

*Albert Gore*

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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY



**Title:** Rutherford County Chapter of the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities (APTA) Records

**Dates:** 1971–2005

**Creator:** Rutherford County APTA

**Summary/Abstract:** The Rutherford County Chapter of the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities (APTA) Papers include operational records, publications, scrapbooks, and other miscellaneous documents pertaining to the APTA's activity on both local and state levels. These records demonstrate the activities of the Rutherford County chapter alone and its activities with other local historical organizations.

**Quantity/Physical Description:** Approximately three (3) linear feet.

**Language(s):** English

**Repository:** Albert Gore Research Center, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN 37132, (615) 898-2632

**Restrictions on Access:** None

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**Preferred Citation:** (Box Number, Folder Number), Rutherford County Chapter of the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities (APTA) Papers, Albert Gore Research Center, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

**Acquisition:** Steve Cates; March 7, 2007; Lacy Wakid; July 14, 2008

**Processed By:** Original processor undetermined.

**Arrangement:** These papers are arranged by series and, within series, type. The first of these series is Operational Records, containing meeting minutes, bylaws, and annual files. The second series is Publications, containing state and chapter newsletters, bulletins, and other printed materials. The third and final series is Miscellaneous. Where appropriate, documents of the same type are arranged chronologically.

**Historical Note:** The Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities is the oldest statewide nonprofit historic preservation organization in the State of Tennessee and the fourth oldest in the United States. The organization has been preserving and maintaining historic sites that play an important role in demonstrating Tennessee's rich cultural heritage since 1951. APTA's mission is to "promote and encourage active participation in the preservation of Tennessee's rich historic, cultural, architectural, and archeological heritage through restoration, education, advocacy, and statewide cooperation."

Louisa Van Ness felt a strong need for a statewide preservation organization in Tennessee. The Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities (APVA) inspired Van Ness, who heard about the work the organization was doing upon visiting her sister in that state. Upon returning to Nashville, Van Ness and four of her friends—Mrs. Clark Hutton, Mrs. W. A. Buntin, Mrs. George Gale, and Mrs. Cecil Rogan Allen—each obtained five members to create Tennessee's equivalent to APVA. Thus, the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities was organized in October 1951.

A group of preservation-minded citizens organized the Rutherford County chapter of APTA in 1952. According to Mr. Steve Cates, current chair of the chapter, the present goal of this group is "to locate and mark buildings that are more than 75 years old." This includes important churches, other public buildings, and residential homes in the county. The Rutherford County APTA marks these buildings with "a green marker on a black wrought-iron post."

**Scope and Content:** The materials in this collection pertain to the Rutherford County Chapter of the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities. The bulk of the collection consists of operational records such as minutes, state and chapter bylaws, treasury reports, annual reports, and membership rosters. Correspondence also exists between the Rutherford County Chapter APTA and many other businesses and organizations, namely the APTA Headquarters in Nashville. The APTA, both on state and chapter scales, published newsletters and bulletins, many of which are in this collection. Miscellaneous items, such as brochures, computer data, other organizations' bylaws and membership rosters, scrapbooks, newspaper clippings and photographs complete the Rutherford County Chapter APTA Records.

**Related Collections:** None.

## **Subject Terms**

### Persons

Louisa Van Ness  
Mrs. Clark Hutton  
Mrs. W. A. Buntin  
Mrs. George Gale  
Mrs. Cecil Rogan Allen

### Places

Murfreesboro, Tennessee  
Rutherford County, Tennessee

### Subjects (General)

Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities (Rutherford) County Records  
Tennessee Antiquities

Material Types  
 Meeting minutes  
 Bylaws  
 Meeting agendas  
 Annual reports  
 Correspondence  
 Meeting notices  
 Membership rosters  
 Minutes  
 Treasury reports  
 Computer floppy disk  
 Membership rosters  
 Publications

### Inventory:

Box	Folder	Series	Description of Contents
1	1	Operational Records	Meeting minutes; 1971-1977; Before 1985, the Rutherford County APTA maintained their records within a series of three books. This folder contains the book of board and membership meeting minutes from years 1971 to 1977
1	2	Operational Records	Meeting minutes; 1979, 1982, 1985 -89; This folder holds a portion of the minutes and membership rosters for the years 1979, 1982, and 1985-1989
1	3	Operational Records	Minutes, 1989-1997; this record book documents meetings from 1989 to 1997. After 1997, the group began grouping their minutes with other organizational records within annual file folders
1	4	Operational Records	Donelson-Hermitage Chapter bylaws; 1995
1	5	Operational Records	APTA state bylaws; 1984
1	6	Operational Records	APTA state bylaws; May 1995
1	7	Operational Records	APTA state bylaws; May 2002
2	1	Operational Records	Annual Files; 1977-1980; include meeting agendas, annual reports, correspondence, meeting notices, membership rosters and treasury reports
2	2	Operational Records	Annual Files; 1985-1986; include meeting agendas, annual reports, correspondence, meeting notices, membership rosters and treasury reports

2	3	Operational Records	Annual Files, 1986-1987; include meeting agendas, annual reports, correspondence, meeting notices, membership rosters and treasury reports
2	4	Operational Records	Annual Files; 1988-1989; include meeting agendas, annual reports, correspondence, meeting notices, membership rosters and treasury reports
2	5	Operational Records	Annual Files; 1989-1991; include meeting agendas, annual reports, correspondence, meeting notices, membership rosters and treasury reports
2	6	Operational Records	Annual Files; 1992-1993; include meeting agendas, annual reports, correspondence, meeting notices, membership rosters and treasury reports
2	7	Operational Records	Annual Files; 1993-1994; include meeting agendas, annual reports, correspondence, meeting notices, membership rosters and treasury reports
2	8	Operational Records	Annual Files; 1997-1998; include meeting agendas, annual reports, correspondence, meeting notices, membership rosters, minutes, and treasury reports
2	9	Operational Records	Annual Files; 1999-2000; include meeting agendas, annual reports, correspondence, meeting notices, membership rosters, minutes, and treasury reports
2	10	Operational Records	Annual Files; 2001; include meeting agendas, annual reports, correspondence, meeting notices, membership rosters, minutes, and treasury reports
2	11	Operational Records	Annual Files; 2002; include meeting agendas, annual reports, correspondence, meeting notices, membership rosters, minutes, and treasury reports
2	12	Operational Records	Annual Files; 2003; include meeting agendas, annual reports, correspondence, meeting notices, membership rosters, minutes, and treasury reports
2	13	Operational Records	Annual Files; 2004; include meeting agendas, annual reports, correspondence, meeting notices, membership rosters, minutes, and treasury reports
2	14	Operational Records	Annual Files; 2005; include meeting agendas, annual reports, correspondence, meeting notices, membership rosters, minutes, and treasury reports

3	1	Publications	“APTA Headquarters Bulletin,” an APTA state publication; five bulletins; August & December 1992, February & December 1993
3	2	Publications	“APTA News,” an APTA state publication; seven newsletters; Summer 1999, Spring 2000, Summer 2000, Fall 2000, Winter 2000, Spring 2001, Fall 2002, Spring 2003
3	3	Publications	APTA Chapter Publications, including the “Belle Meade Plantation Columns” (Nashville Chapter APTA), “The Cragfont Chronicle” (Sumner County APTA), and the “Donelson-Hermitage Chapter APTA News;” three newsletters; Summer 1992, Spring 1991, March 1993
3	4	Publications	“The Historic Marker,” a Rutherford County chapter APTA publication; six newsletters; October 1987; February 2000, 2001; Summer 2001; September 2001; September 2002
3	5	Publications	“The Intercom,” an APTA state publication; seven newsletters; January 1987, July 1988, September 1989, December 1992, June 1993, December 1993, April 1994
3	6	Miscellaneous	“APTA Address & Logo” floppy disk; computer data storage; undated
3	7	Miscellaneous	Three state APTA brochures; including information on house museums and historic sites, as well as APTA activities; undated
3	8	Miscellaneous	APTA calendar with pictures of historic homes; 1997
3	9	Miscellaneous	APTA minutes and rosters; undated
3	10	Miscellaneous	Murfreesboro, Tennessee Charity Circle membership roster; includes addresses and telephone numbers of members; undated
3	11	Miscellaneous	Oaklands Historic House Museum Council bylaws; undated
4	0	Oversize	Envelope of oversize newspaper clippings; folder of newspaper clippings and photograph “for scrapbook;” two scrapbooks, with loose newspaper clippings; notes both state and Rutherford County Chapter activities; 1952-1961