

M 73 PRICE, (James Earl) Papers

Biography

James Earl Price was born on September 3, 1936, in Hinds County, Mississippi. When he was eight years old, Price's family moved to a farm a couple of miles down the road and across the county line in Carpenter, Mississippi, which is in Copiah County. Following his graduation from Utica High School in 1955, Price was employed as a Relief Train Order Operator and Depot Agent with the Illinois Central Railroad. At the time, steam engines were just being phased out and diesel engines were very popular. The Illinois Central Railroad parallels what are now Interstate 55, Interstate 20 and Highway # 61. Much of Price's employment with the railroad was at the Vicksburg office, although he did have many temporary positions in other towns during this time. He was promoted to Train Dispatcher and worked this position from time to time on a temporary basis. He married his wife, Carol, at Hawkins United Methodist Church in 1964. After the Vicksburg railroad office closed in 1968, Price began working in the timber industry where he has remained to this day. While raising two children in the 1960s and '70s, he and his wife struggled with the many changes occurring within the United Methodist church. At the time he and many of the followers of the United Methodist church felt that the church may have lost its way. Many people split from the church at this point, but Price chose to stay and work for change within the church he had always loved. Price is a Past Master (1983) of W H Stevens Lodge # 121 of the Free and Accepted Masons in Vicksburg. He also served his Lodge as treasurer for 20 years. He is also a Knights York Cross of Honor Mason and a member of the Red Cross of Constantine. His wife died of lymphoma in 1994. Price has been a member of Hawkins Methodist Church since 1966, and he researches various subjects of Mississippi history in his spare time. He served as chairman and vice-chairman of the Methodist Mississippi Conference Commission on Archives and History 1996-2004, president of the Mississippi Methodist Historical Society since 1997, and serves on the executive committee of the UMC Southeastern Jurisdiction Historical Society. In 2000, he was honored by the Annual Conference with the Tobias Gibson Award for significant contributions to the preservation of Methodist history in the Mississippi Conference.

BOX 1

- Folder: 1 Civil Rights Material
- My Experiences Relating to the United Methodist Church During the Civil Rights Crisis
 - Lecture by Dr. K. Kinghorn, Professor of History, Asbury Theology Seminar on United Methodist Church and Pluralism, civil rights Era
- 2 Various Newspaper Articles
- 1/16/00, AArtist hanging onto history by saving Coopers Well, *The Vicksburg Post*
 - Report by Sam Price on recent incidents having to do with race relations, 9/01/00

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BOX 1

Folder: 2 cont'd

- 8/04/00, Racial past still haunting Mississippi, editorial on Raynard Johnson case
- Letter by Sam Price to Debra McIntosh about the Raynard Johnson case with newspaper clippings from the Clarion Ledger, 8/19/00
- Letter by Sam Price to Debra McIntosh on the decline of the Methodist Church, 8/15/00
- 10/24/99, AOn what would be her 100th birthday, a tribute to the Vicksburg native who was the seventh black woman in the country to earn a doctoral degree: Dr. Jane Ellen McAllister@
- 10/30/99, Obituary of William L. Triplett Sr., chairman of the board of trustees of Wesley United Methodist Church in Vicksburg
- 10/31/99, Brick by Brick: Spurred by love of history, bricklayer rebuilt church wall, Rocky Springs UMC
- clipping with brief summary by Sam Price on Mississippi Masonic Female College- Southern Female College, 5/16/99
- 5/20/99, Memories of the Pisgah Cemetery Area

3 Histories

- clipping, 11/26/00, Preaching from his soul, Pompey drew crowds of all colors, Pompey was a Black Freed Slave Preacher
- History of Elizabeth Female Academy in Washington, MS by Sam Price
- speech made by Sam Price on Lambuth day, 10/06/00
- History of The William Foster Home, 1/14/99
- Minutes from meeting of he Mississippi Conference Commission on History and the Mississippi Conference Historical Society, 10/15/00
- Letter from Sam Price to Gretchen Ward about Lambuth Day, 1/20/00
- recipe, Sam Price's Masonic Bar-B-Que, 10/10/00

4 Church History Material

- Speech for Lambuth Day, 10/4/01
- Church Property Deed Research
 - North Warren Ct. Parsonage, 1859
 - Baker's Chapel
 - Wrenn's Chapel
 - Oak Ridge
 - Beechland or Featherstun Chapel
 - Wesley Chapel
 - Cane Ridge

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BOX 1

- Folder: 4, cont'd
- transcription of Property Deed for Oak Ridge UMC and Parsonage, 1840 and 1859
 - Newet Vick Methodist Park, biographical information on Vick, description and map and directions to cemetery/park in Warren County
 - Asbury Cemetery, description and map
 - Warren County Methodism concerning a Rev. Alston Mygatt of Vicksburg- a scalawag during Civil War
 - Port Gibson Female Academy- 5 items of historical and current information on Port Gibson and the Academy
 - Copy of a letter from Claude Johnson, 5/25/01
 - Copy of a letter from Mr. Hilliard of Miss. State Historical Society asking Price to serve on Membership committee
- 5 Church History Materials
- Midway Methodist Church
 - Cooper's Well
 - Claiborne County Churches and Cemeteries
 - Rocky Springs Cemetery
 - Pisgah Cemetery
 - Pisgah Methodist Church Deed information
- 6 Church History Materials
- Hawkins UMC Newsletter
 - Featherstun Chapel UMC
 - Carpenter UMC
 - Whitworth College property
- 7 Church History Material
- History of Gibson Memorial UMC, Vicksburg
 - transcript of Deed Book Letter to Attorney from Lorenzo Dow to Randal Gibson
 - transcript of Deed Book Warranty Deed for Selsertown Methodist Church
 - Report given at the General Conference meeting on Race and Religion which was held at Asbury United Methodist Church in Jackson, MS, on 10/10/02
 - 4/14/02, In 1863, some sought refuge in houses of worship, and some found it, Redbone UMC in Warren County

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BOX 1

Folder: 7, cont'd

- Obituary for Edna Gibson Bullen (original member of Methodist Society in Mississippi) in Mississippi River Routes, 1839
 - Copy of article about Rev. Claude Johnson from Mississippi Advocate, 1959
 - 6/16/02, A View From the Top, Crawford St. UMC
 - 6/29/02, Hawkins breaks ground for \$1.8 Million multipurpose building
 - Program: A Service of Death and Resurrection for Alex W. Cunningham and Obituary
- 8 Wright, Mildred Newman – biographical information on Hawkins UMC and Methodist benefactor
Prowell, Dwight Dee – biographical information
- 9 Church Newsletters, Hawkins UMC, Mr. Price's stewardship columns
- 10 Print materials related to 1960's era Methodist Church, National Council of Churches, Ku Klux Kan, Miss. Association of Methodist Ministers & Laymen, Includes anti-NCC exhibits for MAMML (see folder for detailed list)
- 11 Church History material
- Fayette Methodist Church, undated (c. 1950') newspaper column
 - Castles Chapel Methodist Protestant Church, Yazoo County, history timeline, photocopy of 1940 certificate of Miss. District of MPC barring ministerial appointment
 - Photo of tombstone of Lorenzo Dow Langford in Fletchers Chapel UMC cemetery
 - Brookhaven First UMC: research from Masonic Lodge history concerning cornerstone ceremony, 1904
 - Greenville First UMC: research from Masonic Lodge history concerning cornerstone ceremony, 1903
 - Vicksburg MEC: land deed from John Lane to MEC, 1837
 - Rocky Springs UMC: news article concerning roof damage from storm, 2005
- 12 Church History material
- Pearl River United Methodist Church, Madison, 60+ page typescript of

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- research of church and property history, land records, real estate history, the Lambuth family, with index and contents
- Wesley UMC, Vicksburg, 31 page typescript research on church history for speech given to Port City Kiwanis Club July 10, 2003
- Notes on Sept. 10-12 visit of Kwansai Gakuin, Japan, visitors to Millsaps and Pearl River Church and Madison UMC

*****October 2008 Accretion*****

BOX 2

Folder: 1 School History Materials

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- Letter from Sharon Nettles to James Earl Price about rededication of the Elizabeth Female Academy 4/06/2006
- 2/11/06, "It's Claim to be the Mother of Women's College in America", Elizabeth Female Academy
- 1898, "Elizabeth Female Academy-The Mother of Female Colleges"
- 1909, "History of Higher Education of Women in the South", Elizabeth Female Academy
- "The Cradle of Mississippi Methodism", Elizabeth Female Academy
- 1980, "Looking Backward", Elizabeth Female Academy and Caroline Thayer
- 1899, "History of Education in Mississippi", Elizabeth Female Academy
- Address of W. M. Drake to Elizabeth Female Academy 2/25/1954
- Letter from Price to Ms McIntosh concerning information in collection 4/16/2007
- Letter from Price to Librarian at Catahoula Parish Library concerning information about Mrs. Caroline Matilda (Warren) Thayer 3/23/2007
- Information about Carolina Matilda (Warren) Thayer 1785-1844
- Information about Elizabeth Taylor Greenfield 1809-1876
- 1861, "Travels in Europe, Egypt, and Palestine" by Susan Brewer Thomas
- Articles about Elizabeth Female Academy 1981 & 2007

2 Church History

- Roxie UMC centennial celebration bulletin 6/04/1989
- Roxie UMC bulletin on the history of church 10/04/2007

3 History Material

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BOX 2

Folder: 3 cont'd

- Letter from Price to Linda Davenport concerning real estate history of Hugh House, next door to Port Gibson UMC
 - Real Estate History of Hugh House 1937-1991
 - Scutchalo Community
 - John Ford House
- 4 Church History Material
- Letter from Price to Rev. Beidenharn concerning information on church history
 - Church Property Deed Research and other history
 - Porters Chapel UMC
 - Wesley Chapel
 - speech made by Sam Price at Porter's Chapel UMC, 1/21/2004
- 5 Church History
- Carpenter UMC Photos
- 6 Hopewell Cemetery (Vicksburg)
- Vicksburg Post articles on Hopewell Cemetery 06/29/2008
- 7 Church History
- speech by Sam Price at the 160th anniversary of Mt. Pleasant UMC (Crystal Springs), 02/17/2007
- 8 School History Materials
- Obituary of Caroline Matilda Thayer from Concordia Intelligencer, April 1844
 - Four poems by Caroline Matilda Thayer
 - "To J.C.B
 - "It is good to be here"
 - "Bunker Hill"
 - "The Amaranth"
 - page 9 of "Part One, The Early Years, Elizabeth Taylor Greenfield, 1809-1876
 - History of Caroline Matilda Thayer
 - Letter to The Gazette concerning Caroling Matilda Thayer's job performance as governess at Elizabeth Female Academy
 - copy of "On Dwelling" believed to have been by Caroline Matilda

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Thayer

BOX 2

Folder: 8 cont'd

- letter from Donna B. Adams to Sam Price requesting family history
- copy of article on Elizabeth Female College
- copy of "For the Government of the Elizabeth Female Academy", 1834
- copy of newspaper articles about Elizabeth Greenfield

9 Morrison, Twick Materials

- copies of newspaper articles concerning Morrison's death
- letter from Bob Morrison to Price thanking him for awards

10 Church History Materials

- Baker's Chapelle
 - history
 - timeline
- Redwood UMC
 - history
 - timeline
- Eagle Lake UMC timeline
- Austin Chapel-Oak Ridge UMC timeline
- Oak Ridge UMC timeline
- Bell Hill timeline
- Bradley Chapel UMC timeline
- China Hill timeline
- Lynch Chapel UMC timeline
- Wrenn's Chapel Methodist Episcopal Church timeline
- Fair Green- I Do not Know UMC

11 Schools History Materials

Methodist Female Academies in Southwestern Mississippi

- Elizabeth Female Academy
- Centre Seminary of Learning and Meeting House
- Beechland-Red Lick Academy
- Fayette Female Academy
- Port Gibson Female Academy
- Vicksburg Female Academy
- Gibson's School House
- Beechland or Featherstone Chapel Academy
- Raymond Female Academy

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- Southern Female Academy
- Brownsville Female Academy

BOX 2

Folder: 11, cont'd

- Utica Female Academy

- 12 Church History Materials
 - speech by Price given at Episcopal Group Meeting in Wesley UMC, 12/20/2006
 - speech by Price given at The Lion's Club, Vicksburg Country Club, 4/26/2006
- 13 History of Methodist Church
 - article about Methodist church 5/16/2007
 - letter from Martha Scarborough to investors with The Mississippi UM Foundation, Inc., 4/16/2008
- 14 Cotton, Gordon A. *Planting the Seeds: A History of Methodist Beginnings in Vicksburg, Ms*, 2008
- 15 Article about Wesley Foundation at Alcorn, 2008
- 16 Various Articles related to Newet Vick Mural
 - Hawkins UMC Bulletin on Mural 7/2008
 - speech by Price given at Dedication of the Newet Vick Mural, 2/16/2008
 - various Vicksburg Post articles about the Mural
- 17 Price, James Earl biography
 - biography
 - copy of newspaper article "Encyclopedia Sam", 9/21/2008 Vicksburg Post, written by Gordon Cotton
 - online article "Encyclopedia Sam", 9/26/2008
- 18 The Sam Price Version of the Christmas Story, 12/7/2003
- 19 Commission on Archives and History, Chairman- Agenda of October 2, 2013 meeting
- 20 Transcriptions of historical materials, newspaper accounts, speeches:
 - Newit Vick family, Warren County 2013

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- Civil War, Confederate Armies 1862, churches destroyed
- Methodist history
- Masons 1848
- Tecumseh, Shawnees, William Winans, Charles B. Galloway, 1937 article
- Methodist Children's Home drive 1937
- Fourth of July 1840 in Vicksburg
- Methodist Unification 1938
- Methodist Historic Sites to be considered

- 21 Hawkins UMC, Vicksburg, newspaper articles transcribed, 2014
- 22 Booker T. Washington, newspaper articles transcribed, 1901-1911
Mostly from Vicksburg newspapers. Visit to Utica and Jackson in 1907,
Also 1984, 1998
Martin Luther King Day celebration in Vicksburg, 2014, transcribed articles