The Tennessee Valley Authority
Research Materials at the Special Collections Library

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Introduction

As Donald Davidson describes in the first volume of his seminal work *The Tennessee* (1946), two rivers flow down in the valley of the Tennessee—one a wild tributary defying every human attempt at conquest, and the other a chain of lakes designed by imaginative engineers “stand[ing] athwart the valley in Egyptian impassivity.” Davidson explains that the river of the Cherokees and the early pioneers has been inundated by a series of massive concrete structures amazingly completed in just over a decade. That decade was the 1930s, and it was Franklin D. Roosevelt's Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) that forever changed the river. The brain-child of Nebraska Senator George Norris, TVA was one of the first federal agencies of the “New Deal.” Approved by Congress on May 18, 1933, the TVA is an agency independent of Congress, controlled by a three-member board of directors and headquartered in Knoxville. Congress charged TVA with the responsibility for the development of river navigation, flood control, electric power, and agricultural resources in the seven-state Tennessee Valley region.

The TVA remains just as relevant in the twenty-first century. It serves as the nation’s largest power company, continues to have international influence, and employs thousands in the southeast.

The Special Collections Library at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville houses a large collection of printed and manuscript sources related to the Tennessee Valley Authority. These primary sources form an important and unique collection of TVA research material.

Listed below are selections from the rare book holdings and manuscript collections related to the Tennessee Valley Authority housed at the UT Special Collections Library. Although not a comprehensive list, the following topical lists highlight collection strengths. These materials are available for research us in the Special Collections Reading Room located on the second floor of the James D. Hoskins Library (1401 Cumberland Ave.). More information is also available through the UT Libraries’ catalog (http://www.lib.utk.edu/) and the UT Special Collections Web site (http://www.lib.utk.edu/spcoll/).
Table of Contents

Administration and Operations. ................................................................. 4
Agriculture. ................................................................................................. 6
Bibliographies. ............................................................................................. 7
Board of Directors. ..................................................................................... 8
Communist Activity. ................................................................................... 8
Communities and People. .......................................................................... 9
Construction, Engineering, and Development. ........................................ 10
Electric Power. ......................................................................................... 11
Employees and Employee Relations. ....................................................... 12
General. ..................................................................................................... 14
Gravesite Removal. ................................................................................... 17
Photographs. .............................................................................................. 17
Policies and Environmentalism. ............................................................... 18
Publicity. .................................................................................................... 19
Tellico Controversy. .................................................................................. 20
Theses and Dissertations. ......................................................................... 21
Administration and Operations

Univ. Archives: TK1425.M8 B69


Rare Books: HD9685.U6 T219 1994

John L. Neely Jr. Papers, 1940-1955
MS – 1390
This collection contains papers of John L. Neely, Jr., including Administrative Bulletins, Agendas for Valley Land-Grant College-TVA Conference, Operation standards, manual of procedures, and procurement specification manuals.

Kull, Donald C. *Budget administration in the Tennessee Valley Authority*. Knoxville, 1948.
Univ. Archives: HF5006.T2 S8 no.15

Lee S. Greene Collection (1930-1986), 18.0 shelf feet. Series 10 Box 10, part B: TVA Materials
MS – 1391
Series 10 (Box 10), Part B includes materials on or related to the TVA, including an encyclopedia article on TVA, handbooks, handbook supplements, Bureau of Public Administration Reports, and other papers.

Rare Books: TK1425.M8 L52 1941

Rare Books: TK1425.M8 L5

Rare Books: HC106.L54 1940
*Thesis/Dissertation: Thesis73.M284*


Neuner, Edward J. *Financial and operating characteristics of the municipal and cooperative distributors of T.V.A. power*. Knoxville, Division of University Extension, University of Tennessee, 1949. 
*Rare Books: HF5006.T2 S8 no.20*


*Rare Books: TK1425.M8 P68*

*Rare Books: TK1425.M8 R42*

*Thesis/Dissertation: Thesis69.S628*

Tennessee Valley Authority. *Annual report of the Tennessee Valley Authority*. Knoxville, Tenn. [etc., Tennessee Valley Authority, etc.]: For sale by the Treasurer, Tennessee Valley Authority [etc.]. 
*Rare Books: TK1425.M8 T35*

*Rare Books: Z7164.P97 T32 1954*

Tennessee Valley Authority. Office of Engineering. *Report of the chief engineer for the fiscal year*. ... Knoxville, Tenn.: The Office, 
*Rare Books: TK1425.M8 T37*

**Rare Books:** RA11.A162

Tennessee Valley Authority Pamphlet Collection, 1934-1960
MS – 631
Collection includes pamphlets on TVA history, objectives, operations, structure, studies on social and economical impact on the region and inhabitants, fire prevention and forest management, engineering data and research, and agricultural data and research.


**Rare Books:** TC425.T2 T45 1945

Tennessee Valley Authority Reports, 1933-1973
MS – 828
This collection contains preliminary and confidential reports on Pickwick Landing Reservoir and the Tennessee Valley Authority Department of Regional Planning Studies, Social and Economic Research Division reports on the Chickamauga Reservoir, proposed national forest purchases in several counties and effects upon local finance of real property purchases by TVA. There are also regional summaries of resources and watershed reports of various regions as well as a thesis on organization for waste management within the Tellico region, miscellaneous reports, and articles pertaining to the TVA.

**Agriculture**

*Conference on the Common Mooring : Minutes of the Conference on the Common Mooring : held in the office of Dr. Harcourt Morgan, March 8, 9, 10, 1945.* [Knoxville, Tenn. : TVA, 1945]

**Rare Books:** GF504.T4C6 1945

Harcourt Alexander Morgan Papers 1902-1950
MS-522
This collection houses photographs, newspaper clippings, official documents, correspondence, speeches, scrapbooks, notebooks, printed materials, and subject files documenting Harcourt Alexander Morgan's life and work as President of the University of Tennessee and as Agricultural Specialist for the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Henry A. Curtis Collection (1912-1963)
MS – 323
Curtis was a chemical engineer from 1949 until his retirement in 1957 he worked on the board of directors of the TVA. The collection contains personal correspondence, business letters, research
notes, published and unpublished articles, talks, and book reviews by Dr. Curtis, photographs, articles on his retirement and death, printed technical material, and a copy of his account of his career.

Wengert, Norman I. Valley of tomorrow; the TVA and agriculture. Knoxville, Bureau of Public Administration, University of Tennessee, 1952.

Rare Books: S445 .W38


Rare Books: TC425.C9 U55 1941

Bibliographies

Tennessee Valley Authority. The TVA program : a bibliography of selected readings . Knoxville, TN : [s.n.] ; 1946
Rare Books: Z7164.P97 T35 1946

Tennessee Valley Authority. Library. A bibliography for the TVA program. Knoxville.
Rare Books: Z7164.P97 T29

Tennessee Valley Authority. Library. A selected list of books, theses, and pamphlets on TVA. Knoxville, Tenn., 1941.
Rare Books: Z7164.P97 T33 1941

Tennessee Valley Authority. Library. An indexed bibliography of the Tennessee Valley Authority, Knoxville, Tenn., 1936.
Rare Books: Z7164.P97 T3 1936

Tennessee Valley Authority. Library. An indexed bibliography of the Tennessee Valley Authority ... [Knoxville, Tenn., 1937-
Rare Books: Z7164.P97 T3 1936 Suppl.

Tennessee Valley Authority. Library. The TVA program; a bibliography of selected readings, Knoxville, Tenn., 1950.
Rare Books: Z7164.P97 T35 1950

Tennessee Valley Authority. Library. The TVA program; a bibliography of selected readings, Knoxville [1951]
Rare Books: Z7164.P97 T35 1951
Board of Directors

Harcourt Alexander Morgan (1867-1950) Papers
MS – 522
Morgan worked as president of UT and served as TVA board chairman. Collection includes UT material, speeches, TVA notebooks, reports, wiretaps, newscarrings, TVA photos, material on his appointment to TVA, TVA flood control operations, etc.

Harry Curtis Collection 1908-1963
MS-323
The Curtis Collection contains business and personal correspondence, research notes and published and unpublished articles, talks, and book reviews by Dr. Curtis, photographs, articles on his retirement and death, printed technical material, and a copy of his account of his career, including working as a TVA board member. This collection contains letters from Harcourt A. Morgan, president of the university and TVA board member

James P. Pope Papers 1935-1954 (Bulk 1939-1951)
MS-324
The papers of James P. Pope principally cover the time period of his service on the board of the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA).

Rare Books: E748.L7 N48 1996

Rare Books: F444.S38 W38 2000

Rare Books: E748.L7 W5

Communist Activity

Henry C. Hart Papers 1939-2002 (bulk 1939-1947)
MS-2575
This collection contains the correspondence, official statements, and newspaper clippings collected by Hart during the years surrounding the David E. Lilienthal and Gordon R. Clapp hearings and investigation into Communist activity within the Tennessee Valley Authority.
This collection documents Muriel Williams's testimony in two hearings regarding suspected Communist activity before the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) in 1940 and 1950. The first hearing had to do with the suspected presence of Communists in the TVA.

L.B. Bolt, Jr. Papers 1928-1955
MS-2677
The L.B. Bolt, Jr., Papers include information from Bolt's cases from his time spent as a lawyer for the Tennessee Valley Authority, as well as cases from his private practice after a reduction in force cost him his position in the Land Acquisition Department at TVA. The collection also exhibits Bolt's obsession with communist activities within TVA following his dismissal.


**Communities and People**

Cole, William E. *The Tennessee River Valley, its people, resources, and institutions*.
*Rare Books: F217.T3 C65 1941*

*Rare Books: F217.T3 G73 1990*


*Univ. Archives: HD211.T2 M35 1982*

*Rare Books: F444.N6 N67 1983*

Sinclair, Robert Christopher. *A case study of the Tennessee Valley Authority's Valley Resource Center's Community-Based Programs: an example of local economic development in rural areas*. 1993.
*Thesis/Dissertation: Thesis93.S543*


**Construction, Engineering, and Development**

F. A. W. Davis Civil Engineering Papers 1901, 1910s-1950s MS-2829
The papers of F. A. W. "Bill" Davis include primarily civil engineering topics and are by Bill Davis, TVA, Impact Tools, Inc., etc. There are also patents, blueprints, tool designs, etc., which relate to Bill's father Lewis K. Davis of Impact Tools, Inc.


George P. Palo Papers circa 1860s-1990s (bulk 1920s-1990s) MS-2674
The George P. Palo Papers, circa 1860s-1990s (bulk 1920s-1990s), contain the personal and professional papers of George P. Palo, former Chief Engineer of TVA, and his wife Annie G. Palo. The bulk of the collection spans George's career with TVA and his experiences with civil engineering.


Reid, Kenneth. *Design in TVA structures*. [Knoxville, Tenn., Tennessee Valley Authority, 1939]

**Rare Books:** TC557.3.T45 R4


**Thesis/Dissertation:** Thesis76.R925


**Rare Books:** TK1425.M8 T4 1935


**Rare Books:** TK1425.M8 T4 1936


**Rare Books:** TC557.3.T45 T4


**Rare Books:** Z7164.R33 W66

**Electric Power**


**Thesis/Dissertation:** Thesis66.B276

*Electricity*. [Knoxville, Tenn.?] : Tennessee Valley Authority, c1983.

**Rare Books:** TK1005 .E458 1983

Hobday, Victor C. *Sparks at the grassroots; municipal distribution of TVA electricity in Tennessee*. Knoxville, University of Tennessee Press [1969]

**Rare Books:** HD9685.U6 T22


**Rare Books:** HD9685.U6 T26

Municipal Forum of New York. *Public power versus private power in the South; an address* [New York, 1954]

**Rare Books:** TK1425.M8 D45
Quillen, Anna. *The relationship of municipal electric power boards, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and local governments*. 1948.

*Thesis/Dissertation: Thesis79b.R38*

Seymour Family Papers 1903-1989 (bulk 1903-1960)
MS-2706
This collection includes the papers of Charles Milne Seymour, Sr., a lawyer who participated in the lawsuit of Tennessee Electrical Power Company vs. TVA in 1934-38.


*Rare Books Folio: KF2125.T47U57 Suppl.*

*Rare Books: TK1425.M8 T27*

*Rare Books: HD9685.U7 T45 1935*

Tennessee Valley Authority. *TVA's influence on electric rates*. [Knoxville, 1965]
*Rare Books: HD9685.U6 T24 1965*

Tennessee Valley Authority. Office of Power. *TVA power*. Chattanooga, Tenn. 1956-.
*Rare Books: TK1425.M8 T5*

Third World Power Conference and Second Congress on Large dams: [Knoxville, Tenn. : Tennessee Valley Authority, 1936]
*Rare Books: TC540.T422*

*Rare Books: F443.T3 W5*

*World Power Conference* (3rd : 1936 : Third World Power Conference and second Congress on Large Dams: [Knoxville, Tenn. : Tennessee Valley Authority, 1936]
*Rare Books: TC540.T4*

**Rare Books: TK1425.M8 A82**

### Employees and Employee Relations


**Univ. Archives: TK1425.M8 A9**


**Rare Books: TK1425.M8 C32**


**Rare Books: Z731 .C45**

Howard A. Bridgman Diary 1936

MS-2698

The Howard Bridgman Diary chronicles the daily activities of a TVA mailroom worker during the first few months of 1936. This handwritten diary of 56 pages (approximately 13,000 words) records important events in TVA's history, such as the opening of Norris Dam and the decision in the George Ashwander case against the agency, while documenting the mundane details of working in the TVA mailroom.

Ira Chiles Papers 1936-1951

MS-1019

This collection of papers concentrates on the career of Ira Chiles while he held the office of Area Education Officer with the Tennessee Valley Authority from 1936 to 1948. Papers dealing with Mr. Chiles official duties as Education Officer as well as other aspects of the TVA are included in the collection. A large portion of material covers the Guntersville Dam project in Alabama, on which Mr. Chiles worked.


Samuel A. Shipman Oral History 2000 MS-2693 This collection contains an 81-page interview, conducted by the Center for the Study of War and Society for the Veteran's Oral History Project, which covers the life of Samuel Shipman from his youth, to serving in Vietnam, to his thoughts on the TVA as a former employee.


Tennessee Valley Authority. Personnel Dept. Training Division. *Educational opportunities for TVA Employees located in the Knoxville area.* [Knoxville] : The Division, Rare Books: LC5252.T4 T4


General


*Rare Books: HD9685.U7 T33*

*Rare Books: TC425.T2 C43 1984*

*Rare Books: TK1425.M8 C48*

*Rare Books: F217.T3 D3*

*Rare Books: TK1425.M8 D75*


*Rare Books: TK1425.M8 D8*

The Economic impact of TVA. Knoxville, University of Tennessee Press [1967]
*Rare Books: HN79.A135 E25*

*Rare Books: HN79.A135 F5 1944*

*Rare Books: TD171.3.T2 F5 1983*

*Rare Books: F217.T3 G858 1947a*

*Rare Books: HD9685.U7 T46*
Rare Books: TK1425.M8 H78

Rare Books: TK1425.M8 H8 1943

Rare Books: TK1425.M8 K4

Rare Books: TK1425.M8 K9

Rare Books: TK1425.M8 L53

Rare Books: F436.M5 1979

Moley, Raymond, 1886-. *Valley authorities.* New York, American Enterprise Association [1950]
Rare Books: HN57.M65

Rare Books: HN79.A135 M66 1934

Rare Books: HN79.A135 M67

Munzer, Martha E. *Valley of vision; the TVA years.* New York, Knopf [1969]
Rare Books: HN79.A135 M85

Rare Books: HN79.A135 N4 1970

Rare Books: TK1425.M8 O93

Rare Books: F436.T254

Rare Books: TC425.T2 1937
Tennessee Valley Authority. *TVA: the first twenty years; a staff report.* [University, Ala.] University of Alabama Press, 1956.  
*Rare Books: TK1425.M8 M37*

*Rare Books: TC424.T2 T4 1957*

*Rare Books: TK1425 .M8 T8 1964*

*Rare Books: Z7164.P97 T32 1954*

*Rare Books: HD9685.U7 T37 1983*

*Rare Books: TK1425 .M8 A52 1941*

**Gravesite Removal**

*Rare Books: F450 .M38 1975*

Tennessee Valley Authority Grave Removal Records for the Norris Dam Reservoir 1933- 1936 MS-0513  
This collection houses the TVA's records of graves removed to make way for the Norris Dam Reservoir in the mid-1930s.

**Photographs**

*Rare Books: TK1425 .M8 E98 2003  
Rare Books Folio: KF2125.T47U57 Suppl.*

Nolichucky Dam Photo Album 1913-1915 MS-2772  
This collection consists of a photo album documenting the construction of the Nolichucky Dam in Greenville, Tenn., in 1913. All stages of dam construction are presented in the album: coffer dams, foreboys, penstocks, forms, and the power house.
Norris Dam Photos 1933
MS-2005
This collection contains photographs documenting the construction of Norris Dam, the first dam built by TVA.

Rare books: TG149 .T4

TVA Excavation/Charleton, Tenn. Photo Album 1937
MS-2729
This collection consists of photographs, dated October 7, 1937, of a TVA excavation site near Charleton, Tennessee.

Sheeny White's Tennessee Valley Ho! Cruise Photographs 1948 June 15-23
MS-2849
This collection consists of 51 photographs by Sheeny White documenting the Tennessee Valley Ho! cruise. It also includes a short description of the cruise, which consisted of "more than seventy cabin cruisers" travelling from Paducah, Kentucky to Knoxville, Tennessee. Subjects of the photographs include boats, barges, TVA locks and dams, river scenery, crew, and passengers.

Policies and Environmentalism

Alexander, Helen Roth. Congress and Muscle Shoals. 1935.


Caldwell, Mary French. The duck's back; a report on certain phases of the socialistic experiments conducted by the Federal government in the Tennessee Valley. Nashville, Tenn. [c1952]
Rare Books: F443.T3 C27

Rare Books: TD888.P67 M58 2000

Rare Books: HD9685.U7 T334 1990

Univ. Archives: KF3775 .D87 1985

Univ. Archives: HD9502.U53 T46


Univ. Archives: TD883.5.T45 I58


Rare Books: TK1425.M8 R58

Rare Books: TD883 .U54 2001

**Publicity**

Aelred "Flash" Gray Papers, 1933-1993  
MS-2681  
This collection consists of reports, notes, rosters, drafts, binders, clippings, and publications relating to Aelred "Flash" Gray's career with the University of Tennessee Planning Department and two of his publications, *Norris, Tennessee: A History of America's First Self-Contained Greenbelt Town* and *Regional Planning: The TVA Experience.*

Carson Brewer Collection. 1945-1994  
MS-2048  
This collection consists of Carson Brewer's *Knoxville News-Sentinel* articles and other articles on people, organizations, and places primarily located in East Tennessee. Coverage includes
Knoxville, the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and the Tennessee Valley Authority. Includes articles on the TVA from the 1950s through the 1990s.

*Rare Books: TK1425.M8 T33*

Tennessee Valley Authority 50th Anniversary Exhibit 1982 MS-2491
This collection contains materials pertaining to the 1983 Tennessee Valley Authority 50th Anniversary Exhibit. Included in this collection are press releases and photographs related to the exhibit as well as information on "The Valley Adventure," a "colorful floating exhibit" which documented the history of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

TVA Literature Collection 1939-1944 MS-2772
This is a collection of TVA Literature, including two safety manuals, "TVA Labor Relations Policy at Work" dated 1940, and a letter written by David E. Lilienthal, chairman of TVA, dated 1944.

**Tellico Dam Controversy**

*Rare Books: E78.T3 C46 1994*

Carson and Alberta Brewer Papers 1960s-2004 MS-2825
This collection contains the research materials and drafts for *Valley So Wild: A Folk History* by Alberta and Carson Brewer and articles/columns for Knoxville News-Sentinel by or about Carson Brewer. Included are drafts of materials on the Tellico Dam.

*Univ. Archives: HD1694.T4 R4*

Sue K. Hicks Papers 1925-1975 MS-1018
This collection contains the papers of Judge Sue K. Hicks, and includes information on the TVA Tellico Dam Controversy.
Tennessee Endangered Species Committee, 1969-1977
MS – 1328
This collection was donated by representatives of the Tennessee Endangered Species Committee (T.E.S.C.). It gives information in the form of magazine and newspaper articles, correspondence, court proceedings, congressional records and other materials concerning the lengthy battle between the TESC and the TVA over the building of the Tellico Dam and the dam’s threat to various elements of the local environment, particularly an endangered species of fish, the Snail Darter.

Rare Books: TC557.T4 T4 1991

Rare Books: HD9685.U7 T387 1986

Theses and Dissertations
Alexander, Helen Roth. Congress and Muscle Shoals. 1935.


Drumright, William W. A river for war, a watershed to change : the Tennessee Valley Authority during World War II. 2005.

*Thesis/Dissertation: Thesis79.F688*

*Thesis/Dissertation: Thesis77.F692*


*Thesis/Dissertation: Thesis77.H325*


*Thesis/Dissertation: Thesis95.L378*


*Thesis/Dissertation: Thesis49.M386*

*Thesis/Dissertation: Thesis73.M284*


Quillen, Anna. *The relationship of municipal electric power boards, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and local governments*. 1948.


Sinclair, Robert Christopher. *A case study of the Tennessee Valley Authority's Valley Resource Center's Community-Based Programs: an example of local economic development in rural areas*. 1993.


