Southwest Wisconsin Room
Guide to Resources

Southwest Wisconsin Room—Ullsvik Hall
University of Wisconsin-Platteville
Platteville, WI 53818
Telephone: (608) 342-1719     E-Mail: swwis@uwplatt.edu

1. SW Wisconsin Room hours:
   Tuesday — 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
   Wednesday — 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.
   Thursday — 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
   Friday — 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
   Saturday, Sunday, Monday — closed

   Summer Hours:
   Monday—Tuesday — closed (by appointment only)
   Wednesday through Friday — 9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.
   Saturday, Sunday — closed

   The SW Wisconsin Room is closed for holidays and observances.

2. Usage
   a. Because of their rarity and fragility, most items must be used in the
      SW Wisconsin Room.
   b. Photocopying is available. Copier accepts coins and cash.
   c. Use archives and manuscripts with care. PENCILS ONLY, no pens.

3. Types of research using SW Wisconsin Room Collections
   a. University research
   b. Family histories
   c. Local histories (communities)
   d. Topical histories (lead mining, ethnic groups, agriculture, historic
      architecture, business collections)

4. Geographical scope of the collections
   a. Six county area in SW Wisconsin (Crawford, Grant, Green, Iowa, Lafayette,
      and Richland); also Jo Daviess County in Illinois and Dubuque County in Iowa

5. Types of materials
   a. Primary sources
      1. Archives (government records), for example:
         University records
         County records (naturalization records, tax rolls, deeds,
         probates, court cases)
         State records (census schedules)
         Municipal (sparsely represented)
(5. **Types of materials, continued**)
   (a. Primary sources, continued)
   2. Manuscripts (personal, business, organizational records)
      John Rountree papers
      Potosi Brewing Company
      Pleasant Ridge Community
      SW Wisconsin Area Church Records
      University Author Series
   3. Oral history interviews (audio tape records)
   4. Photographs
   5. Maps/Atlases /Plat Books

   b. Secondary Sources
   1. Books, magazines, and newspapers (primarily regional) are in SW WI Collections
   2. Additional printed materials are in other library collections

6. **Examples of Selected Sources**
   a. University newspaper: *Exponent* 1925- (indexing ongoing)
      [http://www.uwplatt.edu/exponent-article-index](http://www.uwplatt.edu/exponent-article-index)
   b. Surname Index, compiled by Gerald Fieldhouse
      Lists over 40,000 surnames from SW Wisconsin from ca. 1815 to 1860
      **Available onsite only** (card file)
   c. Vital Statistics—Births, Marriages, Deaths pre-1907
      Statewide index available on microfiche — Area registrations on microfilm
   d. Census Schedules 1836-1930
      Earliest schedules are less detailed
      1850 is the first census to list names, ages, occupations, sex, race, birth date
      Agricultural census lists owner, values, acreage, machinery value, livestock by
      type, crop production
      Industrial-Mills, shoemakers, etc. value, production, etc.
      Social census schedule for churches, libraries, paupers
   e. Naturalization records for area counties
   f. Immigration passenger index list (publishes)
   g. Probate (estates) and other court records (civil, criminal) for **selected counties**
   h. Land records (deeds)
   i. Tax records for 1836-1935 (also until 1980 for Grant, Green, and Richland Counties)
   j. Plat Books (land ownership maps)
   k. County and local histories, which include biographies and photographs
   l. Indexes to magazines and historical society published papers, e.g. *Wisconsin Magazine of History*
   m. Newspapers of area communities, 1830s through 2011
   n. Academy and university records
   o. Blueprint collection from Platteville area architect

7. **State Historical Society of Wisconsin Area Research Center (ARC) Archival Collection**
   a. Six county area of SW WI (Crawford, Grant, Green, Iowa, Lafayette, Richland)
   b. Materials from other state ARC archives are available through this network
      delivered within about one week

8. Additional materials, such as area photographs and manuscripts, are continually added to the
   collections through donations, photocopying, microfilming