ARKANSAS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Seventy-Sixth Annual Conference



Pocahontas

April 20-22, 2017

Welcome to Pocahontas, the seat of Randolph County. The conference host is Five Rivers Historic Preservation, Inc., whose mission is "to preserve the significant history and vital heritage of Randolph County." The organization's name honors the county's five rivers: Black, Current, Eleven Point, Fourche, and Spring.

Conference activities will be headquartered on the downtown square within the Pocahontas Commercial Historic District, which is on the National Register of Historic Places.

From an Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture article on the historic district by Zachary Elledge:

This area has been the seat of local and county government, as well its commercial center, since the formation of the county in 1836. The commercial district is roughly bounded by Thomasville, Jordan, Broadway, and Vance streets. The district is dominated by the Historic Randolph County Courthouse.

The downtown area represents the architectural history of late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Pocahontas. There you will find numerous historic buildings, including two courthouses, a service garage, a theater, a Works Progress Administration (WPA) post office, and the former city hall and city-function buildings, as well as other buildings currently utilized for modern business purposes. Both of the courthouses and the WPA post office are listed on the National Register.

The majority of the historical buildings are built of brick with flat roofs. Many were designed by the same German architect, Henry Lesmeister, and constructed using similar materials from the surrounding area. The buildings represent Italianate, Classical Revival, Art Deco, and Art Moderne with stylistic elements including parapets, brick corbelling, soldier courses, decorative brickwork, and occasional arched windows or storefront columns or pilasters. They are also indicative of a major settlement pattern by German immigrants to the Pocahontas area.

A fire in 1914 destroyed a number of buildings in the commercial district, and some buildings today have been modified. However, the commercial district retains remarkable integrity.

Cover: Pocahontas Cornet Band, early 1900s. Courtesy Pat Carroll

The Conferen	ce in	Brief
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7	hursd	'aγ, 2	April	20

4:30–6:00 p.m. Drop-in reception

Eddie Mae Herron Center and Museum

6:00–7:30 p.m. Reception

Randolph County Heritage Museum

Friday, April 21

All activities take place at venues within easy walking distance of the Historic Randolph County Courthouse on the downtown square.

7:30 a.m. Registration opens, Historic Courthouse

8:00 a.m. Welcome, Historic Courthouse

8:20–9:30 a.m. Session I-A, Marilyn's Clogging Company

Session I-B, Downtown Playhouse

9:30–9:50 a.m. Break, Historic Courthouse

9:50–11:00 a.m. Session II-A, Marilyn's Clogging Company

Session II-B, Downtown Playhouse

11:10 a.m.–12:20 p.m. Session III-A, Marilyn's Clogging Company

Session III-B, Downtown Playhouse

12:30–1:50 p.m. Luncheon and Business Meeting,

Historic Courthouse

2:00–4:30 p.m. Tours

6:00–7:00 p.m. Strolling Reception on the Square

7:00 p.m. Awards Banquet, Historic Courthouse

Saturday, April 22

8:30–9:40 a.m. Session IV-A, Marilyn's Clogging Company

Session IV-B, Downtown Playhouse

9:50–11:00 a.m. Session V-A, Marilyn's Clogging Company

Session V-B, Downtown Playhouse

11:10 a.m.–12:20 p.m. Session VI-A, Marilyn's Clogging Company

Session VI-B, Downtown Playhouse

12:30–1:30 p.m. Luncheon, Historic Courthouse

GREAT WAR, GREAT CHANGES

General Information

The seventy-sixth Arkansas Historical Association annual conference will be held in Pocahontas, April 20–22, and is hosted by Five Rivers Historic Preservation, Inc. To mark the centennial of the United States' entry into World War I, conference sessions will focus on World War I and the changes it brought to Arkansas but also on great changes throughout the entirety of Arkansas's history.

The conference will be headquartered on the downtown square. Our registration desk and vendor tables will be stationed at the Historic Randolph County Courthouse, where Friday and Saturday luncheons, the Friday break, and the Friday night awards banquet will take place. The Thursday night reception will be at the Randolph County Heritage Museum. The Friday night "strolling reception" will take place at several locations along the 100 block of N. Marr Street.

Friday and Saturday sessions will be held concurrently at two venues within easy walking distance of the courthouse: Marilyn's Clogging Company and the Downtown Playhouse.

Friday afternoon tours will leave from and return to the courthouse.

Ample free parking is available on and near the square.

View an online map of conference locations at https://goo.gl/JVLFTx.

The conference committee members are Steven Kite (program chair), University of Arkansas-Fort Smith; David Sesser (guest speaker chair), Henderson State University; and Susan Young (conference chair), Shiloh Museum of Ozark History. The local arrangements committee members are Linda Bowlin, Bill Carroll, Rodney Harris, and Brent Miller.

Registration

Complete the enclosed registration form and send it with check or money order to the Arkansas Historical Association, Department of History, Old Main 416, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. You may also register online at www.arkansashistoricalassociation.org. The registration fee is \$10. **Deadline for registration is April 5.**

Name tags may be picked up at the Thursday evening reception or at the AHA registration table during the conference.

Meals

Friday and Saturday luncheons and the Friday night awards banquet will take place in the second floor courtroom of the Historic Randolph County Courthouse. All meals require reservations, **which must be made by April 5** using the enclosed registration form. Meal prices include tax and gratuity.

Lodging

Days Inn (2805 Highway 67 South) is the host hotel for the conference. A block of 45 rooms will be offered **until March 20** at a special nightly rate of \$99.46 (two queens or one king, tax included) and \$106.17 (one king with queen sofa, tax included). Call 870-892-9500 to make reservations; mention the Arkansas Historical Association conference to receive the discount room rate.

Other nearby lodging options:

Rock N Roll Hwy 67 Inn 1710 Hwy 67 South 870-609-1999; www.facebook.com/rockandrollhwy67inn/

Lesmeister Guest House 208 N Marr Street 870-892-3387; www.arkansasguesthouse.com

Thursday Afternoon Drop-in Reception

Eddie Mae Herron Center and Museum, 1708 Archer 4:30–6:00 p.m.

The Eddie Mae Herron Center is housed in the 1919 St. Mary's African Methodist Episcopal Church, which also served as a school for African-American children. Named for Eddie Mae Herron, who taught at the school from 1948 to 1965, today the center preserves and displays a portion of nearly two hundred years of African-American history in Randolph County. Sponsored by the Eddie Mae Herron Center

Arkansas and the Great War

The most recent World War I memorial in Arkansas is a doughboy statue by sculptor Fred Hoppe of Lincoln, Nebraska, that was dedicated on October 8, 2006, as an element of the Randolph County Veterans Memorial at the Randolph County Courthouse in Pocahontas.

Mark K. Christ, Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture

Thursday Evening Reception

Randolph County Heritage Museum, 106 E. Everett 6:00–7:30 p.m.

Explore three major exhibits focusing on culture and commerce along the five rivers of Randolph County, medical history, and archaeology, along with a kaleidoscope of smaller exhibits about local history. A special exhibit from the Arkansas State Archives, *The Great War:* Arkansas in World War I, will also be on display. Sponsored by Five Rivers Historic Preservation, Inc.

There is no cost for the reception, but please indicate on the registration form that you will attend this event.

Friday Afternoon Tours, 2:00–4:30 p.m.

Limited space available; pre-registration encouraged. Note on your conference registration form that you want to sign up for one of the tours. Slots will be filled in the order that registrations are received. Buses will leave from and return to the Historic Randolph County Courthouse on the square.

Historic Davidsonville State Park

Arkansas State Parks park interpreter Geoffrey Havens and Arkansas Archeological Survey (ARAS) research associate Kathleen Cande invite you to join them for an afternoon in the past. Established in 1815, Davidsonville included Arkansas Territory's first post office, courthouse, and land office. Founded in rough economic times, bypassed by the Southwest Trail, and isolated by annual flooding, the town faded by the 1830s. Archaeological excavations have uncovered well-preserved streets, foundations, and numerous objects ranging from building materials to fine jewelry that tell a fascinating story of life on the Arkansas frontier following the Louisiana Purchase.

Havens will introduce participants to Davidsonville's exhibit collection and the broad history surrounding the park alongside Cande's exploration of the archaeological excavations conducted at Davidsonville by the ARAS from 2004 to 2009. Wear good walking shoes and dress for the weather.

Rice-Upshaw House and William Looney Tavern

Travel to the banks of the Eleven Point River for an exploration of two territorial-era log buildings and their environs. The 1828 Rice-Upshaw House and the 1833 William Looney Tavern (both listed on the National Register of Historic Places) form the nucleus of Black River Technical College's historic preservation project, Project REACH: Researching Early Arkansas Cultural Heritage.

The Rice-Upshaw House served as a shop and/or loom house for merchant, carpenter, and blacksmith Reuben Rice. Numerous early traders surrounded Rice's shop. In the 1840s a half-story was added, transforming the shop into a home for Thomas B. Rice. His daughter Lydia married Andrew Jackson Upshaw and by 1900 the structure was known as the Upshaw Place.

Looney Tavern, a one-and-a-half-story dogtrot building, is one of the finest examples of vernacular architecture in the state. Thought to have been built as a rural tavern or inn, it may have served as area settler William Looney's distillery as well.

Your tour guides will be Joan L. Gould, historic preservation consultant for the REACH project and owner of Preservation Matters, and Jessica Bailey, projects director at Black River Technical College. Wear good walking shoes and dress for the weather.

Friday Reception and Awards Banquet

100 N. Marr Block, Downtown Square

Reception, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Enjoy a pre-awards banquet "strolling reception" along the 100 N. Marr block of the square. Explore the Gallery on the Square (where a portion of the Allen Johnson Railroad Memorabilia Collection will be on display), the historic Sanitary Barber Shop (Arkansas's oldest continuously operating barber shop), Marilyn's Clogging Company, and the Historic Randolph County Courthouse.

Sponsored by the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, Central Arkansas Library System

Please indicate on the registration form that you will attend the reception.

Banquet, 7:00 p.m.

Historic Randolph County Courthouse, 107 E. Everett

Thursday, April 20

Afternoon Drop-in Reception 4:30–6:00 p.m.

Eddie Mae Herron Center and Museum, 1708 Archer

Sponsored by Eddie Mae Herron Center and Museum

Evening Reception 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Randolph County Heritage Museum, 106 E. Everett

Sponsored by Five Rivers Historic Preservation, Inc.

Friday, April 21

Historic Randolph County Courthouse, 107 E. Everett

Registration, 7:30 a.m.

Welcome, 8:00 a.m.

Kary Story, Mayor of Pocahontas

David Jansen, County Judge of Randolph County

James Damon, President of Five Rivers Historic Preservation, Inc.

Marilyn's Clogging Company, 111 N. Marr

Session I-A, 8:20-9:30 a.m.

MUSEUMS AND MEMORIES

Moderator: Story Matkin-Rawn, University of Central Arkansas

Railroads and Railroad Museums in Arkansas

Carolyn D. Tyson, Randolph County Historical Corporation

World War One in Prescott and Nevada County, Arkansas Peggy S. Lloyd, Nevada County Depot Museum

Luther C. Gulley: An Overlooked Hero of Arkansas History Lisa K. Speer, Arkansas State Archives

Downtown Playhouse, 302 N. Marr

Session I-B, 8:20-9:30 a.m.

ARKANSANS IN WORLD WAR I

Moderator: Maylon Rice, Arkansas Historical Association

Jim Guy Tucker Sr. and his World War One Experiences
Kimberly Kaczenski, Center for Arkansas History and Culture, University of
Arkansas at Little Rock

Joseph Cooper, Arkansas Doughboy Brian Robertson, Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, Central Arkansas Library System

"Heaven, Home or Hell by Christmas": The Arkansas Soldier in the Great War

Mike Polston, Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture

Changing Views in a Changing World: Arkansas Boys in World War I France

Linda C. Jones, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

Historic Randolph County Courthouse, 107 E. Everett

Break, 9:30-9:50 a.m.

Sponsors: University of Arkansas Press and the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, Central Arkansas Library System

Marilyn's Clogging Company, 111 N. Marr

SESSION II-A, 9:50-11:00 a.m.

HYPHENATED AMERICANS IN ARKANSAS

Moderator: Rachel Silva Patton, Preserve Arkansas

"Also bleibt Deutsch! Amerikanisirt euch nicht!": A German Arkansan Newspaper Reacts to the "European War" Kathleen Condray, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

Japanese Internees and Racial Hysteria in Arkansas Sheren Sanders, Alcorn State University The German American Experience during World War One Students of Lisa M. Lacefield: Mayzee Coots, Maddie Dixon, Mia Guinn, Autumn Holland, Megan Holland, Zeke Hundley, Lauren Lewis, Madison Powell, Dalton Roberts, Kennedy Ross, Emily Taylor, Payton Willhite, Valley View Junior High School, Jonesboro

Downtown Playhouse, 302 N. Marr

SESSION II-B, 9:50-11:00 a.m.

PREPARING FOR WAR IN ARKANSAS

Moderator: John Kyle Day, University of Arkansas at Monticello

Laboring on the Plains of Flatonia: War, Work, Migration, and Industry at the Little Rock Picric Acid Plant during World War One Carl G. Drexler, Arkansas Archeological Survey

Training the "Cavalry of the Air" on the Grand Prairie: A Brief History of the Brief Life of Eberts Field

Thomas DeBlack, Arkansas Tech University

Marilyn's Clogging Company, 111 N. Marr

SESSION III-A, 11:10 a.m.-12:20 p.m.

Women: Agents of Change in the Early Twentieth Century Moderator: Kimberly Kaczenski, Center for Arkansas History and Culture, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

Arkansas's Mobilized Womanhood, 1917-1918: An Overview Elizabeth Hill, independent scholar

Mamie Josenberger and Women's Suffrage Activism in World War One Arkansas Cherisse Jones-Branch, Arkansas State University

Fashion Forward: The Vote and Rising Hemlines Yslan Hicks, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

Arkansas and the Great War

World War I Medal of Honor recipients from Arkansas are Marcellus Holms Chiles (Eureka Springs), Oscar Miller (Franklin County), and John Henry Pruitt (Newton County).

Mark K. Christ, Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture

Downtown Playhouse, 302 N. Marr

Session III-B, 11:10 a.m.-12:20 p.m.

COMMUNITIES OF THOUGHT AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Moderator: Billy Higgins, University of Arkansas-Fort Smith

Great Women Promoting Great Changes: Freda Ameringer and Ida Hayman Callery Fight for Social Justice in Northwest Arkansas and Beyond

Kelly A. Woestman, Pittsburg State University

Communal Farm or Communism? The Failure of the Lake Dick Resettlement Project

Scott Cashion, University of Arkansas-Fort Smith

All's Well in Post-War Fayetteville: A Mecca for Writers Joshua Youngblood, University of Arkansas Libraries Special Collections

Historic Randolph County Courthouse, 107 E. Everett

LUNCHEON AND BUSINESS MEETING, 12:30-1:50 p.m.

Presiding: Mark K. Christ, President, Arkansas Historical Association

Business Meeting

President's Report Secretary-Treasurer's Report Election of Officers and Trustees

Speaker

Rebel Without a Base: William Kirby and the Politics of War and Peace William H. Pruden III, Ravenscroft School, Raleigh, North Carolina

Tours, 2:00–4:30 p.m.

Buses will depart from and return to the Historic Randolph County Courthouse.

- Historic Davidsonville State Park
- Rice-Upshaw House and William Looney Tavern

100 Block of N. Marr

STROLLING RECEPTION, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Sponsor: Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, Central Arkansas Library System

Historic Randolph County Courthouse, 107 E. Everett

Annual Awards Banquet, 7:00 p.m.

Presiding: Mark K. Christ, President, Arkansas Historical Association

Awards Presentation

Lifetime Achievement Award

Award of Merit

Arkansas Diamond Award

J. G. Ragsdale Book Award

Tom Dillard Advocacy Award

J. H. Atkinson Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Arkansas History

NEARA Award

James L. Foster and Billy W. Beason Award

Lucille Westbrook Award

Violet B. Gingles Award

Susannah DeBlack Award

Walter L. Brown County and Local Journal Awards

Arkansas Women's History Institute Susie Pryor Award

Arkansas and the Great War

June 17, 1917: Little Rock women focus on making hospital supplies for the Western Front. An Arkansas Gazette article detailed that "one complete outfit consists of six sheets, four draw shirts, two spreads, four pillow cases, four pajama suits, three hospital bed shirts, one convalescent gown, four pairs of socks, two pairs [of] bed socks, four bath towels, three face towels, one wash cloth, one pair [of] slippers, one hot water bag cover, one ice water bag cover and six handkerchiefs."

From the Arkansas World War I Centennial website

Saturday, April 22

President's Breakfast

7:30 a.m., Day's Inn

AHA President Mark Christ hosts this breakfast for former presidents of the organization.

Marilyn's Clogging Company, 111 N. Marr

Session IV-A, 8:30-9:40 a.m.

VERBOTEN PEOPLE: THE ARKANSAS GERMAN EXPERIENCE

Moderator: Bill Shrum, Arkansas Historical Association

"Wherever the Traveler Stops, He Hears the Sound of the German Language": German Immigration to Arkansas, 1865-1890 Brian Irby, Arkansas State Archives

May Day to Mayday: German-American Communities in Arkansas prior to World War I

Jessica Erwin, Arkansas State Archives

"But Aren't We Americans?": The Treatment of Germans in Arkansas during World War I

Jane A. Wilkerson, Arkansas State Archives

Downtown Playhouse, 302 N. Marr

Session IV-B, 8:30-9:40 a.m.

REMEMBERING DESEGREGATION AT HOXIE

Moderator: Cherisse Jones-Branch, Arkansas State University

Rodney W. Harris, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

Elizabeth Jacoway, independent scholar

Story Matkin-Rawn, University of Central Arkansas

J. Blake Perkins, Williams Baptist College

Ethel Tompkins, Lawrence County Historical Journal, Hoxie

Fayth Hill Washington, West Memphis

Marilyn's Clogging Company, 111 N. Marr

Session V-A, 9:50-11:00 a.m.

ARKANSAS IN THE GILDED AGE

Moderator: Mike Crane, University of Arkansas-Fort Smith

The Little Rock and Fort Smith Railway and the Establishment of a *Colonie Française* in Arkansas

Timothy G. Nutt, Historical Research Center, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

Linda C. Jones, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

James Worthington Mason: Political Boss of Chicot County Blake Wintory, Lakeport Plantation/Arkansas State University

The Octopus of Arkansas: The Life and Crimes of Logan Holt Roots Cornelia den Hartog, University of Arkansas–Fort Smith

Downtown Playhouse, 302 N. Marr

Session V-B, 9:50-11:00 a.m.

TEMPERATURE, TOPOGRAPHY, AND TEMPESTS: NATURE'S PIVOTAL PART IN CIVIL WAR ARKANSAS

Moderator: Thomas DeBlack, Arkansas Tech University

Nature as Agent in the Outcome of the Battle of Pea Ridge Chris Huggard, Northwest Arkansas Community College

"A most miserable condition of affairs": Disease, Animals, and Weather during the Prairie Grove Campaign

Alan Thompson, Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park

Terrain, Torrents, and the Trans-Mississippi Mud March: Nature's Decisive Role in the Helena Campaign David Schieffler, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

Arkansas and the Great War

From Arkansas, 71,862 soldiers served in World War I; 18,322 of these soldiers were African Americans and two were Native Americans. Out of these soldiers, 2,183 died (more than half from illnesses rather than war injuries), and 1,751 were injured.

Steven Teske, Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture

Marilyn's Clogging Company, 111 N. Marr

Session VI-A, 11:10 a.m.-12:20 p.m.

Erasing Boundaries: The Founding of Territorial Lawrence County, 1815-1820

Moderator: George Lankford, Batesville

Joan Gould, Preservation Matters

Robert Myers, independent scholar

J. Blake Perkins, Williams Baptist College

Steve Saunders, Powhatan Historic State Park

Downtown Playhouse, 302 N. Marr

Session VI-B, 11:10 a.m.-12:20 p.m.

ARKANSAS WOMEN IN CHANGING TIMES

Moderator: Cherisse Jones-Branch, Arkansas State University

Yankee Mistress of the Old South: Slavery and Freedom in the Arkansas Delta

Gary T. Edwards, Arkansas State University

Edith Mae Irby Jones and the Integration of the University of Arkansas of Medicine

Yulonda Eadie Sano, Arkansas State University

Dr. Mamie Phipps Clark: American Psychologist and Arkansas Native Loretta N. McGregor, Arkansas State University

Historic Randolph County Courthouse, 107 E. Everett

Luncheon, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

The First World War: Arkansas and the Seven Years' War

Morris S. Arnold, United States Circuit Judge

Arkansas and the Great War

April 20, 1917: Alice Ellington, president of the Arkansas Equal Suffrage Central Committee, announced that "considerable progress is being made in organizing suffrage workers over the state for special service during the war."

From the Arkansas World War I Centennial website

While in the Area, Visit NEARA

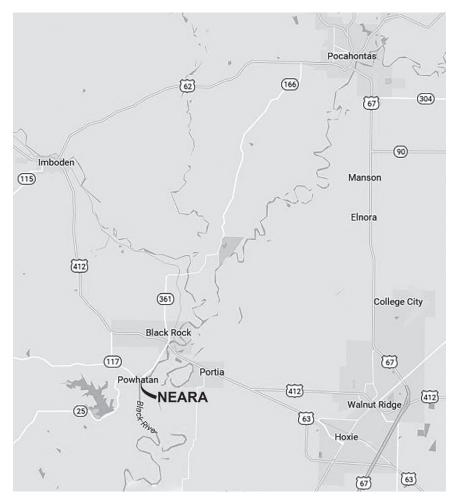
AHA conference attendees are reminded that the Northeast Arkansas Regional Archives (NEARA) is just eighteen miles south of Pocahontas and well worth a visit while you're in this neck of the woods. Located within Powhatan Historic State Park, NEARA is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

Among other documents, NEARA preserves territorial records dating to 1815 that relate to a sixteen-county region in northeast Arkansas. These records were saved by volunteers from the Lawrence County Historical Society after county officials abandoned the courthouse. NEARA opened in 2011, founded through a partnership between what was then the Arkansas History Commission and Arkansas State Parks. Today, NEARA operates as a satellite of the Arkansas State Archives, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage.

Researchers who have not previously used a state archives location will need to register and show photo identification. Other tips are posted at www.ark-ives.com/neara.



Courtesy Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism



Directions to NEARA

From Pocahontas, take AR Hwy 166 south for eight miles.

At Old Davidsonville State Park, continue on Hwy 361.

At Black Rock, continue driving south on Hwy 361/Fourth St.

Turn left at Elm St./Hwy 117 to the next street (Third St.).

Take the first right onto Third St./Hwy 117.

Continue to AR Hwy 25 South, turn left, and follow for two miles until you reach Powhatan State Park.

Drive past Powhatan Courthouse on the left and the post office on the right. NEARA is located behind the post office.

THANK YOU!

This annual conference is supported in part through funds from the Arkansas Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities, and by the Department of Arkansas Heritage.

The Arkansas Historical Association is also grateful for the following special support:

Arkansas State Archives

Jessica Bailey

Linda Bowlin

Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, Central Arkansas Library System

Kathleen Cande

Bill Carroll

Pat Carroll

City of Pocahontas

Downtown Playhouse

Eddie Mae Herron Center and Museum

First Baptist Church of Pocahontas

Five Rivers Historic Preservation, Inc.

Wendy French

J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

Gallery on the Square

Joan Gould

Rodney Harris

Geoffrey Havens

Historic Davidsonville State Park

Marr Street Productions, Inc.

Brent Miller

Eric Moffett

Blake Perkins

Randolph County Chamber of Commerce

Randolph County Heritage Museum

Randolph County Historical Corporation

Sanitary Barber Shop

Kitty Sloan

University of Arkansas Press





Arkansas Humanities Council

Five Rivers Historic Preservation, Inc.





Eddie Mae Herron Center and Museum



City of Pocahontas

Gallery on the Square

Marr Street Productions, Inc.

Randolph County Heritage Museum

Randolph County Historical Corporation

Sanitary Barber Shop

RANDOLPH COUNTY

—— CHAMBER OF COMMERCE —

