



## University Libraries Special Collections & University Archives

### Wichita Blues Project

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#### Collection Summary

<b>Title:</b>	Wichita Blues Project
<b>Call Number:</b>	MS 98-08
<b>Size:</b>	1.25 linear feet
<b>Acquisition:</b>	Purchased from Patrick J. O'Connor
<b>Processed by:</b>	JLY, 1-2001; MN, 11-2012
<b>Restrictions:</b>	None

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#### Literary Rights

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#### Content Note

The collection consists of oral history recordings, performance recordings, and photographs of the prominent Blues musicians in Wichita, Kansas. The materials were researched and collected by Patrick J. O'Connor who developed his findings into the book *Wichita Blues: Discovery* published in 1998 by the Wichita Blues Project. The research also developed into an exhibit and concert at the First National Black Historical Society of Kansas (now known as the Kansas African American Museum) where many of these musicians performed.

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#### Series Listing

Series 1	Box 1	Audio Recordings. This series contains 24 cassette tapes with interviews and performances of African American musicians from Wichita's Blues scene. The tapes are listed with performers name, date, and a brief description of recording. Note: There is a tape log in Box 3 FF 4 which corresponds to these recordings, but the tapes are copies of the originals and although content of material and dates are accurate, other information such as "Tape Side" do not always match the recording.
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Series 2	Box 2	Video Recordings. This series contains 3 VHS video cassette recordings including the opening of the exhibit "The Tradition of Blues in Wichita: African-Americans Tell Their Stories" and performance by Harold Cary.
Series 3	Box 3 FF 1-2	Photographs. The files in this series contain black and white photographs for many of Wichita's most influential Blues musicians.
Series 4	Box 3 FF 3-6	Printed Materials. The files in this series contain short musician biographies, a tape log, exhibit notice, background of the project and newsletters from the Wichita Blues Society.

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## Box and Folder Listing

### Series 1 -- Audio Recordings

Box 1	Jesse Anderson, 6-5-1996, memories of music career.
Box 1	Arthur Bates (2), 7-11-1996, memories of music career.
Box 1	Harold Cary (2), 6-17-1996, memories of music career.
Box 1	Jerry Childers, 5-29-1996, memories of music career.
Box 1	Jerry Childers, 6-15-1996, performance with Childers, Hammond B3 Organ/vocals; Mickey Sheaks, drums; Rickey Brothers, harmonica; Berry Harris, guitar/vocals; Jerry Jackson, vocals on "Stormy Monday".
Box 1	Donald Dunn, 6-10-1996, memories of music career.
Box 1	Shirley Green, 6-21-1996, memories of music career and saxophone selections.
Box 1	"Harmonica Chuck" (Charlie Phillips), 6-13-1996, memories of music career.
Box 1	Berry Harris, 6-11-1996, memories of music career.
Box 1	Remona Hicks "Miss Blues", 6-17-1996, memories of music career.
Box 1	Barbara Kerr, 7-17-1996, memories of music career. and history of the founding of the First National Black Historical Society.
Box 1	Joe Lotson, 7-8-1996, memories of music career.
Box 1	Gene Metcalf, 6-6-1996, memories of music career.
Box 1	Franklin Mitchell (2), 6-27-1996, memories of music career.

- Box 1 Walton Morgan, 6-4-1996, memories of music career and music on saxophone with taped accompaniment.
- Box 1 Perry Reed, 5-23-1996, memories of music career.
- Box 1 Albert Tucker, 6-18-1996, memories of music career and guitar playing with vocals.
- Box 1 Ray Valentine, 6-24-1996, memories of music career.
- Box 1 Charles Walker, 6-25-1996, memories of music career.
- Box 1 Henry Walker, 7-2-1996, memories of music career.
- Box 1 Overview. Tape has 90 seconds of each interview spliced together.

### **Series 2 -- Video Recordings**

- Box 2 Musical Performance at Exhibit Opening (2), The First National Black Historical Society, 3-22-1997.
- Box 2 Harold Cary, Performance at the Wichita Art Museum, 10-1996.

### **Series 3 -- Photographs**

- Box 3 FF 1 Black and White 5 x 7s: Ira Milton "Bo" Jones; Jerald Burns; Jive Five circa 1975 includes Stanley House, Eddie Gains, Woodrow Cooper, Lee Williams, Berry Harris, Herbie Welch; Sam Lynch; Gilmer Lewis Walters; Kathryn Elrena Smith; Eddie J. Taylor, Jr.; "Big Dave" Carr; negatives for aforementioned photographs.
- Box 3 FF 2 Black and White 8 x 10s: Jesse Anderson; Arthur Bates; Harold Cary; Jerry Childers; Donald Dunn; Shirley Green; "Harmonica Chuck"- Charlie Phillips; Berry Harris; Remona Hicks "Miss Blues"; Barbara Kerr; Joe Lotson; Gene Metcalf; Franklin Mitchell; Walton Morgan; Perry Reed; Albert Tucker; Ray Valentine; Charles Walker; Henry Walker.

### **Series 4 -- Printed Materials**

- Box 3 FF 3 Short biographies of the nineteen performers who appear on the 8 x 10s.

Box 3	FF 4	Tape Log listing title, cassette size, date/time of recording, place of recording, setting and circumstance, and a brief overview of recording. Note: This log corresponds to the interview tapes found in Box 1.
Box 3	FF 5	Exhibit opening notice and brief background of project.
Box 3	FF 6	Wichita Blues Society Newsletters: March, 1997; February, 1998.

### **Series 5 – Oversized**

Oversized Storage	Black and White 11 x 14 photographs: Jesse Anderson, Jerry Childers, "Harmonica Chuck"- Charlie Phillips, Berry Harris, Joe Lotson, Franklin Mitchell, Perry Reed, Albert Tucker, Ray Valentine, Charles Walker, (2) unidentified.
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