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Spotlight on Mississippi Archives

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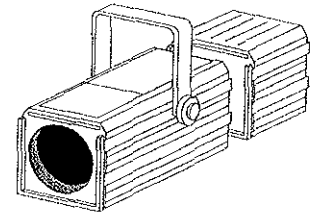
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Spotlight on Mississippi Archives



MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission is located in the Speed Library Building at Mississippi College, Clinton, MS. The Commission's collection was begun in 1888 when a society was formed to collect materials about our denomination's history. Among early members of the society were Mrs. Adelia Hillman and Rev. J. L. Boyd who began preserving materials in a central location so that would be available for future generation.

The collection consists mainly of the following materials:

- + Issues of *The Baptist Record* (our state Baptist paper), either bound volumes or on microfilm, from its beginning in 1877 to date. A selective index is available
- + Biographical information about pastors and other outstanding Mississippi Baptists
- + Information about each church in the state as provided by the churches
- + Vertical files on the departments, agencies, and other institutions of the Convention and other topics of interest to Mississippi Baptists
- + Annual Associational, Mississippi Baptist Convention and Mississippi Baptist Convention Minutes, including some from older and now extinct associations
- + A collection of books and periodicals relating to the history of the Baptist denomination, including the history of many local churches and associations
- + Church records from many Mississippi churches, including some no longer extant
- + Helpful indexes and guides to assist visitors with the use of various collection
- + The Mississippi College Room, containing both historical and current information about the college, is adjacent to the Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission.

We also provide information, brochures and pamphlets regarding the collection and preservation of Baptist history in oral, filmed and written form. Other Commission publications include:

- (1) Highlights of Mississippi Baptist History, available free of charge.
- (2) A History of Mississippi Baptists by R. A. McLemore (\$7.00)
- (3) Mississippi Baptist Preachers: Current biographies (1986) by Jack W. Gunn (\$5.95)
- (4) Selective Index to Leavell and Bailey's Complete History of Mississippi Baptists, Vol. I and II, \$25 per set.

The Commission recognizes churches celebrating their Centennial anniversary and subsequent anniversaries of each 25-year period by presenting a framed plaque and a letter of commendation from the Executive Secretary. We also provide workshops and materials to assist in planning anniversary celebrations and preserving church records.

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Do you have a person, project, or institution you would like to highlight in a future issue of the journal? Contact the editor at irmgard.wolfe@usm.edu