



James W. Orchard Papers (R1351)

Collection Number: R1351

Collection Title: James W. Orchard Papers

Dates: 1958-2016

Creator: Orchard, James W.

Abstract: The James W. Orchard Papers contain materials pertaining to the career of Missouri bluegrass musician Jimmy Orchard including event and festival fliers, photographs, recordings of shows, and music album information.

Collection Size: 0.5 cubic feet
(10 folders, 1 CD, 4 DVDs, 1 audio cassette)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research, but are stored offsite. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center – Rolla](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at rolla@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given and assigned to the University all rights of copyright, which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *James W. Orchard Papers* (R1351); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The papers were loaned for photocopying to the State Historical Society of Missouri by James W. Orchard on June 30, 2016 (Accession No. RA1626).

Other Finding Aids: A photograph index has been created for folders 5-8 and is available with the collection.

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the James W. Orchard Papers can be found in the following collections:

Mona Darlene Jones Collection (R1343)
Christopher J. Lewandowski Papers (R1358)
Jimmie Allison Papers (R1444)

Processed by: Processed by Carole Goggin, October 26, 2016. Revised by Kathleen Seale, January 5, 2018.

Historical Note:

James W. Orchard Jr. was born July 21, 1936, in Ink, Missouri, to James and Velma Orchard. The eldest of two sons Orchard began playing guitar in grade school, moved to the mandolin in high school and in the 1990s added the fiddle. He began his public music career with his brother Richard Orchard and friends Paul Brake, Andy Bressler, and Clarence Crider in their band The Boogher County Ramblers. They played at pie suppers, hay rides, business events, and other community events across the state.

In the 1950s, Orchard and Kenny Seaman started The Current River Drifters band and performed weekly on the KSMO radio station out of Salem, Missouri. The band was joined by Andy and Alvin Bressler and became regulars on The Current River Opry that started in 1965. In the early 1970s, Orchard broke with the Drifters to form Jim Orchard and the Bluegrass Boys. This band included Kenny Seaman and the Bressler brothers. Orchard also served as emcee at the Bluegrass Pickin' Time festival in Dixon, Missouri.

Arrangement:

This collection has been arranged into the following 5 series:

Publications
Photographs
CDs
DVDs
Audio Cassettes

Scope and Content Note:

Publications

This series contains show booklets and fliers of events Jim Orchard attended and where he performed. There are also newspaper articles and Bluegrass publications that talk about Jim Orchard, the different bands he was in, and his musical career.

Photographs

This series contains the album covers and record label images of Jim Orchard's bands, song lists, and album information. These are photocopies of the originals.

CDs

This series contains a CD with music by Jimmy Orchard, Ken Seaman, and the Bressler Brothers who performed at the Current River Opry in Eminence, Missouri.

DVDs

This series contains video recordings of performances by Jim Orchard at various events, festivals, and shows.

Audio Cassette

This series includes a tribute to the life and career of Jesse Coffey. The audio is narrated by Dave Kirby. Jimmy Orchard along with several others performed as a tribute to Jesse Coffey.

Container List:

| | | |
|---------|--------|---|
| f. 1-4 | | Publications |
| Box 001 | f. 1 | Show booklets and fliers, 1960-2015 |
| | f. 2 | Newspaper articles, 1960-2016 |
| | f. 3 | Bluegrass publications, 1972-2016 |
| | f. 4 | 'News and Notes,' Green County Bluegrass Association publication, 2000-2003 |
| f. 5-10 | | Photographs |
| | f. 5-8 | Photographs, 1958-2013 |
| | f. 9 | Miscellaneous notecards and photographs, 1971-2015 |
| | f. 10 | Album covers and records labels, no date |
| CD 1 | | CDs |
| | CD 1 | 'Longing for the Ozarks,' Jim Orchard, Ken Seaman & the Bressler Brothers, no date |
| DVD 1-4 | | DVDs |
| | DVD 1 | Dixon Bluegrass show, 1985 |
| | DVD 2 | Lexington, Kentucky Bluegrass festival; Eminence, Missouri festival; Dixon, Missouri festival, 1985 |
| | DVD 3 | Current River Opry special, 1988 |
| | DVD 4 | Bob Holden Inauguration performance, Jefferson City, Missouri, 2001 |
| f. 34 | | Audio Cassettes |
| | a.c. 1 | 'Tribute to Jesse,' Jesse Coffey, Tom Coffey, and Jean Honse, no date |

Index:

| Index Term | Folder | Image | Mediums |
|--|---------------|-------|--------------|
| Allison, Jimmie | 6 | Yes | |
| Bill Jones and the Bluegrass Travelers (musical group) | 3-5 | Yes | |
| Bluegrass festivals | 1-10 | Yes | CD1, DVD 1-4 |
| Bluegrass Pickin' Time (Dixon, Mo.) | 1-3, 6 | Yes | DVD 1-2 |
| Bressler, Alvin | 5-6, 10-11 | Yes | DVD 1-2 |
| Bressler, Andy | 5-6, 8, 10-11 | Yes | DVD 1-2 |

| Index Term | Folder | Image | Mediums |
|---|---------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Dixon (Mo.) | 1-3 | Yes | DVD 1-2 |
| Eminence (Mo.) | 1-2, 9-10 | Yes | |
| Jimmy Orchard and the Ozark Bluegrass Boys (musical group) | 1-10 | Yes | DVD 1-4 |
| Jones, Mona Darlene, 1937- | 2-4, 6 | | |
| Lewandowski, Christopher J., 1987- | 5, 8-9 | Yes | |
| Monroe, Bill | 3, 7-8 | Yes | |
| Orchard, James W., 1936- | 1-10 | | CD 1, DVD 1-4, a.c. 1 |
| Ray, Frank | 1, 5-8, 10 | Yes | DVD 4 |
| Seaman, Ken | 10-11 | | |
| Van Buren (Mo.) | 1, 8 | | |