



**THE CENTER FOR POPULAR MUSIC, MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY,
MURFREESBORO, TN**

TOM MORGAN COLLECTION

09-015

Creator:

Morgan, Tom

Type of Material:

Manuscript Materials, Photographs, Performance Documents, Artifact

Physical Description:

12 boxes, including contact lists, performance flyers and resources, sheet music, newspaper clippings, Tom Morgan's career and performance documents, oversized articles, artifacts, photographs, contracts, and correspondence.

Dates:

circa 1970-2010

Abstract (Descriptive Summary):

This is a collection of mostly papers and photographs related to Tom Morgan and his career. It also includes resources about renowned country and bluegrass artists whom Tom Morgan worked with and knew.

Access/Restrictions:

The collection is open for research use. *All materials in this collection are subject to standard national and international copyright laws. Center staff are able to assist with copyright questions for this material.*

Provenance and Acquisition Information:

Tom Morgan, local bluegrass musician and luthier, gave the material in this collection to the Center for Popular Music in multiple installments, beginning in 2009. Accession numbers for Mr. Morgan's collection include: 09-015, 12-018, 14-031, 14-035, 14-049, 14-066, 15-001, 15-011, 15-039, and 15-040.

Subjects/Index Terms:

Fiddling--Southern States
Old-time music
Old-time music—Tennessee

Fiddler's Convention
Fiddling—Competitions
Banjo
Guitar
Mandolin
Fiddle
Folklife Festival – Smithsonian
Chattanooga Audubon Society
Chattanooga Historical Society
Chattanooga (Tenn.)
SIEM
Bluegrass
Country and western music
Luthiers
Tennessee
Bluegrass unlimited--Indexes.
Tennessee Banjo Institute

Agency History/Biographical Sketch:

Pioneer bluegrass musician, luthier, and educator, Tom Morgan, was born in Morgan Springs, Tennessee on April 19, 1932. He became interested in country music early in life and was deeply influenced by family members, as well as by musical friends and neighbors, such as banjo player Ed Cullis. Throughout his childhood, Morgan continued his efforts to play and sing while he absorbed country music and bluegrass through the many radio shows that appeared on stations such as WDOD, WDXB, and the well-known Grand Ole Opry on WSM.

In 1950, Morgan enrolled at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. While in that city, he began learning to play the upright bass and guitar, crossing paths with many veteran country musicians and radio personalities such as Lowell Blanchard and Cas Walker. Following his university studies, Tom enlisted in the Air Force. After brief postings in Texas and New York, he was assigned to duty in Washington D.C., which was, at that time, a major hub of activity in the bluegrass music scene.

Mr. Morgan became an important figure in the Washington D.C. bluegrass community during the peak of its creative contributions to that style. While based in the D.C. area, Tom performed with bluegrass legends Bill Monroe, Ralph Stanley, The Country Gentlemen, Red Allen & Frank Wakefield, Bernarr “Buzz” Busby, Bill Harrell, Mike Seeger, Hazel Dickens, and Alice Gerrard. He worked with and inspired other now-legendary musicians such as David Grisman, Bill Keith, and the Seldom Scene. During this time, Tom began to “build, repair or embellish” the guitars, mandolins, and banjos that were favored by bluegrass musicians. He was a significant early practitioner of this art and trade, now an important part of bluegrass culture.

Morgan left the Washington D.C. area when he retired from the Air Force in 1972 and returned to Tennessee where he settled down on family land in Morgan Springs. Back in Tennessee, he

continued his work as a luthier and continued to perform in a family bluegrass band that included his beloved wife, Mary (d. 1993) and their two sons. In 1977, Tom added legendary fiddler, Curly Fox, to his band. This allowed Fox to keep his performance career alive for a significant period. During this productive time, Tom and his family recorded LPs for the Davis Unlimited and Folkways labels and organized the Chattanooga Area Friends of Folk Music.

As of 2016, Tom is still an active booster for traditional music and arts in Tennessee. He and his current musical partner, Lynne Haas, work as educators and performers to share their love and knowledge about traditional music with listeners of all ages at countless shows throughout the state. In 2015, the Center for Popular Music reissued the album, *Music from Morgan Springs*, on their Spring Fed Records label.

Scope and Content:

This collection contains contact lists, photographs, information related to Tom Morgan's career and personal folders, correspondence, a railroad spike, folders (in alphabetical order by last name) with materials related to renowned bluegrass and country artists and bands, performance flyers, festival and fair programs, contracts, information on workshops, and subject folders. Dates range between the late 1970s and early 2010s.

The collection includes sound recordings, videos, serials, performance documents, photographs, books, and trade catalogs that have been removed from the Manuscript Collection and cataloged separately.

This collection also contains 472 digital files of scanned materials, including scanned photographs from Tom Morgan's personal scrapbooks.

Collection Contents (Folder/Box List):

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Description</u>
Box 1: Tom Morgan		Career: business and performance contracts, contacts, correspondences, awards
	Folder 1	Tom Morgan – photos
	Folder 2	Tom Morgan career
	Folder 3	Reviews of “Red Allen & Frank Wakefield: The WDON Recordings 1963”
	Folder 4	Tom Morgan – performance
	Folder 5	Hillbrook Recreation Bluegrass Reunion
	Folder 6	Tusculum College Old Oak – Contract and performances
	Folder 7	Ozark Center performances
	Folder 8	Contracts
	Folder 9	Morgan Company
	Folder 10	Tom Morgan – Luthier
	Folder 11	Charity

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Folder 12	Tennessee Committee for the Humanities
Folder 13	Tributes and Awards
Folder 14	Folklife Heritage Award Nominee
Folder 15	Order of Kentucky Colonels
Folder 16	Correspondence
Folder 17	Correspondence – European clients
Folder 18	Contacts
Box 2: Tom Morgan	Personal Files/Family & Friends
Folder 1	Personal: Silhouette, Newspaper clippings
Folder 2	Biographies, Family histories
Folder 3	Scott Morgan
Folder 4	Bill Foshag
Box 3: Subjects (Alphabetically)	Variety of subjects including guitar, mandolin, song history
Folder 1	Appalachia
Folder 2	Banjo
Folder 3	Banjos in Japan (1/2)
Folder 4	Banjos in Japan (2/2)
Folder 5	Bluegrass music: definition, etc.
Folder 6	Chattanooga, Tennessee
Folder 7	Country music: definition, etc.
Folder 8	Folklorists
Folder 9	Guitars
Folder 10	Historic Rugby
Folder 11	Luthier
Folder 12	Sacred Harp
Folder 13	Scopes Trial history
Folder 14	Shape Note Singing
Folder 15	Sheet music: instrumental/vocal parts
Box 4: Subjects (Alphabetically)	Song history
Folder 1	Miscellaneous: photocopied images
Folder 2	Miscellaneous papers
Folder 3	
Box 5: Fairs, Festivals, Reunions	Fairs, Festivals, Tennessee Homecoming
Folder 1	Appalachian Christmas
Folder 2	Appalachian River Reunion
Folder 3	Audubon Fiddle Festival
Folder 4	Bear on the Square Mountain Festival
Folder 5	Bluegrass Festivals (assorted)

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Folder 6	Bluegrass Strawberry Festival
Folder 7	Cave Spring Arts Festival
Folder 8	Cherokee Indian Heritage & Sandhill Crane Viewing Days
Folder 9	Coke Ovens Bluegrass Festival
Folder 10	Coker Country Fair
Folder 11	Color Cruise Festival
Folder 12	Expo 1982: World's Fair Folklife Festival
Folder 13	Fall Arts & Crafts Festival: Ersie's Needle & Thread
Folder 14	Fan Fair Family Reunion

Box 6: Fairs, Festivals, Reunions

Folder 1	Grand Master's Fiddle Contest
Folder 2	Jubilee Festival
Folder 3	Lookout Valley Folk Festival
Folder 4	Mountain Makins' Festival
Folder 5	Morgan Springs Homecoming 1987
Folder 6	National Folk Festival, Chattanooga, TN
Folder 7	National Folk Festival/NCTA
Folder 8	Newport Folk Festival
Folder 9	Ochlockonee River Bluegrass and Folk Music Festival
Folder 10	Old Time Music Day: Hendersonville Arts Council
Folder 11	Opryland Crafts – Country America Lifestyles Festival
Folder 12	Pickin' Waterloo Bluegrass Festival
Folder 13	Riverbend Festival
Folder 14	Scopes Trial Festival & Plays
Folder 15	Slagle's Pasture Bluegrass Festival
Folder 16	Smithsonian Institution Folklife Festival
Folder 17	Soil Conservation Awards Banquet
Folder 18	Southern Folk Festival
Folder 19	Stones River Crafts Fair
Folder 20	Tennessee Banjo Institute
Folder 21	Tennessee Homecoming
Folder 22	"Tennessee Valley Adventures," Barges & 50 th Anniversary Celebration
Folder 23	TN Valley Old Time Fiddlers Convention
Folder 24	Three Rivers Art Festival
Folder 25	Uncle Dave Macon Days
Folder 26	Festivals & Fairs (miscellaneous)

Box 7: Organizations (Alphabetically)

	Organizations Tom was involved in, had interest in, or performed for
Folder 1	Allied Arts of Chattanooga
Folder 2	American Diabetes Association
Folder 3	The American Woodworker
Folder 4	Audubon Society
Folder 5	Aunt Lou's Family Restaurant
Folder 6	Berea College
Folder 7	Bill Wills Arts Council
Folder 8	Bluegrass Unlimited
Folder 9	Center for Southern Folklore
Folder 10	Center for Traditional Music
Folder 11	Chattanooga Area Friends of Folk Music (CAFFM)
Folder 12	Chattanooga Downtown Partnership
Folder 13	Chattanooga Recreation Center
Folder 14	Chattanooga Regional History Museum
Folder 15	Chattanooga Visitors Center
Folder 16	Chickamauga Battlefield Friends of the Park
Folder 17	Copper Creek Records
Folder 18	Cumberland County Playhouse
Folder 19	Cumberland Trails Project
Folder 20	Design for Arts in Education
Folder 21	Dixie Frets
Folder 22	Dollywood
Folder 23	Elf Records
Folder 24	Folklife Center of the Smokies
Folder 25	Folk School of Chattanooga
Folder 26	Folkways Album
Folder 27	Folkways Center of the Georgia Mountains
Folder 28	Ganns Middle Valley Elementary School
Folder 29	Gibson Banjo
Folder 30	Grand Ole Opry
Folder 31	Holly Theater
Folder 32	Hunter Museum of Art
Folder 33	International Bluegrass Music Association
Folder 34	International Bluegrass Music Museum
Folder 35	Jack Wingate's Fishing Lodge
Folder 36	John C. Campbell Folk School
Folder 37	John Edwards Memorial Foundation
Folder 38	Kiuka Kountry Music & Krafts Fair
Folder 39	Library of Congress: Archive of Folk Songs
Folder 40	Midday Merry Go Round Reunion
Folder 41	Mountain Music Shows

Folder 42	Mountain Opry
Folder 43	Museum of the Appalachia
Folder 44	Old Time Music and Dance Foundation
Folder 45	The Original Old Time Music Show
Folder 46	Real People's Music
Folder 47	Rebel Recording Company
Folder 48	Renfro Valley, Kentucky
Folder 49	Rhea Arts Council
Folder 50	Roadside Theater
Folder 51	Shuptrine, Hubert
Folder 52	Sierra/Briar Records
Folder 53	Smithsonian Folkways
Folder 54	Southeast Institute for Education in Music (SIEM)
Folder 55	SIEM manual information 1
Folder 56	SIEM manual information 2
Folder 57	SIEM manual information 3
Folder 58	SIEM manual information 4
Folder 59	SIEM manual information 5
Folder 60	SIEM manual information 6
Folder 61	SIEM manual information 7
Folder 62	SIEM manual information 8
Folder 63	SIEM manual information 9
Folder 64	SIEM manual information 10
Folder 65	SIEM manual information 11
Folder 66	SIEM manual information 12
Folder 67	SIEM manual information 13 "Aesthetics of Art"
Folder 68	SIEM manual information 14
Folder 69	Southern Folk Cultural Revival Project, Inc.

Box 8: Organizations (Continued)

Folder 1	Sonyatone Records
Folder 2	The Tennessean, "The People & their Land"
Folder 3	Tennessee Artist and Craftsmen Association
Folder 4	Tennessee Arts Commission
Folder 5	Tennessee Aquarium
Folder 6	Tennessee Folklore Society
Folder 7	Tennessee Wesleyan College
Folder 8	Tennvale Records
Folder 9	United Way – Rhea County
Folder 10	The Wiggins Memorial Fund
Folder 11	Wolf Trap Farm Park for the Performing Arts

Box 9: Musicians & Bands

Alphabetical listings by last name, first name

Folder 1	Acuff, Roy
Folder 2	Adcock, Eddie & Martha
Folder 3	Adkins, Tom
Folder 4	Allen, Harley "Red"
Folder 5	Atkins, Chet
Folder 6	Austin, Judy
Folder 7	Bailes Brothers
Folder 8	Bailey Brothers & the Morgans
Folder 9	Baker, Sandra
Folder 10	Ball, Patrick
Folder 11	Blake, Norman & Nancy
Folder 12	Boosinger, Laura
Folder 13	Bowen, Robin Huw
Folder 14	Brewer, Carl
Folder 15	Bright, Fletcher
Folder 16	Brown, Ed
Folder 17	Bryson, Wally
Folder 18	Burke, Susie
Folder 19	Burns, Jethro
Folder 20	Busby, Buzz
Folder 21	Campbell, Phil
Folder 22	Cantrell, Al & Emily
Folder 23	Carawan, Guy, Candy, & Evan
Folder 24	Carmack, Richard
Folder 25	Carol, Bonnie
Folder 26	Carter, Bill
Folder 27	Carter Family
Folder 28	Cas Walker Show
Folder 29	Case Brothers
Folder 30	Champion, Paul
Folder 31	Citigo
Folder 32	Clements, Vassar
Folder 33	Clements, Zeke
Folder 34	Clifton, Bill
Folder 35	Cline, Charlie "Lonesome Pine Fiddlers"
Folder 36	Cluster Pluckers
Folder 37	Coe, Pete
Folder 38	Cole, Jack
Folder 39	Connally, John
Folder 40	Connor, Jim
Folder 41	Cooper, Jim
Folder 42	Cotten, Libba
Folder 43	The Country Gentlemen

Folder 44	Cousin Wilbur & Blondie Brooks
Folder 45	Critton Hollow
Folder 46	Cullis, Ed
Folder 47	Culver, Joe
Folder 48	Dautry, Jim
Folder 49	Davis, Buddy
Folder 50	Davis, Stephen
Folder 51	Dawson, Zeke
Folder 52	Days, Reginald "Reggie"
Folder 53	Delmore Brothers
Folder 54	Dismembered Tennesseans
Folder 55	Douglas, Bob
Folder 56	Dow, Nick
Folder 57	Duer, Shirley
Folder 58	Dula, Tom
Folder 59	Dunton Sisters
Folder 60	Emerson, Bill & Kelly
Folder 61	Erbsen, Wayne
Folder 62	Espinola, Tom
Folder 63	Faircloth, Charles "Peanut"
Folder 64	Fiddlers Grove
Folder 65	Fink, Cathy
Folder 66	Flatt & Scruggs
Folder 67	Foote, Tom
Folder 68	Foster Family
Folder 69	Fox, Curly
Folder 70	Foxfire/Eliot Wigginton
Folder 71	Franks, Randall
Folder 72	Freundlich, Susan – sign language artist
Folder 73	Gerrard, Alice & Hazel Dickens
Folder 74	Goins, Meredith
Folder 75	Grier, Lamar
Folder 76	Grisman, David
Folder 77	Guthrie, Arlo
Folder 78	Haden, Darrell "Singing Professor"
Folder 79	Haggard, Merle
Folder 80	Hall, Dixie & Tom
Folder 81	Hambly, Scott
Folder 82	Harmony Sisters
Folder 83	Harrell, Bill
Folder 84	Hartford, John
Folder 85	Heart & Hands
Folder 86	Henry, Red & Murphy

Folder 87	Hicks, Curtis
Folder 88	Holt, David
Folder 89	Hoover, Elmer
Folder 90	Hunt, Raymond
Folder 91	Jones, Tom & Angel Newell
Folder 92	Keith, Bill
Folder 93	Kling, Marcia
Folder 94	Krise, Speedy
Folder 95	Lewis Family
Folder 96	Longworth, Mike & Paul Hopkins
Folder 97	Louvin Brothers
Folder 98	Lucas, Randy
Folder 99	Lundy, Ted, Bob Paisley & Southern Mt. Boys
Folder 100	Maple on the Hill
Folder 101	Marc Pruett Band
Folder 102	Martin, Jimmy
Folder 103	McConnell, Doc
Folder 104	McCoury, Del
Folder 105	McCutcheon, John
Folder 106	McGinley, Danny
Folder 107	McNeil, Maddie
Folder 108	McReynolds, Jim & Jesse
Folder 109	Monroe, Bill
Folder 110	O'Connor, Mark
Folder 111	O'Day, Molly & Skeets Williamson
Folder 112	Osborne Brothers
Folder 113	Pickett, Otis
Folder 114	Pinion, Thomas "Boxcar"
Folder 115	Poole, Charlie
Folder 116	Puckett, Riley
Folder 117	Rager, Mose & Laverda
Folder 118	Ragtime Millionaires – Scott & Mark
Folder 119	Ramona Jones & Grandpa
Folder 120	Rector, "Red" William
Folder 121	Red Clay Ramblers
Folder 122	Red River Dave McEnery
Folder 123	Reno, Don and Red Smiley
Folder 124	Rita & Rufus

Box 10 : Musicians & Bands (Continued)

Folder 1	Roberts, Dalton
Folder 2	Rodgers, Jimmie
Folder 3	Rogers, James

Folder 4	Rogers, Sally
Folder 5	Rogers, Will
Folder 6	Rousseau, Bernie
Folder 7	Rucker, Sparky
Folder 8	Russell, Keith
Folder 9	Sarrell, Andrew & Don
Folder 10	Sawtooth Mountain Boys
Folder 11	Seeger, Mike, Pete & Peggy
Folder 12	Shelton, Allen
Folder 13	Siminoff, Roger
Folder 14	Skaggs, Ricky
Folder 15	Smith, Betty
Folder 16	Smith, Kennett
Folder 17	Sparks, Larry "Lonesome Ramblers"
Folder 18	Spring, Sally
Folder 19	Stanley Brothers
Folder 20	Star, Orrin
Folder 21	Stonemans
Folder 22	Story, Carl
Folder 23	Striker, Arthur "Art"
Folder 24	Sturgills
Folder 25	Tack, Bob & Mary
Folder 26	Joe Taylor Family (Taylor, Joe)
Folder 27	Thomas, Tommy & Bonnie Jean
Folder 28	Thompson, Luke
Folder 29	Tillman, Max
Folder 30	Tottle, Jack
Folder 31	Turner, Grant
Folder 32	"Utah" Phillips
Folder 33	Van Der Puy, Mark
Folder 34	Vernon, Bill
Folder 35	Wakefield, Frank
Folder 36	Watson, Arthel "Doc"
Folder 37	Wernick, Peter
Folder 38	West, Harry & Jeanie
Folder 39	White, Clarence
Folder 40	Williams, Benny
Folder 41	Williams, Doc & Chickie
Folder 42	Wills, Bob
Folder 43	Wiseman, Mac
Folder 44	Witt, Elise
Folder 45	Wolfe, Charles
Folder 46	York, Alvin C.

Folder 47

Miscellaneous artists/groups

Box 11: Oversized

Oversized manuscripts containing performers, subjects, newspapers, etc.

Box 12: Artifacts

Railroad spike from near the Carter Family home
Buddy Davis' pair of glasses

Materials Cataloged Separately:

Per Center policy, certain formats are filed and cataloged separately for accessibility. Examples of these materials from this collection include sound recordings, videos, serials, performance documents, photographs, trade catalogs, and books. [For a complete list of separated materials, please contact the archivist at rachel.morris@mtsu.edu.]

Arrangement:

Unless otherwise noted in the folder and box list, the arrangement scheme for the collection was imposed during processing in the absence of a usable original order. Digital files are located on the CPM server, organized by accession number.

Location:

These materials are located among the manuscripts arranged in twelve boxes by accession number. Folders are listed alphabetically and by subject.

Related Materials:

Other related materials in the CPM collection include the Bill Harrison Collection, Lance LeRoy Collection, a collection of videos and photographs related to Bill Monroe, Tennessee Banjo Institute Collection, Tennessee Banjo Institute Records and photographs, TN Valley Old Time Fiddlers Competition, Tennessee Old Time Fiddlers Convention, and Uncle Dave Macon Days collections.

Processed by Emily Boersma, March 2016.

Updated by Emily Boersma, November 2016.