

*The University of South Carolina Lancaster
Native American Studies Archive*

Rosemary Clark Whitlock Collection
(1926-)



- Volume:** 2.5 linear feet
- Processed:** 2016, by Wendy Thompson and Brent Burgin
- Provenance:** Donated by Rosemary Clark Whitlock, April 1, 2010
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The University of South Carolina Lancaster
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Biographical Note

Researcher, author, poet, and independent scholar. At the age of 19, Rosemary Whitlock discovered that her mother was a Monacan Indian. Despite entreaties, her mother would tell her little concerning her Indian heritage. Virginia's Native Americans suffered greatly during the time of the state's infamous Racial Integrity Law and often moved far away, hoping to pass for white and start over. Indian heritage was to be hidden and not discussed. Rosemary has written three autobiographical works, recounting the experiences of her family, the Clark's of Virginia. Later in life, wishing to honor her mother, she visited the Monacan's, gained their trust and published a series of oral-history interviews with her people. Her auto-ethnography, *The Drums of Life: The Monacan Indian Nation of Virginia*, is an important sourcebook for the Monacan Indian Nation.

Rosemary is a long time resident of Lancaster, South Carolina; and has long been an engaged community advocate. She's written many columns for *The Lancaster News* and also written many published letters to the editor.

Scope and Content Notes

The collection consists of 2.5 linear feet of material. The majority of the items are about the Monacan Indian Nation of Amherst County, Va. Other materials are relative to the donor's long time residency in Lancaster, South Carolina.

Research materials include correspondence, oral histories, photographs, maps, articles, reports, census data, pamphlets, programs, bulletins, and tribal newsletters. Areas of interest include genealogy, tribal histories and culture, relations with government entities and education.

I. Correspondence, 1985-2009

Correspondence to Rosemary Clark Whitlock. Letters from community leaders, publishers and fans of her written works.

II. Writings and Publications, 1984-2008

Drafts and copies of published and unpublished materials. Novels, articles, and newspaper columns.

III. Clippings, 1974-2008

Biographical clippings about Rosemary Whitlock, her life, and written works. Also includes a Braille version of a 1984 article.

IV. Oral Histories, 1997-1998

A series of oral history interviews later transcribed and used in *The Drums of Life*. Originally recorded on cassettes the interviews have been preserved and converted to CD's.

V. Monocan Indian Nation, 1896-2014

Clippings and Newsletters. Clippings are primarily Monocan but other Virginia tribes are also mentioned.

VI. Photographs

Photographs taken by Rosemary Clark Whitlock or gathered from Clark family albums. Images are primarily of the Monacan Indian Nation and tribal members, although a few images of downtown Lancaster, South Carolina are included.

VII. Topical

Information relative to other research interests of the donor.

VIII. Realia

Teaching materials used by the donor during her history and culture lectures.

Collection Inventory:

Series I. Correspondence

General Correspondence, 1985-2009

Series II. Writings and Publications, 1984-2008

Monographs:

The Monacan Indian Nation of Virginia: The Drums of Life (2008)

Edited final copy, includes preface, acknowledgements, introductions, illustrations and interviews.

Mountain Home (1987) Copy

Other Writings: (columns, articles, poetry)

“Earth’s Angel”, n.d.

“It could happen just the way it reads...who knows” (1979) Duracell publication.

The Lancaster News (1984-2008) Guest columnist, items local to South Carolina and local Lancaster news

“What is Truth” (1986) essay

Series III. Clippings, 1974-2008

Biographical clippings file

Series IV. Monacan Oral History Interviews, conducted 1997-1998 in Amherst County, Va.

Contents of each CD:

1. Herbert Hicks, Lucian Branham
2. Lucian Branham, Eugene Branham, Anne Johns Lee Branham, Lee Branham and Bertie Duft Branham
3. Bertie Duft Branham
- 4 & 5. Cecil Terry and John Haraughty
6. Danny Gear
7. Danny Gear, Jo Ann Staubitz
8. George Whitewolf
9. Paul Wailes, William E Sandidge, Ella Mayes

10. Ella Mayes, Brenda Bryant Garrison
11. Hattie Belle Branham Hamilton, Dena Branham
12. Diane Johns Shields, Karenne Woods, Lucian Branham, Chief Kenneth Branham
13. Diane Johns Shields, Karenne Woods
14. Chief Kenneth Branham, Lacie Johns Branham, Heather Branham, Holly Branham
15. Heather Branham, Holly Branham, Roger Nuckles, Will Branham
16. Will Branham, Louise Branham, George Whitewolf
17. Sharon Bryant, Betty Hamilton Branham
18. Cammie Branham Johns
19. Phyllis Hicks and Tribal drums

Series V. Monacan Indian Nation

Clippings, 1896-2013

Correspondence, 1925-1943 Letters to and from Walter Plecker, Va. State Registrar and
White supremacist

Genealogy, various genealogical materials relative to the Clark and Branham families

History

Bogdan, Debra (1973) – “The Amherst County Issues: Factors of Development, Existence,
and Persistence of a Rural Tri-Racial Group”

Bushnell, David Ives (1914) – “The Indian Grave” – A Monacan Site in Albemarle
County, Virginia

Green, Barbara (1987) – “Virginia’s Indians: Bridging the Centuries”

Hantman, Jeffrey L (1992) – “Monacan Archaeology and History”

Jefferson, Thomas (1785) – Notes on the State of Virginia

Monacan Indian Tribal Association (1989)

Smith, J David (1992) – “Dr. Plecker’s Assault on the Monacan Indians: Legal Racism
and Documentary Genocide”

Tyler, Lyon Gardiner (1946) – Narratives of Early Virginia 1606-1625

Monacan Ancestral Museum

Monacan Co-Operative Pottery

News from Monacan Country, 1994-2012, 2014, n.d.

St. Paul’s Episcopal Mission (1908-) Articles from *The Southwestern Episcopalian*, and
The Diocesan Journal about mission work among the Monacan people from 1908 onwards.
Also includes a few school records.

Series VI. Photographs

Monacan Indian Nation:

1. L to R: Edmund Branham and Elena Willis Branham, 1940. Edmund born 1868. Elena
born 1877.
- 2, 3. Henry Lovey Clark, 1930. Born Feb. 08, 1910. Killed in car crash, 8-26-1932. Son of
Frank and Dora B. Clark. Author Rosemary Clark Whitlock’s older brother.
4. Herbert Hicks.
5. Holly Branham.
6. Danny Gear.
7. Pat McCauley, Creator of St. Paul’s complex quilt.
8. Thelma Louise Branham.

9. Dora Branham Clark, May 1940. Age 45 years.
- 10, 31. L to R: Phyllis Branham Hicks, Louise Branham Branham.
11. Rosemary Clark Whitlock, Oct. 1997.
12. Outside St. Paul's Church, Oct. 1997. L to R: Betty Hamilton Branham, Eleanor Johns Branham, Annie Johns Branham, Louise Branham Branham, Peggy Johns Branham.
13. Handmade quilt by Pat McCauley, Oct. 1997. The quilt portrays the St. Paul Complex. On the pathway near the church stands Chief Kenneth Branham and Bishop Heath Light of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Virginia. The Bishop has just presented the deed of gift to the Monacan Chief giving back to the Monacan tribe a seven acre tract of land bordering St. Paul's church.
14. Morris Orchards, Amherst County, Oct. 1997. Many of the Monacans labored in this vast orchard for many, many years. This 50 gallon copper coated kettle for making apple butter still in use in 2007.
15. Monacan drummers. The drum is considered to have a heartbeat of its own and the drummer becomes as one with the drum.
16. Monacan Memorial Stone, on Kenmore Road on Bear Mountain behind the former site of Crawford's Store. The stone commemorates the families of Monacans buried in this area dating to the 1800s.
17. Morris Orchards, Oct. 1997. Apples and many other crops.
18. Friendship Dance at Pow Wow.
19. Unknown man, Oct. 1997.
20. Unknown young woman in regalia
21. Unknown man, Oct. 1997.
22. Unknown woman, Oct. 1997.
23. Unknown woman, Oct. 1997
24. Unknown woman, Oct. 1997.
25. Unknown man, Oct. 1997.
26. Unknown man, Oct. 1997.
27. Unknown woman.
- 28, 30, 56. Bear Mountain. 28 is a B&W photograph.
29. L to R: Unknown man, unknown man, unknown woman, Rosemary Clark Whitlock.
32. Unknown group of women.
33. Unknown woman, Oct. 1997.
34. Unknown woman, Oct. 1997.
35. Unknown woman at quilting frame, Oct. 1997.
- 36, 52. Tribal gathering, dinner, Nov. 1997.
37. L to R: Kenneth Branham, Dena Branham.
- 38, 50. Monacan delegates to the 3rd Annual Governor's Conference, Washington, D.C., Mar. 15, 1997. L to R: Bertie Branham, Judy Branham, Diane Shields, Hattie Belle Hamilton, Karenne Wood
39. Rosemary Clark Whitlock on the bridge over Falling Creek at the Monacan Mission Center in 1998.
40. Unidentified woman.
- 41, 42. Tribal gathering.
43. Rosemary Clark Whitlock.
- 44, 47. Audience at tribal gathering in 41 and 42.

45. Holly Branham in jingle dress.
 46. Split-oak basket, Oct. 1997. Handmade by Bertie Duff Branham's mother, the late Dessie Johns Duff. The basket is aged and not really kept outside.
 48. Male dancers in Pow Wow circle, Oct. 1997.
 49. Group photo, Monacan Indians, Oct. 1997.
 51. Goods for sale at Pow Wow. L to R: Jean Branham, unknown, Jo Ann Staubitz. Displayed are baskets of oak strips, honeysuckle, and pine straw made by Jo Ann Staubitz.
 53. Drum group, Nov. 1997.
 54. Monacan Pow Wow, Oct. 2003.
 55. Elena Willis Branham, grandmother of Rosemary Clark Whitlock.
 57. Split-oak basket and patchwork quilt, both items made by Virginia Branham.
 58. Rosemary Clark Whitlock, Apr. 2003. 77 years old.
- City of Lancaster, South Carolina:
59-67. Series taken of empty buildings in the downtown area, Feb. 1996.

VII. Topical Files

Carnes House, Lancaster, SC

Maps

Southwestern Indians

Virginia Indians

VIII. Realia

Collection of materials used by Rosemary Whitlock in teaching presentations.

1. Mullein Leaves, 1996, 2. Chinquapin Leaf and Seed Pods, 3. Dog Bane, Indian hemp
4. Trailing arbutus, 5. Wild Turkey feather, 6. Octagon Soap, 7. Lye Soap made from hog fat,
8. White Flint Stone