



## **S. Fred Prince Papers (SP0005)**

**Collection Number:** SP0005

**Collection Title:** S. Fred Prince Papers

**Dates:** 1899-1999

**Creator:** Prince, Fred S., 1857-1949

**Abstract:** The S. Fred Prince Papers document the work of a naturalist and illustrator who spent many years studying the geology and ecology of the Southwest Missouri Ozarks. They also include the research conducted by Suzanne Wilson (SP0004), a freelance writer who published an article in the *Missouri Conservationist* magazine about Prince's life and work. The collection consists of copies of Prince's unpublished original manuscripts along with interviews and correspondence that Wilson conducted with those who knew Prince or had possession of his work.

**Collection Size:** .5 cubic foot  
(12 folders)

**Language:** Collection materials are in English.

**Repository:** The State Historical Society of Missouri

**Restrictions on Access:** Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at [springfield@shsmo.org](mailto:springfield@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

**Restrictions on Use:** The copyrights to *The Ozarkian Uplift and the Marvel Caverns* and *The Marvel Caverns* are owned by Jameila Prince Al-hujazi. Permission is required to publish excerpts from these materials.

**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] *S. Fred Prince Papers* (SP0005); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Springfield].

**Donor Information:** The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Suzanne Wilson on May 20, 2015 (Accession No. SPA0007).

**Related Material:** Additional materials related to the *S. Fred Prince Papers* can be found in the following collections:

*Suzanne Wilson Papers* (SP0004)

**Processed by:** Processed by Erin Smither, July 22, 2015

**Historical Note:**

S. Fred Prince, born Samuel Webb Prince, was born on May 26, 1857, in Philadelphia. He grew up in Chicago and Wisconsin before moving to the Ozarks as a homesteader in the early 1880s. He quickly discovered and extensively explored Marvel Cave. During this time, he also studied the flora and fauna of the region, creating watercolors of many species of wildflowers. Later in his life, Prince spent time working as an instructor of scientific drawing at various colleges in the Midwest, including the University of Illinois and the Springfield Normal School. He married one of his students, Maude Higgenbotham, and they had two children. Around 1929, Prince moved back to Stone County where he finished his wildflower index and cave books. Prince died in 1949 at the age of 92.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into twelve folders which contain publications by Prince, correspondence, articles, references to his work, as well as the research of Suzanne Wilson. The materials have been arranged chronologically.

**Scope and Content Note:**

The S. Fred Prince papers consist of copies of his wildflower index, articles he wrote, and his cave books. It also includes personal correspondence with his wife and a financial document pertaining to Marvel Cave. The remainder of the collection consists of the research of Suzanne Wilson. Wilson gathered this research for an article about Prince's life and work. It includes correspondence and interviews with those who knew Prince or possessed his work. Drafts of her article are also included.

**Container List:**

Box 001	f. 1	<i>Alphabetical List of the Wild Flowers</i> , 1899
	f. 2	<i>Numerical List of the Wild Flowers</i> , 1899
	f. 3	Articles, 1904-1931
	f. 4	Correspondence, 1908-1918
	f. 5	<i>The Ozarkian Uplift and the Marvel Caverns</i> , 1936
	f. 6	<i>The Marvel Caverns</i> , 1942
	f. 7	Reference to his Work, 1970
	f. 8	Information about his books, 1994
	f. 9	Interviews on Prince by Suzanne Wilson, 1994-1995
	f. 10	Wilson's Research about Wild Flowers Book, 1994-1995
	f. 11	Correspondence for Wilson's Article, 1994-1999
	f. 12	Photograph of Watercolor, no date

**Index:**

Index Term	Folder
Caves--Missouri	3, 5-6, 8
Prince, S. Fred, 1857-1949	1-12
Stone County (Mo.)	1-12
Wild flowers	1-3, 10
Wilson, Suzanne, 1937-	7-11