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Oral History Interviews with Federal Judges

Compiled by Anthony Champagne

In 1988, the Federal Judicial History Office began collecting information on existing oral history interviews related to the federal courts. The survey included both federal court history programs and private oral history collections. To date, more than 900 such interviews have been located; persons interviewed comprise court staff, litigants, associates of important figures, members of the bar, and federal judges themselves.

The information gathered about these recorded interviews will appear in a directory to be published by the Federal Judicial Center in fall 1991. The directory will include name, subject, institutional, and geographical indexes and will identify, where possible, the date of the interview, interviewer, repository, length, formats available for interlibrary loan and purchase, and restrictions on use.

The directory will be sent automatically to federal court libraries upon publication. If you would like to receive a copy of the directory, please write to the Federal Judicial History Office, Federal Judicial Center, 1520 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005. Courts are asked to send self-addressed, 12-oz. franked mailing labels. Do not send envelopes. Requests will be held until the directory is published.

This preliminary selected list is based on the forthcoming directory and includes the interviews we have located with federal judges. The interview may have been conducted at any point in the judge's career; the designation of the judge's court represents the judge's latest appointment. Access to these interviews may be restricted. Additions and corrections are welcome.

Aguilar, Robert P. (D)	1988	Bench and Bar Historical Society of Santa Clara County, California	Belloni, Robert C. (D)	1988, 1989	Oregon Historical Society
Allgood, Clarence W. (D)	1988	Eleventh Cir. Historical Society	Biggs, John, Jr. (C)	1976	University of Kentucky
Almond, J. Lindsay, Jr. (C)	1968	John F. Kennedy Library	Bogue, Andrew W. (D)	n.d.	Eighth Cir. Historical Society
Almond, J. Lindsay, Jr. (C)	1969	Lyndon Baines Johnson Library	Boochever, Robert (C)	1990	Ninth Jud. Cir. Historical Society
Alsop, Donald D. (D)	1987	Eighth Cir. Historical Society	Bright, Myron H. (C)	1987	Eighth Cir. Historical Society
Anderson, Blaine J. (C)	n.d.	U.S. District Court, Idaho	Brown, John R. (C)	1983	Eleventh Cir. Historical Society
Arnold, Richard S. (C)	1969	University of Central Arkansas	Browning, James R. (C)	1991	Ninth Jud. Cir. Historical Society
Arnold, Thurman (C)	1962	Columbia University	Campbell, William J. (D)	1982	Federal Judicial Center
Arnold, Thurman (C)	1964	Univ. Michigan, Bentley Library	Campbell, William J. (D)	1984	U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Cir.
Bare, Clive W. ¹	1990	U.S. District Court, E.D. Tenn.	Carter, Oliver J. (D)	1970	Harry S. Truman Library
Barnes, Stanley N. (C)	1976	Univ. California, Bancroft Library	Carter, Oliver J. (D)	1971, 1972	Univ. California, Bancroft Library
Barnes, Stanley N. (C)	1987	Ninth Jud. Cir. Historical Society	Carter, Robert L. (D)	1988	Emory University
Battey, Richard H. (D)	n.d.	Eighth Cir. Historical Society	Celebrezze, Anthony J. (C)	1965	John F. Kennedy Library
Bazelon, David (C)	1969	John F. Kennedy Library	Celebrezze, Anthony J. (C)	1971	Lyndon Baines Johnson Library
Becker, William H. (D)	n.d.	Eighth Cir. Historical Society	Chilson, O. Hatfield (D)	1975	Colorado Historical Society
Beckworth, Lindley ²	1971	Lyndon Baines Johnson Library	Chilson, O. Hatfield (D)	1976	Dwight D. Eisenhower Library
Beckworth, Lindley ²	1979	Sam Rayburn Library	Choy, Herbert Y. C. (C)	1988	Ninth Jud. Cir. Historical Society

Coleman, James P. (C)	1972	Lyndon Baines Johnson Library
Coleman, James P. (C)	1982	University of Southern Mississippi
Collinson, William R. (D)	n.d.	Eighth Cir. Historical Society
Connally, Ben (D)	1975	Houston Public Library
Copple, William P. (D)	1989	Arizona Historical Society
Cowans, Daniel ²	1989	N.D. Cal. Historical Society
Danaher, John A. (C)	1968	Columbia University
Davies, Ronald N. (D)	n.d.	Eighth Cir. Historical Society
Dawkins, Ben C., Jr. (D)	1978, 1979	Louisiana State University
Denney, Robert V. (D)	n.d.	Former Members of Congress, Inc.
Devitt, Edward J. (D)	1987	Eighth Cir. Historical Society
Doty, David S. (D)	1987	Eighth Cir. Historical Society
East, William G. (D)	1984	Oregon Historical Society
Eisele, G. Thomas (D)	1970	University of Central Arkansas
Fahy, Charles (C)	1958	Columbia University
Ferguson, Warren J. (C)	1989	Ninth Jud. Cir. Historical Society
Fitzgerald, James M. (D)	1982	Ninth Jud. Cir. Historical Society
Frank, Jerome (C)	1952	Columbia University
Garza, Reynaldo G. (C)	1970	Lyndon Baines Johnson Library
Gibson, Floyd R. (C)	1986	Eighth Cir. Historical Society
Goodwin, Alfred T. (C)	1985, 1986	Oregon Historical Society
Gordon, James (D)	1984, 1987	University of Louisville
Gordon, Walter (D)	1971	Univ. California, Bancroft Library
Grant, Robert A. (D)	1988	U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Cir.
Halbert, Sherrill (D)	1988	Ninth Jud. Cir. Historical Society
Hamlin, Oliver D. (C)	1972	Univ. California, Bancroft Library
Hand, Learned (C)	1957	Columbia University
Hardy, Charles L. (D)	1990	Arizona Historical Society
Harper, Roy W. (D)	1978	Harry S. Truman Library
Harris, George B. (D)	1981	Univ. California, Bancroft Library
Harris, Oren (D)	1974	Lyndon Baines Johnson Library
Harris, Oren (D)	1965	John F. Kennedy Library
Harris, Oren (D)	1985	Sam Rayburn Library
Harris, Oren (D)	1987	Eighth Cir. Historical Society
Hastie, William H. (C)	1972	Harry S. Truman Library
Henderson, Albert J. (C)	1986	U.S. District Court, N.D. Ga.
Henley, J. Smith (C)	1987	Eighth Cir. Historical Society
Higginbotham, A. Leon (C)	1976	Lyndon Baines Johnson Library
Hoffman, Walter E. (D)	1981	Federal Judicial Center

Preserving the Papers of Federal Judges

The Federal Judicial History Office will assist any court interested in locating a repository for the chambers files of a judge on the court. Such collections are valuable resources for scholarly research, but decisions about disposition must be made by the judge. Judges may make arrangements for the deposit of their papers while still serving, even if the papers will not be available to scholars until such later date as the judge deems appropriate. Many repositories are willing to provide both storage and advice, freeing chambers space and at the same time preserving the record. For additional information, call Cynthia Harrison, Chief, Federal Judicial History Office, FTS/202 633-8447.

Holtzoff, Alexander (D)	1964	Univ. Michigan, Bentley Library
Howard, George, Jr. (D)	1988	Eighth Cir. Historical Society
Hughes, Sarah (D)	1968	Lyndon Baines Johnson Library
Hughes, Sarah (D)	1969, 1979	University of North Texas
Hughes, Sarah (D)	1980	Sam Rayburn Library
Hunter, Elmo B. (D)	n.d.	Eighth Cir. Historical Society
Ingraham, Joe (C)	1972, 1973	Dwight D. Eisenhower Library
Ingram, William (D)	1988	Bench and Bar Historical Society of Santa Clara County, California
Jameson, William J. (D)	1987	Ninth Jud. Cir. Historical Society
Jameson, William J. (D)	1988	U.S. District Court, Mont.
Johnson, Frank M. (C)	1980, 1983	Eleventh Cir. Historical Society
Jones, John Bailey (D)	n.d.	Eighth Cir. Historical Society
Jones, John Marvin ³	1953	Columbia University
Jones, John Marvin ³	1969	Lyndon Baines Johnson Library
Jones, John Marvin ³	1972, 1973	Texas Tech University
Jones, Warren L. (C)	1986	Eleventh Cir. Historical Society
Keech, Richmond (D)	1967	Harry S. Truman Library
Kerr, Ewing T. (D)	1982	Wyoming State Archives
Kilkenny, John F. (C)	1984	Oregon Historical Society
Kraft, C. William, Jr. (D)	1985	E.D. Pa. Historical Society
Larkins, John Davis, Jr. (D)	1975, 1978	East Carolina University
Larson, Earl R. (D)	1987	Eighth Cir. Historical Society
Lord, Joseph S., III (D)	1987	E.D. Pa. Historical Society
Lord, Miles W. (D)	1987	Eighth Cir. Historical Society
Lumbard, Joseph E., Jr. (C)	1977	Columbia University

Luongo, Alfred L. (D)	1986	E.D. Pa. Historical Society	Roy, Elsijane T. (D)	1987	Eighth Cir. Historical Society
Lydick, Lawrence T. (D)	1989	Ninth Jud. Cir. Historical Society	Ryan, Harold L. (D)	1990	U.S. District Court, Boise, ID
Lynne, Seybourn H. (D)	1987	Eleventh Cir. Historical Society	Sanders, Harold Barefoot (D)	1969, 1981	Lyndon Baines Johnson Library
MacLaughlin, Harry H. (D)	1987	Eighth Cir. Historical Society	Sanders, Harold Barefoot (D)	1983, 1984	Dallas Public Library
Madden, Joseph W. ³	1957	Columbia University	Sanders, Harold Barefoot (D)	1984	Sam Rayburn Library
Madden, Joseph W. ³	1968	Cornell University Labor- Management Documentation Center	Simpson, J. M. Bryan (C)	1986	Eleventh Cir. Historical Society
Magnuson, Paul A. (D)	1987	Eighth Cir. Historical Society	Singleton, John V. (D)	1975	Houston Public Library
Maris, Albert B. (C)	1976	University of Kentucky	Singleton, John V. (D)	1983	Lyndon Baines Johnson Library
Maris, Albert B. (C)	1984	Federal Judicial Center	Skelton, Byron G. (C)	1968	Lyndon Baines Johnson Library
Maris, Albert B. (C)	1984	E.D. Pa. Historical Society	Skelton, Byron G. (C)	1980	Sam Rayburn Library
Matthews, Burnita S. (C)	1985	Federal Judicial Center	Skopil, Otto R. (C)	1985, 1989	Oregon Historical Society
McGuire, Matthew (D)	1964	Univ. Michigan, Bentley Library	Sobeloff, Simon (C)	1971	Maryland Historical Society
Medina, Harold R. (C)	1977	Columbia University	Solomon, Gus J. (D)	1984	Oregon Historical Society
Merrill, Charles M. (C)	1988	Ninth Jud. Cir. Historical Society	Spears, Adrian A. (D)	1971	Lyndon Baines Johnson Library
Morgan, Lewis R. (C)	1986	Eleventh Cir. Historical Society	Steckler, William E. (D)	1987	U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Cir.
Morgan, Lewis R. (C)	1986	U.S. District Court, N.D. Ga.	Sweigert, William T. (D)	1972, 1973 1975, 1987	University of California, Bancroft Library
Motley, Constance Baker (D)	1978	Columbia University	Swygert, Luther M. (C)	1985	U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Cir.
Murphy, Diana E. (D)	1987	Eighth Cir. Historical Society	Tamm, Edward A. (C)	1984	Federal Judicial Center
Nelson, Dorothy (C)	1985	Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles	Tang, Thomas (C)	1988	Ninth Jud. Cir. Historical Society
Nelson, Dorothy (C)	1988	Ninth Jud. Cir. Historical Society	Taylor, Fred M. (D)	1987	Ninth Jud. Cir. Historical Society
Nichol, Fred J. (D)	n.d.	Eighth Cir. Historical Society	Taylor, Fred M. (D)	1987	U.S. District Court, Idaho
Oliver, John W. (D)	n.d.	Eighth Cir. Historical Society	Taylor, Robert L. (D)	1980, 1981	Univ. Tennessee College of Law
Orrick, William H., Jr. (D)	1970	John F. Kennedy Library	Taylor, Robert L. (D)	1983	Memphis State University
Orrick, William H., Jr. (D)	1989	Univ. California, Bancroft Library	Taylor, Robert L. (D)	1985	Federal Judicial Center
Overton, William R. (D)	n.d.	Eighth Cir. Historical Society	Taylor, William "Mac" (D)	1983	Dallas Public Library
Parsons, James B. (D)	1988	U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Cir.			
Peckham, Robert F. (D)	1988	Bench and Bar Historical Society of Santa Clara County, California			
Politz, Henry (C)	1986	Louisiana State University			
Porter, Donald J. (D)	n.d.	Eighth Cir. Historical Society			
Ramirez, Raul (D)	1990	Ninth Jud. Cir. Historical Society			
Re, Edward ²	1968	Lyndon Baines Johnson Library			
Reasoner, Stephen M. (D)	1988	Eighth Cir. Historical Society			
Renner, Robert G. (D)	1987	Eighth Cir. Historical Society			
Robinson, Richard E. (D)	n.d.	Eighth Cir. Historical Society			
Rosenbaum, James M. (D)	1987	Eighth Cir. Historical Society			
Ross, Donald R. (C)	1987	Eighth Cir. Historical Society			

The Court Historian is published occasionally by the Federal Judicial History Office, which seeks information on publications and activities from history programs in the federal courts. News items and requests to receive *The Court Historian* may be sent to Cynthia Harrison, Federal Judicial History Office, Federal Judicial Center, 1520 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005; FTS/202 633-8447. Requests will be honored as resources permit.

Thomason, R. Ewing (D)	1968	Lyndon Baines Johnson Library
Thompson, Bruce R. (D)	1986	U.S. District Court, Nevada
Thompson, Bruce R. (D)	1988	Ninth Jud. Cir. Historical Society
Thornberry, Homer (C)	1970	Lyndon Baines Johnson Library
Thornberry, Homer (C)	1980	Sam Rayburn Library
Tuttle, Elbert P. (C)	1970	Columbia University
Tuttle, Elbert P. (C)	1983, 1985, 1986	Eleventh Cir. Historical Society
Van Dusen, Francis L. (C)	1986	E.D. Pa. Historical Society
Van Pelt, Robert (D)	n.d.	Eighth Cir. Historical Society
von der Heydt, James (D)	1982	Ninth Jud. Cir. Historical Society
Waring, Julius Waties (D)	1957	Columbia University
Weigel, Stanley (D)	1990	Univ. California, Bancroft Library
Williams, Spencer (D)	1988	Bench and Bar Historical Society of Santa Clara County, California
Wisdom, John Minor (C)	1983	Eleventh Cir. Historical Society
Wolfe, Cameron W. ²	1989	N.D. California Historical Society
Wollenberg, Albert, Sr. (D)	1970, 1973, 1980	Univ. California, Bancroft Library
Woods, Henry (D)	1989	Eighth Cir. Historical Society
Worley, Eugene ⁴	1968	Lyndon Baines Johnson Library
Wright, Eugene A. (C)	1988	Ninth Jud. Cir. Historical Society
Wright, James Skelly (C)	1968	Howard University

Mary K. Bonsteel Tachau 1926–1990

The Court Historian notes the passing of Mary K. Tachau, author of *Federal Courts in the Early Republic: Kentucky, 1789–1816* (Princeton University Press, 1978). Professor Tachau, professor emerita of history at the University of Louisville, was one of few scholars who have done extensive work in the history of the lower federal courts. Throughout her career, she served on numerous professional committees, including the American Historical Association's Special Committee on the Bicentennial Era (1981 to 1988) and the Federal Judicial Center History Program Advisory Committee. A staunch supporter of judicial history programs, Professor Tachau generously contributed both her time and her sound and thoughtful judgment.

Wyzanski, Charles, Jr. (D)	1954	Columbia University
Wyzanski, Charles, Jr. (D)	1984	University of Kentucky
Zirpoli, Alfonzo, J. (D)	1984	Univ. California, Bancroft Library

(C) indicates U.S. Circuit Judge

(D) indicates U.S. District Judge

¹Bankruptcy Judge

²Judge, U.S. Court of International Trade

³Judge, U.S. Court of Claims

⁴Judge, U.S. Court of Customs and Patent Appeals

n.d.: date of interview is undetermined at press time

Judicial Conference Committee on the Bicentennial of the Constitution Announces Recipients of Judicial History Grants

Arizona Historical Society also names awardee

On May 15, the Committee on the Bicentennial of the Constitution of the Judicial Conference of the United States awarded grants to four researchers in commemoration of the centennial of the Circuit Court of Appeals Act of 1891. That act, usually known as the Evarts Act, created the circuit courts of appeals and made the federal district courts the primary trial courts of the federal judicial system. The grants are intended to support research on the history of the circuit courts of appeals, the historical relationship between the appeals courts and the district courts, or the transformation of the federal court system since 1891.

The four grant recipients are:

Tony Freyer, University Research Professor of History and Law, University of Alabama, "A History of Federal Judges in Alabama, 1820–1991";

Charles Zelden, Center for the History of Leadership Institutions, Rice University, "History of the Federal District Court, Southern District of Texas, 1960 to the Present";

Lucy Salyer, Assistant Professor of History, University of New Hampshire, "Guarding the 'White Man's Frontier': Courts, Politics and the Regulation of Immigration, 1891–1924";

Sidney L. Harring, Professor of Law, CUNY Law School, "The Evarts Act in the Making of Federal Criminal Law, 1880–1900."

The Arizona Historical Society, in conjunction with the Arizona Bar Foundation Legal History Project, awarded a \$1,000 grant on May 4 to Robert A. Palmquist for research on Arizona legal history. Palmquist's proposed topic is "Extraterritorial mining rights in Cochise County, Arizona in the 1880s."