00043-
P-0177
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0018 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0018.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0019 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0019.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0020 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0020.wav

Physical Description: 4 items
1 print; 3 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 165-15

Mike and Jessica have owned and operated Blue Moon Tattoo and Piercing in Ringgold, Virginia for the past sixteen years.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Kenneth Hawks, Halifax, Virginia, 2016 July

Box 10 > Image RL00043-P-0178

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 165-20

Kenneth Hawks is owner and operator of the Guns and Stuff gun store in Halifax.

Robert Wooding cutting tobacco plants for spiking, 2014 September

Box 10 > Image RL00043-P-0179

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 123-16

Robbie still grows "dark-fired" tobacco, a variety called Lizard Tail. Unlike flue-cured tobacco (Brightleaf), which is harvested leaf by leaf, dark-fired tobacco plants are cut low to the ground and the entire plant impaled on a standard tobacco stick, several plants to a stick. The sticks are then hung on the tier poles of the curing barn, just as with flue-cured tobacco. Once the barn is full, several small, smoldering fires are built on the interior dirt floor and the barn is shut up as tightly as possible. Robbie makes these fires of hickory and cedar wood. The heat and smoke from these fires dries and flavors the tobacco, a three or four day process. The result is dark-colored leaves and a strong smoky taste when the tobacco is smoked or chewed. Robbie sells some of his crop and sets aside a portion for his own use. Dark-fired tobacco has become less and less common since the industrialization of tobacco farming in the 1990s.

Part of the Carter-Wooding project.

Danny Newton loading sticks of Lizard Tail tobacco onto the truck for transport to the curing barn, Halifax County, Virginia, 2014 September

Box 10 > Image RL00043-P-0180

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 114-36

Danny is Robert Wooding's brother-in-law, married to Robbie's younger sister, Susan, who is handing Danny the sticks. Danny raises Bright Leaf tobacco and cattle near Nelson, Virginia. I have never seen Danny in a bad humor.

Interior of curing barn, old Carter farm, Halifax County, Virginia, 2014 September

Box 10 > Image RL00043-P-0181

Scope and Contents

Original print number: JA/LAL 115-14

Here are the small fires Robert Wooding sets in the barn to cure his dark-fired tobacco. Part of the smoke necessarily escapes from the cracks and holes in the barn, sometimes giving the mistaken impression that the barn is afire. When the growing of dark-fired tobacco was more common, fire departments sometimes got false calls reporting a burning barn.

Part of the Carter-Wooding project.

Robert Wooding plowing his garden beside the old Carter farm home, 2012

Box 10 > Image RL00043-P-0182

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 125-27

The Carter house was built in three sections, the first (middle) section around 1790. The front section was added about 1840, and the kitchen, a log-bodied room, was added in 1886. Legend has it that the huge rock chimneys flanking the original section were built by a woman, although her name is long forgotten. Robbie's grandmother, Elizabeth Carter, was the last permanent resident of the house. Robbie still uses the kitchen. The rest of the house is used as a guest house and family gathering place.

Part of the Carter-Wooding project.

Kitchen, old Carter farmhouse, 2016 January

Box 10 > Image RL00043-
P-0183

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 154-16

Part of the Carter-Wooding project.

Hallway, old Carter farmhouse, 2016 January

Box 10 > Image RL00043-
P-0184

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 154-4

Part of the Carter-Wooding project.

Farm sale, Easley farm, Pittsylvania County,
Virginia, 1976 October

Box 10 > Image RL00043-
P-0185

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/FA 7-1.

This was the first farm sale I photographed. This sale was of the Easley homeplace, where my ancestor Pyrant Easley, born in 1742, settled and built his home in 1772, after leaving Halifax County, Virginia, where he originally settled around 1764. He was a son of John Easley, who settled in Cumberland County, Virginia, circa 1735. The Easleys were Huguenots who fled France in the late 1600s, after Louis XIV revoked, in 1685, the Treaty of Nantes, which had granted vast privileges to the Huguenots. More than 10,000 Huguenots left France for America at that time. Pyrant Easley the elder died in 1816, leaving the home and several hundred acres of land to his son, also named Pyrant, born 1805. The younger Pyrant's grandson, Robert Henry Easley, was my grandfather. Robert's brother, Jesse Pyrant Easley, for whom I am named, was living in the original homeplace on the farm when he died in 1975 at age 91, leaving no will. Consequently, the farm was sold at public auction. A cousin bought the property at the sale, and so it remains in the family still. No one now lives in the original house, but it is being well maintained by the family. It is one of two early homes in Pittsylvania County that were built in an "H" configuration. The Pittsylvania Easleys have always farmed tobacco, and continue to do so even now.

Farm sale, Pearson farm, Climax, Virginia, 2004

Box 10 > Image RL00043-
P-0186

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/FA 21-5A.

Originally settled by John Richmond Pearson. He married Alsee Boswell, born 1883. Alsee was the older sister of my maternal grandmother, Vivian Boswell, born 1903. Vivian married Robert Easley in 1920 (see notes regarding the Easley farm sale). The Pearsons had eleven children, most of whom stayed on the farm and raised tobacco. One son, Thomas was killed when he was struck by lightning while plowing with a mule. John and Alsee's children are all deceased, although some descendants still live on the farm. Tobacco is no longer grown on that land. The homeplace, scene of this photograph, burned to the ground in April, 2016.

William Haskell Egan III, a longtime friend, at his home near Charlottesville, Virginia, 1975

Box 10 > Image RL00043-P-0190

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 169-5

Norma Reed Smith, 2003

Box 10 > Image RL00043-P-0191

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 99-6

Born in Sparta, N.C., in 1917, Norma moved with her family to Danville, Virginia, at age 5. She began working at the Dan River Fabric Mill in 1932, at age fifteen. After seven years she was assigned to work in the spinning room, where she worked for the next forty years. She married Oscar Smith in 1946 and raised two sons, Jerry and Dennis. Norma died 7 November, 2005.

Jerry Donald Smith, 1987

Box 10 > Image RL00043-P-0192

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 61-17

Eldest son of Norma and Oscar Smith. A writer, currently living in Danville, Virginia.

James Matthew Aaron on his 65th birthday, Callands, Virginia, 2012 December 7

Box 10 > Image RL00043-P-0193

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 133-24

Born in 1947, Jim was the eldest son of Matthew Lafayette Aaron (see entry for earlier image). Because of a difficult birth, Jim was delivered with forceps, resulting in his having a minor deformity of his eyes. He also walked with a slight limp. Because the other children made fun of him, his father took him out of school after the first grade. He became his father's shadow and learned farming - how to grow a crop of tobacco, how to raise cattle, how to repair cars and machinery. Jim had an unfailing memory for details and loved Nascar and working with horses. After Mr. Aaron's death, Jim's health began to decline, and he died of congestive heart failure in 2015.

Claude Swanson Shelton, Gretna, Virginia, 1976

Box 10 > Image RL00043-
P-0195

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 43-4

Born in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, in 1892, "Swannie" Shelton was my grandmother's first boyfriend. He played the fiddle and banjo, and, along with my grandmother's four brothers, had a string band. They played at house parties, dances, corn huskings, barn raisings, and weddings...just about any occasion that called for music, playing what we now know as "old time." The band broke up when Giles Boswell, my grandmother's brother, who, according to Swannie, was "a first-rate fiddle player," was killed in France at the second battle of Verdun. In the 1970s, my grandmother and I often visited Swannie at his barber shop in Gretna, where we would play a few tunes and the two of them would talk about "the old days." Swannie died in 1982. The street in Gretna where he had lived for years was named "Music Street" in his honor.

Floyd Martin Fox, Sr., Weal, Virginia, 1980

Box 10 > Image RL00043-
P-0196

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 61-4

Floyd Fox was born in 1905. He farmed for a while as a young man, then went to work on a railroad construction crew. When he injured himself in a fall from a bridge, he returned to the farm and opened a store "on the road" in 1932. He sold farm supplies, seed, fertilizer, food, had a bar with slot machines, and sold gasoline. He used to boast that he had the oldest ABC license in Virginia. He extended credit to his farmer neighbors, and when the CCC established a camp nearby, his business became a popular place for the

men in the camp to come and relax in the evening... [see inventory in box for more details]

Robbie Wooding in his garden, Carter-Wooding Farm, 2008

Box 19 > Image RL00043-P-0292

Terry Andrews at the Carter-Wooding Farm, 2009 May

Box 19 > Image RL00043-P-0293

Hardwick Spencer, 2014 September

Box 19 > Image RL00043-P-0294

Harold Gene Riddle, Halifax Co., Va., 2013 October

Box 19 > Image RL00043-P-0295

Jesse James Lowery (L) and Garland Andrew Lowery at Maple Grove, 2023 May 22

Box 19 > Image RL00043-P-0296

Thomas Jones at Mt. View Plantation, 2018

Box 19 > Image RL00043-P-0297

Abandoned farmhouse, Callands, Va., 2023 August

Box 19 > Image RL00043-P-0298

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Burlington Mills, 2013-2016

Access Restrictions:

Access note. Some materials are electronic records that require special equipment.

Series Overview

These seven black-and-white portraits by photographer Jesse Andrews and the four oral histories that accompany them form part of the Burlington Mills Project, which documents the lives of former employees of a Halifax, Virginia textile mill, and how they and their community have been affected by the mill's closure in 2002.

The oral history interview recordings are in the form of digital audio files and are available upon advance request.

Processing Information:

Photographs are arranged in order as received. Original titles, captions, and negative identifiers as assigned by the photographer have been retained. Each print has also been assigned an institutional identifier.

Burlington Mill site, Halifax, Virginia, prior to demolition, 2013

Box 7 > Image RL00043-P-0156

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/BUR 1-6

Parking lot, Burlington Mills fabric plant, Halifax, Virginia, 2013 September

Box 7 > Image RL00043-P-0157

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 145-33

Cissy Tingen Martin and Geneva Andrews, Halifax, Virginia, 2014 January

Box 7 > Image RL00043-P-0158
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0015 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0015.wav

Physical Description: 2 items
1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/BUR 1-6

Cissy Martin and Geneva Andrews both worked at the Burlington Mills plant in Halifax, Virginia. Ms. Martin now works as a hair stylist. Ms. Andrews drives a bus for the Halifax County school system.

Two oral history interview sessions on one digital audio file accompany this print.

Lott Rogers, Halifax, Virginia, 2014 February

Box 7 > Image RL00043-P-0159
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0003 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0003.wav

Physical Description: 2 items
1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/BUR 1-8

Lott Rogers, now a financial consultant in Halifax, Virginia, was the plant manager at the Halifax Burlington Mills fabric plant when that plant closed in 2002.

This print is accompanied by an oral history interview.

Frank Lee, Halifax, Virginia, 2015 September

Box 8 > Image RL00043-P-0167
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0011 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0011.wav

Physical Description: 2 items
1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 162-23

Frank Lee worked in as the Human Resources manager at the Burlington Mills fabric plant in Halifax from 1969 until 1977. This is part of the Burlington project.

An oral history accompanies this print.

Mae Moorefield, South Boston, Virginia, 2016
January

Box 10 > Image RL00043-
P-0175

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 164-15

Ninety-three year-old Mae Moorefield went to work at the Halifax Damask mill at age 15, where she trained as a weaver. When Burlington Mills opened their Halifax plant in 1948 she went to work there as an instructor for new weavers. She worked at Burlington for forty years. Part of the Burlington Project.

Harold Young, Halifax County, Virginia, 2016
February and April

Box 10 > Image RL00043-
P-0176
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0021 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0021.wav

Physical Description: 2 items

1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 164-27A

Harold Young worked at the Halifax Burlington Fabric Mill from 1958 until 1998. Harold is an accomplished musician and the son of Inez Young (her portrait is also in the collection).

Oral history accompanies this print. Part of the Burlington Project. A photograph of Harold Young is also located in the Portraits series.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Life at Large and Other Work, 1973-2022

Processing Information:

Titles, captions, and original negative identifiers assigned by the photographer have been retained. Several prints in this series are unnumbered. Prints are arranged in rough chronological order according to the negative date. Each print has also been assigned an institutional identifier.

Series Overview

Series houses 67 11x14 inch black-and-white photographs taken by Jesse Pyrant Andrews, chiefly documenting the people, cultures, and landscapes of central Piedmont North Carolina and Virginia. The remaining images were taken in New York State, California, and Massachusetts. Images feature street scenes (Boston), buildings, and natural subjects such as plants and ice on a pond.

Other Life at Large images are also found in the Virginia series, marked in the legacy identifiers as "LAL." Photographs of some of the same people in the Life at Large series can also be found in the Portraits series.

A selection of prints in this series has been digitized and is featured on the Duke Digital Collections website.

Street scene, Boston, Massachusetts, with sleeping man, 1973 June (online item available) Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0111

Digital Object: [Street scene, Boston Mass., Sleeping Man. June, 1973](#)

Scope and Contents

No original identifier is known. This image also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

Street scene, Boston, Massachusetts, 1973
October (online item available) Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0112

Digital Object: [Street scene, Boston Mass., October, 1973](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 44-27. This print also exists in digital form on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

Broadway Hand, Cambridge, Massachusetts,
1974 April (online item available) Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0113

Digital Object: [Broadway Hand, Cambridge Mass., April, 1974](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 44-4A. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

North End, Boston, Massachusetts, 1974 (online
item available) Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0114

Digital Object: [North End, Boston, Mass., 1974.](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/POR 40-9

This woman operated a tiny bakery with the help of her son in the Italian section of Boston. They made marzipan, cannoli, and other pastries, as well as several kinds of bread, all wonderful.

This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

Boston, Massachusetts, 1974 Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0144

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 121-5A

Elderly woman standing in front of a store holding a tract titled "AWAKE."

Boston, Massachusetts, 1974 Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0145

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 4-34

Children playing in the courtyard of an apartment building.

Boston, Massachusetts, 1974 Box 13 > Image RL00043-P-0225

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 165-29

A street scene in the North End.

Boston, Massachusetts, running man, 1974 Box 14 > Image RL00043-P-0234

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 168-20

Boston, Massachusetts, running child, 1974 Box 14 > Image RL00043-P-0235

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 168-12

Boston, Massachusetts, 1975 Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0146

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 44-5A. Clothesline with clothes hanging on it, with a garden beneath.

At the Lincoln Memorial, 1976 July 4 Box 14 > Image RL00043-P-0236

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 6-9

Jimmy Carter on television, 1977 Box 10 > Image RL00043-P-0198

Scope and Contents

In the parlor of my parents' home.

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 132-2

LOVE WIG, Danville, Va., 1997 June Box 20 > Image RL00043-P-0302

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 82-25

Charlottesville, Virginia, 2001

Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0148

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 21-14

Man walking across a parking lot, seen through partially opened curtains.

Abandoned grist mill, Riceville, Virginia, 2001

Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0149

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 35-7

Wooden building with the window closed in with a sign reading "FIN."

Times Square, New York City, 2003 July (online item available)

Box 6 > Image RL00043-P-0121

Digital Object: [New York City, July 2003. Times Square](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 12-XX. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

Street preacher, New York City, 2003 July (online item available)

Box 6 > Image RL00043-P-0122

Digital Object: [New York City, July 2003. Street preacher.](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 12-XX. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

Kudzu house, 2003 (online item available)

Box 6 > Image RL00043-P-0123

Digital Object: [Kudzu House, 2003.](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 58-4. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

Plant shadow, 2003 (online item available)

Box 6 > Image RL00043-P-0124

Digital Object: [Plant Shadow, 2003.](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 59-16. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

Adam's Needle (yucca plant), 2003 (online item available)

Box 6 > Image RL00043-P-0125

Digital Object: [Adam's Needle \(Yucca Plant\), 2003.](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/NAT 4x5-16. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

New York City, 2003 July (online item available)

Box 6 > Image RL00043-P-0126

Digital Object: [New York City, July, 2003](#)

Scope and Contents note

Original identifier unknown. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

45th St. at Broadway, New York, 2004
December (online item available)

Box 6 > Image RL00043-P-0127

Digital Object: [45th St. at Broadway, New York, December 2004](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 80-15. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

Plant shadow, 2004 (online item available)

Box 6 > Image RL00043-P-0128

Digital Object: [Plant shadow, 2004](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 59-16. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

Storefront, 7th Avenue, New York City, 2004
December (online item available)

Box 6 > Image RL00043-P-0129

Digital Object: [New York City, Dec, 2004. Storefront, 7th Ave.](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 78-31. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site ([link below](#)).

Pond ice, 2007 (online item available) Box 6 > Image RL00043-P-0130

Digital Object: [Pond ice, 2007](#)

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 106-53. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

New homes for sale, 2007 (online item available) Box 6 > Image RL00043-P-0131

Digital Object: [New Homes for Sale, 2007.](#)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 77-15. This print also exists in digital format on the Duke Libraries digital collections site (link below).

At the Statue of Liberty, 2009 Box 14 > Image RL00043-P-0237

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 89-10

At Coveseville, Virginia, 2009 Box 14 > Image RL00043-P-0238

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 74-29

Danville, Virginia, 2010 Box 6 > Image RL00043-P-0147

Scope and Contents note

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 97-16

Storefront with the painted image of a bearded black man. Sign reading "Sanctuary."

Sign attached to the old Halifax County jail building, Halifax, Virginia, 2017 January Box 10 > Image RL00043-P-0197

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 157-16

Statue of Robert E. Lee covered with a tarp, Lee Park, Charlottesville, Virginia, 2017 September

Box 12 > Image RL00043-P-0199

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 159-28

Scope and Contents

Whatever Lee believed, he has now become a symbol...signifying to some people an ancestral nightmare and to others an ancestral hero. Likewise the catchword "heritage" carries vastly different meanings depending on what one's ancestors were doing or having done to them 157 years ago. After he died, however, his image as a popular Southern hero overshadowed his own desire in life to put the past behind him. The tarp covering Lee's statue was removed in March of 2018 by order of Judge Richard Moore. The issue is still being debated by the Charlottesville city council.

Statue of Robert E. Lee covered with a tarp with sleeping man in foreground, Lee Park, Charlottesville, Virginia, 2017 September

Box 12 > Image RL00043-P-0200

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 159-18

Statue of Confederate soldier, erected by the United Daughters of the Confederacy in the early 20th century, Halifax County Courthouse, Halifax, Virginia, 2017 September

Box 12 > Image RL00043-P-0202

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 158-27

Scope and Contents

Hundreds of statues similar to this one were put up across the South by the UDC in the years just before WWI and in the 1920s. The Halifax County Courthouse is slated for extensive renovation which will drastically alter the historic façade of this building. Built in 1838 by Dabney Cosby, the building is on the National Register of Historic Places. This statue will probably be removed as a part of the renovation.

Mountain View Plantation home, Tightsqueeze,
Virginia, 2018 January

Box 14 > Image RL00043-
P-0239

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 165-24

At Mountain View Plantation, Tightsqueeze,
Virginia, 2018 March

Box 12 > Image RL00043-
P-0201

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 161-37

Scope and Contents

Shows a corner of a room interior with a bust of Robert E. Lee, and on the wall, the first and second Confederate flags, and three sabers.

SPACE BLASTER. Found in the parking lot at
BO's One Stop, Halifax County, Virginia, 2018
March

Box 12 > Image RL00043-
P-0205

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 160-28

Mike Smith operating the sawmill at the Old
Carter Farm, Halifax County, Virginia, 2006
June

Box 12 > Image RL00043-
P-0211

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 2 3-30

Set up in the early 1960s by Robert Wooding, Sr., this sawmill has produced thousands of board feet of lumber from trees sustainably harvested on the Carter Farm. It is still being used.

At Mountain View Plantation, Tightsqueeze,
Virginia, 2018 September

Box 13 > Image RL00043-
P-0220

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 163-13

Built in 1790, Mountain View was the home of a lifelong friend, Steven Law, who died unexpectedly September 1, 2018. Mountain View was owned by generations of Steven's family. I spent many days and nights there in the 66 years I knew Steven. To be at Mountain View was to transcend time and place. He owned this 1960 Corvette, and drove it for many years, often exceeding 140 mph. He parked it in the yard at Mountain View in 2002, believing that if he continued his thrill-seeking it would eventually kill him. It is currently returning to the earth, as is Steven.

At Mountain View Plantation, 2018 April

Box 13 > Image RL00043-P-0221

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 161-28

A fourth-story window, looking south toward the family cemetery. Steven attempted to preserve Mountain View as it had always been. Plumbing and electricity were added by his parents in the 1930s. Otherwise it remains basically unchanged.

Mountain View, ruins of the old overseers' office, 2018 June

Box 14 > Image RL00043-P-0240

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 169-33

The kitchen building at Mountain View, 2018 September

Box 13 > Image RL00043-P-0222

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 163-4

Originally this building housed the kitchen, separated from the main house in case of fire. Steven's father James Law, an architect, used it for his office.

West exterior elevation, Mountain View, 2018 September

Box 13 > Image RL00043-P-0223

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 163-6

At Mountain View, 2018 November

Box 13 > Image RL00043-
P-0224

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 164-23

View of the parlor window, looking west.

At Mountain View, from Laura's window facing
north, 2019 February

Box 14 > Image RL00043-
P-0241

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 167-31

Trumpster dumpsters, Halifax County, Virginia,
2019 June

Box 14 > Image RL00043-
P-0242

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 169-25

Billboard, Halifax, Virginia, 2019

Box 14 > Image RL00043-
P-0243

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 165-35

Front entrance, Mountain View plantation
homeplace, Tightsqueeze, Virginia, 2019

Box 16 > Image RL00043-
P-0250

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 171-4

I wrote extensive notes about my relationship with Mountain view and its
owner in a previous submission to the archive.

Auction sale at Mountain View, 2019 September

Box 16 > Image RL00043-
P-0251

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 175-36.

The house and land, 164 acres, did not sell at this auction since no bid was
offered that met the owner's reserve. The personal property and household

furniture were sold that day. Stephen Burwell Law, who inherited Mountain View from his parents, left the property to his sister, Laura, who had not lived there since 1968. Laura had no interest in living there and so put it up for sale. The house and land were sold by a realtor in September, 2020. The new owners have vowed to maintain Mountain View as closely as possible to its original condition, according to the stipulation Steve put forth in the directive he left with his will. Steve had maintained it for years, making every effort to retain its historic integrity. He did not want Mountain View to fall into the hands of someone who would "modernize" the house by turning it into a bed and breakfast or a wedding venue. Laura did as he wished, and I know Steve would be glad that his wishes are being honored.

Mannequin with flags, 2018

Box 16 > Image RL00043-P-0252

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 83-29.

This seemed an odd way to dress a mannequin a - strange attempt at patriotism or perhaps simply a whim. I didn't ask.

Jesse Pruitt at Fox's road house (Red Fox Inn),
Pittsylvania County, Virginia, 1978

Box 16 > Image RL00043-P-0253

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 12-11.

Fox's was originally owned by Floyd Fox, Jr., and his brother Bill Fox. They were sons of Floyd Fox, Sr., who also operated a road house (see print in Virginia series). The Red Fox inn was a local watering hole and meeting place for many years. Jesse Pruitt was an extraordinary pool player and usually "ran the table" on anyone willing to challenge him - meaning that his opponent almost never got a shot - his challenger in this image can be seen sitting to the left, waiting to lose and pay up. Jesse would clear the table and walk away with the wager.

Abandoned church, Halifax County, Virginia,
2018

Box 16 > Image RL00043-P-0254

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 146-34.

The old general store at the Ingram community,
Halifax County, Virginia, 2019

Box 16 > Image RL00043-
P-0255

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 140-33.

A crossroads community, Ingram was once a thriving place, when tobacco was still the economic mainstay of the Old Belt region. This store was the center of the community's commercial activity, where just about anything was available - clothing, shoes, hardware, fresh meat and vegetables - whatever anyone might need. Credit was available, with no interest charged. If a farmer was cash poor, credit was extended until his crop sold in the Fall. The store was also a meeting place for the local residents to sit and play checkers and talk, or just visit and discuss the important topics of the day - weather, politics, who had the best-looking tobacco, who might need help with their crop. The loss of these community hubs has meant that in many places like Ingram, the people living there have grown less close and become busy with the mundane activities of more modern times - driving half an hour to buy what they could previously get at the general store, from people they don't know who work in businesses owned by people who are not local and only see customers as a source of profit.

Farm supply building, a part of the Ingram
general store, Halifax County, Virginia, 2019

Box 16 > Image RL00043-
P-0256

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 140-32.

Where farm supplies were kept for sale at the general store. Anything a farmer might need, including blasting powder, was available.

Confederate statue during renovation of the
Halifax County courthouse, 2020

Box 16 > Image RL00043-
P-0257

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 140-15.

Here is the memorialized rebel, still overseeing the workers. During the summer of 2020 a petition was drawn up to remove the statue either altogether or move it to a more appropriate place, such as the county museum. Hundreds of local residents signed the petition, but the county board of supervisors passed the buck (after pleas from the "heritage not hate" contingent), deciding to place the issue on the ballot in the next

county election. Meanwhile, the 20 million-dollar plus renovation of the 1838 structure continues.

Restored well house at Mountain View
plantation, 2021 August 8

Box 17 > Image RL00043-
P-0268

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 185-11.

Steve Law, owner of Mountain View, died before he could restore the original well house. He had carefully saved all the parts, however, and the new owners have restored it with the help of Bill Bennett. In the background at right can be seen a cinderblock tobacco curing barn designed by Steve's father, Jim Law, a graduate of the University of Virginia school of architecture in 1920. He worked for the firm Delano and Aldrich in New York. The barn is unusual with its hip roof and tall chimney.

Front hallway, Mountain View, 2020 September
19

Box 17 > Image RL00043-
P-0269

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 177-5.

The empty house, awaiting new owners.

During the auction sale at Mountain View, 2019
October 19

Box 17 > Image RL00043-
P-0270

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 173-6.

Reflection, Greensboro, N.C., 2007

Box 17 > Image RL00043-
P-0271

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 51-23

Abandoned store near Volens, Virginia, 2021
January

Box 17 > Image RL00043-
P-0272

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 183-11.

Fruit and vegetable market, Tightsqueeze,
Virginia, 2007

Box 17 > Image RL00043-
P-0273

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 73-15.

Bob's Hat Shop, Greensboro, N.C., 2002

Box 17 > Image RL00043-
P-0274

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 73-27.

Imploding barn, Sutherlin, Virginia, 2022 Aug.
30

Box 18 > Image RL00043-
P-0278

Scope and Contents

Orig. print identifier: 187-23.

Mountain View plantation home from front
entrance gate, Tightsqueeze, Virginia, 2019
March 4

Box 18 > Image RL00043-
P-0279

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 169-30.

Six months after Steve Law's death, the house remained empty. Nothing changed, per his instruction, in the directive he left for his sister Laura, who was his sole heir. "Wait a year before you have my funeral. Take care of business. Be aware of the vultures who will come around, telling you what to do." To the left is the original kitchen building, which Jim Law used as an office for his architecture practice. Also to the left is the trunk of one of the huge white oaks that had stood in the yard for more than a century. It fell in a storm not long after Steve's death. Bill Bennett eventually removed it. The house remained empty until the property was sold by Laura in 2020.

Robert Fisk Color Guard burial, Whittles,
Virginia, 2022 November 13

Box 18 > Image RL00043-
P-0280

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 186-14.

Robert Fisk served 36 years in the U.S. Air Force, at bases all over the world. He served in both the Korean and Viet Nam conflicts. He was in Viet Nam 1968-1969.

PARTS, Mebane, N.C., 2021	Box 19 > Image RL00043-P-0299
Street scene, Cambridge, Mass., 1974	Box 19 > Image RL00043-P-0300
Street scene, Cambridge, Mass., 1974 October	Box 19 > Image RL00043-P-0301

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Veterans Project, 2004-2024

Series Overview

The Veterans Project series comprises 44 photographic portraits and 42 oral history interviews conducted by documentarian and photographer Jesse Andrews of U.S. military veterans of the Vietnam and Iraq wars, and a few who served in World War II. Each portrait is accompanied by a detailed biographical sketch created by Andrews. The oral history interviews convey in vivid detail the veterans' experiences before, during, and after their military service. The recordings are in the form of digital .mp3 audio files, and are available upon advance request.

Alert: These recordings may contain disturbing content.

The portrait of Vietnam War veteran Donald Wright is also accompanied by Wright's handwritten journal notebook describing events in Vietnam and after the war; a portrait of Fred Behrens is accompanied by a seven-page biographical tribute to Behrens written by the photographer, Jesse Andrews.

Several of the photographs in this series have been digitized and are featured on the Duke Digital Collections website; direct links to the digital content are present in this inventory with each corresponding photograph.

Access Restrictions:

Access note. Some materials are electronic records that require special equipment.

Processing Information:

Photographs are arranged in order as received. Original titles, captions, and original negative/print identifiers as assigned by the photographer have been retained. Each print has also been assigned an institutional identifier.

Matthew Lafayette Aaron ("Fate" Aaron), 2006
September (online item available)

Box 4 > Image RL00043-P-0093
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0006 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0006.wav

Physical Description: 2 items
1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Digital Object: [Matthew Lafayette Aaron \("Fate" Aaron\)](#)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 77-19

Born Jan. 10, 1919 at Callands, Virginia. Grew up on a tobacco farm, enlisted in the Army in 1941, fought as an infantryman through North Africa, then as a Ranger through the Sicilian and Italian campaigns. Discharged November, 1945. Wounded three times in what he called "three years of continuous combat." As a Ranger he was usually at the forward most front of the fighting. He has suffered since his discharge with severe PTSD and alcoholism. In spite of that, as well as his physical wounds, he was a successful tobacco farmer until he retired in 1994. He lives on the same farm where he was born. Up to this time I have not been able to convince Mr. Aaron to agree to an oral history. When I made this photograph, he said, "I was a nice fellow when this picture was made (the portrait of himself he is holding), before I went overseas. Since then, I don't know, I just never have been the same."

The oral history interview with Aaron was completed in 2012.

Frank H. Andrews, Chatham, Virginia, 2004
May (online item available)

Box 5 > Image RL00043-P-0108

Digital Object: [Frank H. Andrews, May 2004, Chatham, Va.](#)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 100-27

This print was digitized as part of an exhibit.

Donald Carter, Volens, Virginia, 2014 July 8

Box 7 > Image RL00043-P-0154

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0004 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0004.wav

Physical Description: 2 items
1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 153-28

Donald Carter was a scout dog handler for the U.S. Army in Vietnam, 1969-1970. His dog was killed by a booby trap near the end of Carter's tour of duty. Mr. Carter is shown holding the wooden nameplate that hung on Rover's kennel.

An oral history accompanies this print.

Sam Winstead, dancing with his granddaughter
at a Veterans For Peace fundraiser near
Leasburg, North Carolina, 2015 June

Box 8 > Image RL00043-P-0161

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 160-11

Sam Winstead is a 93 year old Marine Corps veteran of World War II. He fought at Peleliu and Okinawa, more than 100 days of continuous combat which the Marine Corps archives describe as the most horrific fighting in the history of the Corps. In 2007, after decades of trying to find peace within himself and forgiveness for the Japanese he fought in those battles, he founded Americans For Peace, along with its adjunct Veterans For Peace, and began an annual event called Sam's Ride for Peace. Since 2010, he and others have travelled by bicycle from Raleigh, N.C. to Washington, D.C., an annual eight day ride to promote peace in the world, stopping at schools and community centers along the way to advance their message.

Garland Andrew Lowery, Halifax County,
Virginia, 2016 December 20

Box 10 > Image RL00043-
P-0188

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0026 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0026.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0027 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0027.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 167-35

Andy Lowery spent 14 months as an infantryman in the Central Highlands of Vietnam from October 1968 until December 1969, primarily in and around Dragon Valley, near Chu Lai. Assigned to the 1/46th of the 198th Light Infantry Brigade, he did patrols and search and destroy missions. Sgt. Lee Mall was his squad leader. Andy credits Sgt. Mall for his having returned "with both my arms and both my legs." He receives 100% disability from the VA for PTSD and numerous other health problems.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Robert Aiken, South Boston, Virginia, 2017
February 9

Box 10 > Image RL00043-
P-0189
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0022 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0022.wav

Physical Description: 2 items
1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 168-7

Ninety-six year old Robert Aiken was part of a unique division of men who were trained by the Army specifically for the planned invasion of Japan in 1945. Told in training that they could expect 75% casualties on landing, they were nevertheless willing to go through with their mission. Mr. Aiken is an exceptionally cheerful man who has spent his life helping other people.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Dr. Roger Browne, South Boston, Virginia, 2017
April

Box 11 > Image RL00043-
P-0187
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0023 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0023.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0024 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0024.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0025 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0025.wav

Physical Description: 4 items

1 print; 3 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 169-6A

Dr. Browne served as an Army surgeon in the Central Highlands of Vietnam, 1968-1969. First assigned as a Battalion surgeon to the 146th of the 198th Light Infantry Brigade, he had charge of the Brigade medics and worked primarily from LZ Bayonet and LZ Professional, near Chu Lai. He often accompanied the medics into firefights and spent most of his tour in the field, choosing to stay with his troops rather than in the rear at Division.

Accompanied by an oral history.

Richard Patterson, Pittsylvania County, Virginia,
2018 January

Box 12 > Image RL00043-
P-0206
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0043 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0043.wav

Physical Description: 2 items
1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 172-23

Richard Patterson served as an Army Airborne medic from 1952 until 1978. He spent 1968 and 1969 in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam as a medic with the 25th Infantry during which time he participated in 24 search and destroy missions. He suffers from diabetes as a result of exposure to Agent Orange.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Lee Mall, Halifax County, Virginia, 2017
September 29

Box 12 > Image RL00043-
P-0207
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0034 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0034.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0035 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0035.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0036 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0036.wav

Physical Description: 4 items

1 print; 3 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 173-7

Lee Mall served as an infantryman with C Company, 1st Battalion, 46th Division of the 198th Light Infantry Brigade in the Central Highlands of Vietnam from March 1968 until March 1969. As a squad leader he proved to be an exceptional leader, always putting the safety of his squad members first.

Oral history accompanies this print.

John Payne, Lunenburg County, Virginia, 2018
February 21

Box 12 > Image RL00043-P-0208
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0044 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0044.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0045 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0045.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0046 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0046.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0047.mp3 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0047.wav

Physical Description: 5 items
1 print; 4 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 173-7

John Payne served as an infantryman with the 1st Air Cavalry, then with the 101st Airborne in the Central Highlands of Vietnam, later in the Mekong Delta south of Saigon. His platoon lost 19 of 25 men in a two day firefight in the A Shau Valley on the 15th April, 1971.

Two oral histories, recorded by Andrews in separate sessions, accompany this print.

Fred Behrens, Powhatan, Virginia, 2018, 2021

Box 12 > Image RL00043-P-0209
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0048 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0048.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0049 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0049.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0050 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0050.wav
Box 17 > Item Typescript on
Behrens

Physical Description: 4 items
1 print; 3 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 173-22

Portrait was taken by Andrews April 2018. Fred Behrens served with the 326th Medical Battalion of the 101st Airborne Division in the Central Highlands of Vietnam from May of 1970 until June of 1971, first as an assault helicopter pilot and later as a medivac (dustoff) pilot, based at Phu Bai. On 23 April 1971, while flying into an intense firefight in the A Shau valley, his helicopter was shot down. Wounded five times, he hid in the jungle for two days until he was rescued.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Includes a seven-page biographical tribute to Behrens, written by Jesse Andrews, April 2021.

Chris Cole, Halifax, Virginia, 2017 December 1

Box 12 > Image RL00043-
P-0210
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0037 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0037.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0038 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0038.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 172-5

Chris Cole served with the 5th Battalion of the 11th Marine Corps Division during the initial invasion of Iraq in March of 2003.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Donald Wright, Tightsqueeze, Virginia [includes Vietnam War memoir], 2018

Box 13 > Image RL00043-P-0215

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0051 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0051.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0052 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0052.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0053 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0053.wav

Physical Description: 5 items
1 print; 1 notebook; 3 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 174 7a-8

Donald Wright served in the Marine Corps, 1968-1975, first as a squad sergeant with A Co., 1/7th of the 1st Marine Division west of Da Nang, then with the 1st Marine Recon Battalion. Also, Don Wright's handwritten account of his experiences in Viet Nam and life as a veteran is located in the same box as the portrait. The photograph was taken May 1, 2018.

An oral history accompanies this portrait.

This group also includes a personal memoir written by Donald Wright, 108 pages, in a spiral-bound notebook dated 2018. The memoir begins in September 1968 with his arrival at Da Nang, and ends in 1973 when he re-enlisted. The narrative is sometimes non-linear, jumping from memory to memory. Wright recalls battles, operations, life and leisure at military bases and camps, civilians in the war, Viet Cong attacks, Viet Cong child soldiers, a mine sweep on Liberty Road, a court-martial murder case, being wounded in combat, bonding with other soldiers in the Army, religious reflections, thoughts of home, and homecomings.

According to his memoir, Sgt. Wright first served as squad leader in the 3rd Guard, 3rd Platoon, Alpha Co. 1/7 1st Marine Division; later, he was promoted to Corporal and became an MP (Military Police). Battles described in detail include Memorial Weekend Battle, Meade River, Lynn River, and the Tet Offensive.

The memoir is handwritten, with edits and side commentaries. Two sets of loose pages describing other memories are laid in. Also included are a few patches and an undated memorial program for George Alfred Marks, Jr. (1945-1968), member of the 1st Battalion, 7th Marines Division; the

location of memorial is given as the Republic of Vietnam. Marks died there in November 1968 [Source: Find a Grave website, February 2021].

Rev. Donald Wilson, Buffalo Junction, Virginia,
2018 May

Box 13 > Image RL00043-
P-0216
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0054 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0054.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0055 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0055.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0056 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0056.wav

Physical Description: 4 items
1 print; 3 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 174-8

Ordained as a Baptist minister in 1962, Donald Wilson served as Chaplain in the U.S. Army for 26 years. He spent a year with an infantry company at LZ West, near Da Nang, South Vietnam, 1968-1969, accompanying them on patrols and into firefights, even though he never carried a weapon. After his service in Vietnam, he served as Chaplain at Army bases around the world, including becoming Chaplain at West Point.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Dianne Gagliano, Charlottesville, Virginia, 2018
November

Box 13 > Image RL00043-
P-0217
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0057 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0057.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0058 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0058.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0059 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0059.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-
SET-CD0060.mp3 > Audio-file
RL00043-CD-0060.wav

Physical Description: 5 items

1 print; 4 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 175-7

Colonel Gagliano joined the U.S. Air Force Nurse Corps in 1967. She served for 18 years as a flight nurse in both the Pacific and Atlantic Aeromedical, accruing over 2000 in-flight patient hours. This included six years in Vietnam, evacuating wounded servicemen to hospitals in other countries where they could receive the care they needed. These flights involved gruelling 24-hour days aboard a huge C-141 cargo plane which had been reconfigured with cots, IV poles, and other medical equipment to care for the wounded. Flights carried between 80 and 100 patients. They would fly from the Philippines to Saigon, then to Da Nang, picking up patients along the way; then to Guam, Hawaii, Japan, Alaska, and California, dropping off patients according to their needs, then return to the Philippines. They made two flights a week, typically. She later served as a flight nurse in Operation Desert Storm and in Afghanistan. In all those years, she lost only one patient. She also participated in the airlift of POWs from Hanoi in 1973, as well as in Operation Saigon Baby Lift in 1975, helping to evacuate several thousand orphaned children from South Vietnam, many of whom were children of American servicemen who had served there. Col. Gagliano was also an influential force in the creation and dedication in 1993 of the Women's Memorial in Arlington, Virginia. She retired after 26 years of service.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Rose and Harold Hughes, Virgilina, Virginia,
2018 June

Box 13 > Image RL00043-
P-0218

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0063 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0063.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0064 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0064.wav

Physical Description: 3 items

1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 175 8-9a

Harold Hughes served as an infantryman with the 1/26 Infantry in Vietnam from February 1967 until July 1968. He was severely wounded by mortar fire while on patrol in the Central Highlands. His wife, Rose, initiated an effort to

establish a chapter of Vietnam Veterans of America in South Boston, Virginia, as a way of bringing Vietnam veterans together. Strength in unity.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Charles Throckmorton, Scottsburg, Virginia,
2018 September

Box 13 > Image RL00043-
P-0219

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0061 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0061.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0062 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0062.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 175-35

Charles Throckmorton served with the 198th Infantry, part of the Americal Division, in the Central Highlands near Chu Lai, South Vietnam, from September 1968-September 1969.

Oral history accompanies this print.

David Kipfinger, circa 2018

Box 14 > Image RL00043-
P-0226

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0065 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0065.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0066 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0066.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0067 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0067.wav

Physical Description: 4 items
1 print; 3 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 176-9

Enlisted in U.S. Army in January, 1966. In December 1967 was sent to Vietnam as an infantryman with the 1st Air Cavalry. In December 1968 he trained as a scout and was sent to An Khe, participating in patrols in the Bong Son Plain in the Central Highlands. Later served as a machine gunner

in the A Shau Valley, where he was wounded and also suffered from heat stroke. He was sent to the rear to recover. When he was sent back to his unit they were pinned down for a month by NVA artillery fire near Quang Tri, with little resupply, but finally relieved by repeated airstrikes on the NVA positions. "Any person who has been in combat and comes back suffers in some way from PTSD. They have seen or heard or been involved with something that was very difficult to get rid of."

Oral history accompanies this print.

Warren Richardson, circa 2019

Box 14 > Image RL00043-P-0227

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0068 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0068.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0069 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0069.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 178-7

Drafted into U.S. Army in November, 1969. Trained with Aviation as a helicopter mechanic, maintaining CH47 (Chinook) helicopters (the larger ones with two rotors). He was sent to Vietnam in July, 1970, where he was assigned to the Americal Division at Chu Lai. He repaired Chinooks that were shot up, and did routine maintenance, and when not otherwise occupied, served as a door gunner or navigator on those same helicopters. Left service in July, 1971.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Curtis Millner, circa 2019

Box 14 > Image RL00043-P-0228

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0070 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0070.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0071 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0071.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0072 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0072.wav

Physical Description: 4 items

1 print; 3 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 178-16

Joined U.S. Army in 1970, "because of a broken heart." Only 17 at the time, he altered his birth certificate to make him appear to be 18. After basic training, he was sent to Ft. Belvoir and trained as a truck and large equipment mechanic. He worked with the 17th Combat Engineers for 18 months at Ft. Hood, Texas. Was sent to Vietnam and was stationed at Cam Ranh Bay with the 577th Engineers. He was later made Sgt. of the Guard at Long Binh, in charge of five miles of perimeter around that base, the largest U.S. base in Vietnam, subject to daily rocket and mortar attacks and attempts by the NVA to overrun the base. After his time in Vietnam he spent nine more years in service, with tours in Germany and Korea. Was promoted to Warrant Officer and retired in 1983.

Oral history accompanies this print.

William Cabell Shotwell, Halifax County,
Virginia, 2019 September

Box 16 > Image RL00043-
P-0244
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0076 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0076.wav > Audio-file
RL00043-CD-0077.mp3

Physical Description: 3 items

1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 178-26.

William Shotwell grew up on a tobacco farm in the Virgilina Community of Halifax County, Virginia. He was drafted into service in 1966 and spent most of 1967 and 1968 with the 185th Light Maintenance Battalion, stationed at Long Binh, the largest American base in Vietnam, just north of Saigon. He worked as a maintenance mechanic at Long Binh and participated in numerous search and destroy missions after the Tet offensive of 1968.

An oral history accompanies this print.

Frank Joseph Wilcosky, Jr., Halifax County,
Virginia, 2018

Box 16 > Image RL00043-
P-0245
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0078 > Audio-file RL00043-

CD-0078.wav > Audio-file
RL00043-CD-0079.mp3

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/LAL 153-33

Joe grew up in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He joined the U.S. Navy at age 17, served on a destroyer (USS Cory) and an aircraft carrier before volunteering for riverboat duty in Vietnam in 1967. He was assigned to the Mobile Riverine force at Dong Tam, an American base south of Saigon in the Mekong Delta, and served there 1968-1969. The Riverines served as support troops for the 9th Inf. Division, also based at Dong Tam, ferrying troops upriver to firefights and lending support, often going ashore to participate in the fighting when the 9th Inf. Troops got into a tight spot. Joe was a jack of all trades, serving in whatever capacity was needed, everything from fighting fires during the daily mortar and rocket attacks at Dong Tam to accompanying troops upriver. Discharged in 1969, he returned to Fort Lauderdale and worked as a postal carrier until his retirement after 29 years. Joe now lives part time in Fort Lauderdale and part time here in Halifax Co. He is a close friend.

An oral history accompanies this print.

Charlie Bradley Hudson, 2021 July 26

Box 17 > Image RL00043-
P-0258
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0081 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0081.wav

Physical Description: 2 items
1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 185-21.

Charlie Bradley Hudson joined the U.S. Marine Corps in April, 1964. In 1965 he volunteered for sea duty and was sent to Viet Nam after jungle training at El Toro, Cal. He was sent to Chu Lai, where he drove troop transports and delivered food, fuel, ammo and other supplies to firebases along Rt. 1. He returned for a second tour in 1967 and was sent to Dong Ha near the DMZ as head of transportation, "an experience everyone should have," as he said, because Dong Ha was shelled with artillery and rocket attacks by the NVA "every hour and every half hour...you could set your watch by it." He also helped unload wounded from Dustoff helicopters and loaded wounded onto

C-130 transports, and was later sent to Khe Sanh, delivering fuel and ammo to the besieged troops stationed there.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Donald Chandler, 2021 August 24

Box 17 > Image RL00043-P-0259

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0082 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0082.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0083 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0083.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 184-32.

Donald Chandler was drafted 1969 into U.S. Army and sent to Viet Nam in January, 1970. He served as a mechanic with the 864th Engineer Btn. Later made a company clerk and sent to Phan Thiet. Was later transferred to the 299th Engineer Battalion and spent the remainder of his tour at Whiskey Mt.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Douglass I. Randolph, 2021 September 14

Box 17 > Image RL00043-P-0260

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0084 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0084.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0085 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0085.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0086 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0086.wav

Physical Description: 4 items
1 print; 3 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 185-8.

Douglass Randolph, born in Charlotte County Virginia on January 14, 1942. He worked as a sharecropper until the age of 19 when he enlisted in the Army in June 1962. After training at Fort Dix, New Jersey and Fort Sill in Oklahoma Randolph was assigned to the 2nd Bn. 44th Art. at Fort Sill until

June 1964. Randolph reenlisted in June 1964 and went to the Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland for training in helicopter armament after which he was then sent to Hawaii and assigned to the 725th Maintenance Bn. E Co. In March 1966 Randolph was sent to Vietnam, landing in Cu Chi RVN to mount weapons systems on UH1 Huey helicopters for 18 months. He was also sent to Vung Tau, as well as Can Tho in the Mekong Delta as a maintenance sergeant, spending a total of 37 months in Vietnam. Randolph would later be stationed at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds as an instructor for aircraft armament, attending logistics school at Fort Lee Virginia, and at Nellingen Barracks in Stuttgart Germany. There he was in charge of aircraft armament in the 7th Corps. During his career in the military Randolph would help develop the Shop Portable Aircraft Maintenance and serve on the Source Selection Board for the gun system on the Bradley fighting vehicle. During his military career Randolph would be promoted to E8 and then in 1985 Sgt Major where he was assigned to Korea as maintenance supervisor for the peninsula and stationed in Taugo. After 2 years Randolph was reassigned to Fort Hood 13th Support Command and retired in July 1988 with 26 years and 2 months of service. Randolph was awarded the Bronze Star medal for valor while serving in the Delta.

Biographical information supplied by Douglass Randolph, March 2023.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Jeffer Street, 2021 September 7

Box 17 > Image RL00043-P-0261
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0087 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0087.wav

Physical Description: 2 items
1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 185-4.

Jeffer Street was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1969. Sent to Viet Nam that same year, he served 13 months as an M-60 machine gunner with the 9th Infantry Division in the Mekong Delta, typically 21 days out in the field with a three-day stand-down to resupply and then back out. He "never saw a city or a USO show." His entire tour was spent on search and destroy missions. He now works as a veteran's advocate in Durham, N.C., helping other veterans get the benefits they are due, teaching them how to navigate the complicated bureaucracy of the Veteran's Administration. Oral history accompanies this print.

Colonel Ralph Dilullo, 2021 July 23

Box 17 > Image RL00043-P-0262

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0088 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0088.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0089 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0089.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 185-12.

Ralph Dilullo "accidentally" joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1960. He was trained as a pilot and sent to Vietnam in 1968. He flew C-130 transports as well as the A-4 fighter-bomber and Crusader fighter jets. He also flew helicopters. He retired a Colonel after 30 years service and still enjoys flying. "I don't regret a moment of my service."

Oral history accompanies this print.

Carl Meadows, 2021 October 20

Box 17 > Image RL00043-P-0263
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0090 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0090.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0091 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0091.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 186-4.

Carl Meadows was drafted in 1969 into U.S. Army and trained as a medic. Arrived in Viet Nam on his birthday, Nov. 13, 1969. Assigned to the 199th LIB, spent time at LZ Crystal, Da Nang, and at Hue. He lost only one patient in his time as a medic. "I've spent 50 years trying to forget." He spent four years after he returned to U.S. as a "roadie" for The Who, The Rolling Stones, David Bowie, and the Marshall Tucker Band, touring in England and Europe.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Lindy Lowrey, 2021 November 3

Box 17 > Image RL00043-P-0264

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0092 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0092.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0093 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0093.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 186-9.

Lowrey was drafted June, 1966 into U.S. Army and was sent to Viet Nam in March 1967. He participated in combat assault and ambush missions, worked as a tunnel rat (discovered the largest tunnel complex found during the war, 7 miles in length and housing a complete hospital.) Transferred to Air Mobile and participated in night ambushes and search and destroy missions, first as a machine gunner, then as an RTO operator. When he returned home he said he felt like "a forty year old man in a 21 year old body." Still suffers severe PTSD.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Jimmy Edward Wood, 2022 October 11

Box 18 > Image RL00043-
P-0281
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0101 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0101.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0102 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0102.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 192-14.

Jimmy Edward Wood, born 23 January, 1948, graduated from high school in Halifax, Virginia in June, 1966. He was drafted in September, 1966 and opted to join the U.S. Marine Corps. He did basic training at Parris Island, S.C., and was sent to Viet Nam in June, 1967. He arrived at Da Nang and was sent north to Dong Ha, near the DMZ. He and his unit patrolled Highway 9 for a time, then the entire 3rd Btn. (500 men) were then sent into the field, mostly operating south of Dong Ha. They were out for three months with no baths, no hot meals, constantly participating in firefights and search and destroy missions as well as ambushes and night patrols, operating in the Ashau valley. This deployment included Operations Hickory, King Fisher,

Kentucky, Scotland 2, and Robin South, in an effort to thwart an attack on the American base at Khe Sanh. The TET offensive happened during this time period. He left Viet Nam in August 1968. He received the Presidential Unit Citation for "Extraordinary heroism and outstanding performance of duty against the North Vietnamese Army and Viet Cong forces." This was the first time he talked about his time in service. He receives 100% disability from the V.A. for PTSD.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Mickey Conner, 2022 February 10

Box 18 > Image RL00043-
P-0282
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0103 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0103.wav

Physical Description: 2 items
1 print; 1 digital audio file (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 187-5.

Joined the U.S. Army in Oct., 1968. Trained as M.P. and sent to Viet Nam in August of 1969. He served as an MP with the 179th MP Detachment, then as a convoy machine gunner with the 101st. Airborne. He was later assigned to the Criminal Investigations Drug Task Force, working undercover and conducting raids on opium and heroin makers - usually South Vietnamese civilians. This was particularly dangerous work. He also investigated murders, suicides and fragging incidents. He spent a total of 30 months in Viet Nam. He later contracted lymphoma from Agent Orange exposure and heart disease from the resulting chemotherapy treatments. This was the first time he had spoken to anyone about his time in service.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Frank Talley, 2022 July 8

Box 18 > Image RL00043-
P-0283
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0104 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0104.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0105 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0105.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 189-23.

Frank Talley, a Saponi Native American, was born in 1947. He was drafted into the U.S. Army and was sent to Vietnam in October 1967, assigned to "A" battery, 2nd of the 194th Heavy Artillery. Sent North to the DMZ, he spent 13 months with a track-mobile 175 mm gun crew at some of the most dangerous locations in Vietnam. He was at Khe Sanh while it was under a month-long siege by NVA regulars. He still suffers PTSD but is being treated by the VA.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Allen Griffin, 2022 March 24

Box 18 > Image RL00043-P-0284

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0106 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0106.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0107 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0107.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 188-29.

Allen Griffin was drafted into the United States Army January 1966. He did basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia, and was sent to Fort Lewis, Washington, and trained as a river boat pilot. He was sent to Viet Nam by troop ship in September 1966, and sent to Pleiku. He piloted riverboats, supplying An Khe and helping build temporary bridges (float bridges). During one such operation he and his crew were attacked by approximately 1500 Viet Cong regulars, which became a pitched battle in which Griffin and his men were severely out-manned and out-gunned. They were aided by the ROCs (Korean Troops) and by a Cobra gunship that pushed the VC back. He was awarded a "hardship discharge" because his adopted father died. He arrived home in March of 1967 to take over the family's tobacco farming operation. He has never received any aid from the VA.

Oral history accompanies this print.

James Dixon, 2022 October 11

Box 18 > Image RL00043-P-0285

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0108 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0108.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 192-34.

Born 29 September 1947 in Lennig, Virginia, Dixon graduated high school in 1967 in Halifax, Virginia, and was drafted Dec. 14, 1967. He did basic training at Ft. Bragg, then AIT at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas, where he was trained as a combat medic. He arrived in Viet Nam on 24 Nov., 1968 and was assigned to the 1st Inf. Division (The Big Red One), 2nd/28th, CO. A, second platoon. There was typically one medic to a platoon of 20 men, four to a company. He worked from a base camp at Lai Khe, approximately 30 miles north of Saigon. Dixon spent the next 12 months participating in countless firefights, mostly against Viet Cong troops, including a prolonged fight at the old Michelin rubber plantation, a relic from the French colonization. He and his platoon were entrenched there for an extended time. He was wounded by small arms fire in his upper chest in a fight at Junction City, and medivaced to Long Binh, where he eventually recovered and was sent back to his platoon. After another firefight at Junction City, he was "short" (he had less than 30 days left in his tour) and was sent back to Long Binh, for non-combat duty. He left Viet Nam 26 Nov., 1969. James Dixon saved many lives as a medic. He lost a few, but has no regrets and "would do it all again if I were able." He is a member of the American Legion and currently receives 90% disability from the V.A. for PTSD. He has filed an appeal in an attempt to receive 100%.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Otis Rose, 2022 October 20

Box 18 > Image RL00043-
P-0286

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0110 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0110.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0111 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0111.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0112 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0112.wav

Physical Description: 4 items
1 print; 3 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 192-18.

Otis Rose joined the U.S. Air Force in 1954. In 1964 he was sent to flight engineer school and after six months training was made Flight Engineer for the new C130 Hercules military transport plane. Sent to Vietnam in February 1968 at age 32, he was assigned to the 774th Bomber squadron. As flight engineer, Rose was responsible for all the systems on the huge aircraft, the four turbo-prop engine function and maintenance, landing and takeoff speed, armaments maintenance, the extensive hydraulic system, fuel supply, everything mechanical about the plane. If the aircraft lost an engine (or two) or was otherwise damaged by enemy fire, he determined how to compensate so the plane would still fly. This was all a huge responsibility. He and a crew of five flew 12 to 14 hours a day for 15 to 30 day stints. He served as flight engineer for four tours of duty. Upon retiring from service in 1975, he realized he was not in his right mind and spent four months in the psych ward of the Durham, N.C. VA facility, with no real positive result. He struggled with PTSD until he began seeing a private psychiatrist in 2017. He is doing much better now.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Roderick Coleman, 2022 August 4

Box 18 > Image RL00043-P-0287
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0113 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0113.wav
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0114 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0114.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 191-8.

Born 1947 into a tobacco farming family near Leasburg, N.C. Graduated from Caswell County High School in 1965 and worked at odd jobs until he was drafted in August, 1967. Did basic training at Ft. Bragg and then AIT at Ft. Monmouth, N.J. Was sent to Viet Nam in May of 1968 and was assigned to the "Long Lines Battalion, North," near Nha Trang. This was a communications center, where he worked as a "call patch operator," patching through calls from firebases and landing zones to other locations in order to coordinate operations. He did this job as well as guard duty at the base. They were subject to daily rocket and mortar attacks. He was discharged in December 1971.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Wayne Howerton, 2022 August 30

Box 18 > Image RL00043-
P-0288

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0115 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0115.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0116 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0116.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 190-17.

Wayne Howerton was drafted into the U.S. Army in February, 1968. He took basic training at Ft. Bragg and AIT at Ft. Rucker, Alabama. He was sent to Viet Nam in February, 1968 and was assigned to the 442nd Transport unit. He drove a flat-bed semi truck, delivering everything from artillery to agent orange to firebases and LZs along Rt. 1. This was dangerous work, since the VC constantly attacked any American vehicle on Rt. 1. A gun truck accompanied the convoys, usually one to every ten semi trucks. They typically carried M 60 and 50 cal. machine guns as well as M79 grenade launchers. The convoys experienced many flat tires, mainly due to expended shell casings in the road, increasing the risk of casualties. After five months, Howerton was assigned to drive a jeep, carrying the C.O. of his company accompanying the convoys. The jeep was accompanied by two gun jeeps, usually with 50 cal. machine guns. He left Viet Nam in Feb., 1970 and was discharged from Ft. Lewis, Washington. He is a member of Viet Nam Veterans of America. Treated for PTSD by the VA.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Thomas George (Tommy) Lacy, 2022 May 1

Box 18 > Image RL00043-
P-0289

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0117 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0117.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0118 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0118.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0119 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0119.wav

Physical Description: 4 items

1 print; 3 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 188-8.

Thomas Lacy was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1967. He took basic training at Ft. Bragg, then AIT (advanced infantry training) at Fort Polk, Louisiana. He was sent to Viet Nam in Nov., 1967, assigned to the First Infantry Division, A Co., 1st platoon, 1/26th, and sent to Bien Hoa. He participated in company size patrols and was made point man (most dangerous job) for his platoon "because I could read a map." He walked point for nine months, typically 25 days out in the bush, followed by a three day stand down and then back out. He was wounded by shrapnel and recovered, and was then assigned to a mine-sweeping detail on Rt. 1, the main North to South road in Viet Nam. He suffers PTSD and is treated by the V.A. "The job of infantry is to kill people and destroy property," he said. "I try not to think about it. It was all for nothing. The U.S. has not won a war since World War II."

Oral history accompanies this print.

Russell Dandridge, 2022 August 24

Box 18 > Image RL00043-P-0290

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0120 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0120.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0121 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0121.wav

Physical Description: 3 items

1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 190-15.

Russell Dandridge was born July 1, 1948 in Hanover County, Virginia. He graduated high school in 1965 and then studied electronics at Virginia Union University. He was drafted in Jan. 1968 and did basic training at Ft. Benning and then AIT at Ft. Dix., assigned 11 40-B (infantry). He was sent back to Ft. Benning and sent to OCS (officer candidate school) in March of 1969. He graduated a 2nd Lt. He arrived in Viet Nam in Oct. 1969 and was assigned to the 11th LIB, a part of the Americal Division at Duc Tho. He was put in charge of B Co., third platoon, a mortar detachment. They guarded bridges, participated in ambushes and night patrols. In Sept., 1970 he was moved further North to Pinkville, south of Da Nang, near Mei Lai, performing the same duties. After his time in Viet Nam, he returned to Ft. Jackson and

worked as a training officer for six months. After reenlisting for another year he was promoted to Captain. He was discharged March 1972.

Oral history accompanies this print.

William Slagle, III, 2022 September 1

Box 18 > Image RL00043-P-0291

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0122 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0122.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0123 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0123.wav

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 190-28.

William Slagle III was drafted into the United States Army in December, 1967. He did basic training at Fort Bragg and AIT at Fort Dix where he was assigned to 71H30 "personnel management." He was sent to Viet Nam January, 1969, and was assigned to the First Cavalry division at Tay Ninh. Later, he was sent to Dong Tam in the Delta where he was promoted to E-5 and made pointman for his platoon with the first CAV. They did search and destroy patrols, usually 3 to 4 days at a time. He was discharged December 1969. "There are many days and specific events that I recall as if they were yesterday, but I will not talk about that."

Oral history accompanies this print.

Catherine Solomonson ("Cathie" Solomonson),
2024 October 23

Box 20 > Image RL00043-P-0307

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0126 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0126.wav

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0127 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0127

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 201-22

After receiving her nursing degree from State University of New York, she entered the U.S. Army and trained at Ft. Sam Houston as a surgical nurse. She was sent to Vietnam, arriving April 1, 1968 and was assigned to the 24 Evac. hospital in Long Binh, where she worked on the neurosurgical ward, treating patients with brain and spinal cord injuries. She also treated Vietnamese POWs and Vietnamese soldiers who had surrendered. In addition, she treated prisoners at the infamous Long Binh jail (i.e., LBJ), a facility for American troops who had committed crimes while in Vietnam. Most of the prisoners there were African Americans, and the conditions there were horrific. In August of 1968, the prisoners revolted and took over the prison, beating each other and the guards with makeshift clubs as well as shovels and picks. Eventually the rioters burned LBJ to the ground. This all took place across the road from the 24th Evac. as Lt. Solomonson watched. She treated the wounded from that event as well. She also accompanied her brother (a Navy Corpsman) on Med Cap visits to local villages, treating Vietnamese civilians who had been wounded or were ill. She dealt with the stress of her duty by painting pictures of cell division on the wall of her hootch. She explained that those paintings served to remind her that in spite of all the horrible events she lived through each day, life was still going on...cell division was still happening. She left Vietnam March 17, 1969 and was discharged from service October 30, 1969. She has dealt with PTSD by focusing on being a good mother and involving herself with work on behalf of other Vietnam veterans, including the Quilt of Valor association.

Oral history accompanies this print.

Mary Lorraine Young Hines ("Larry" Hines),
2024 October 30

Box 20 > Image RL00043-
P-0308
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0130 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0130
Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0131 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0131

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 201-9

"Larry", as she calls herself, was born 1946 in Lexington, N.C. She graduated from University of Georgia in June of 1968 and soon volunteered for service with the Red Cross as a "Donut Dollie." Although she disagreed politically with the Vietnam war, she "supported the warriors, not the war." She arrived in Vietnam July 1968, and landed at Tan Son Nhut airbase, met by mortar fire

and a burning C130 cargo plane on the runway. She spent 2 months at Dong Ba Thin with the 18th Engineer Btn., then five months at Cam Ranh Bay. She then spent five months at Chu Lai, where daily rocket and mortar attacks were the norm. While there, a rocket made a direct hit on the hospital, killing Lt. Karen Ann Lane, the only known female combat casualty of the war. Larry also did hospital visitation at the trauma ward at Chu Lai, trying to comfort the severely wounded who would not survive. She left Vietnam in August of 1969. When she got home, "nothing felt right." She wanted to continue to "do the hard stuff." In 1970 she returned to school and earned a Master's degree in Special Education. She worked with handicapped children, becoming the Outpatient Director of the Children's unit at University of North Carolina university hospital. She said, "Vietnam defined my life, but it doesn't CONfine my life. I wouldn't trade my life for anyone else's."

Oral history accompanies this print.

Jennifer Young, 2024 October 17

Box 20 > Image RL00043-P-0309

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0128 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0128

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-CD0129 > Audio-file RL00043-CD-0129

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 201-17

Born January 1947, Jennifer Young graduated from Purdue University with a degree in Spanish in 1968. She was aware of the war in Vietnam and wondered how she could do her part to help. She had already done local work for the Red Cross, so she volunteered to become a SRAO "Donut Dollie." She arrived in Vietnam in November 1968 and was assigned to Dong Ba Thin, where she worked at the Red Cross recreation center and often flew out to firebases or landing zones with other Dollies, carrying their canvas prop bag, entertaining troops with games, snacks, and simply being a comforting presence to the men who had not seen an American woman for weeks. She was then sent to Tui Hua, where she set up a recreation center. She said the dollies were always treated with respect by the troops. She spent the remainder of her year at Pleiku with the 4th Inf. Div., where she often worked at the hospital, visiting troops who were physically wounded as well as with psychiatric patients. She left Vietnam in November 1969. Upon returning home, she made a career of working in Human Resources, first for Mobile Oil in Texas, then for other oil companies in California. She also volunteered at the Federal Prison, in Dallas, where she served as a counselor

for incarcerated Vietnam veterans. She returned to Vietnam with another Donut Dollie in 1993. She said, "I often wondered if we made a difference in Vietnam...but as the years have gone by, we've gotten some thanks."

Oral history accompanies this print.

Margaret Lynd Kelly ("Peggy" Kelly), 2024
October 11

Box 20 > Image RL00043-
P-0310

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0124 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0124

Digital-materials RL00043-SET-
CD0125 > Audio-file RL00043-
CD-0125

Physical Description: 3 items
1 print; 2 digital audio files (.wav)

Scope and Contents

Orig. print number: JA/POR 201-8

Born in 1947 in Rochester, N.Y. Graduated 1967 from the State University of New York with a degree in history and political science. Not being ready to marry at 22, she applied to the Red Cross for the SRAO program. She spent the summer in Europe and then trained as a Donut Dollie, arriving in Vietnam November 1968. Assigned first to Tui Hua, she worked at the recreation center and at the Air Force radio station where she hosted a music request show. She then was moved to Cu Chi, where she became the Unit Director of the Donut Dollies there. She also worked at the recreation center and flew out to firebases and landing zones to visit troops in the field. These flights were commonly called "Clubmobile runs." She then located to the 2nd Field Force with the 25th Inf. Division. While there, another Donut Dollie, Ginny Kirsch, was stabbed to death in her hootch. Peggy also made daily Clubmobile runs there in the Delta. She left Vietnam in November 1970. After returning to the U.S., she worked as the Youth Director of a Red Cross Recreation Center in West Virginia for one year, then trained with the armed forces "special services" program in Germany. She worked there for 18 months as Program Director of the Open House Service Club. She later worked in Romania and Cuba. Of her experience she says, "Life happens anywhere you are...I learned things overseas I could never have learned here."

Oral history accompanies this print.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Original Audiovisual Media

Physical Description: 1.5 Linear Feet
2 boxes 131 CD-ROMs

Access Restrictions:

Access note. Collection contains fragile audiovisual items in the form of original compact discs with oral history recordings. They are closed to use.

MP3 audio files of all the oral histories are accessible in the Rubenstein Library reading room only; they are unavailable for duplication or other distribution.

Oral history media, compact discs RL00043-
CD-0001 through RL00043-CD-0064 Box 9

Oral history media, compact discs RL00043-
CD-0065 through RL00043-CD-0131 Box 15

Physical Description: .2 Linear Feet
1 box 23 optical disks (DCs)

[Return to Table of Contents](#)