



a self-guided tour of
Justice Building
Portraits



Dear friends,



Photo By Steven Veach

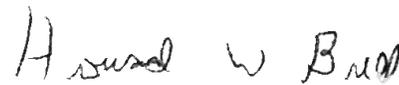
Welcome to the Justice Building and thank you for visiting. As you move through the halls, please take a moment to view the portraits of justices who have served Arkansas's highest court. It is a tradition for the families of retired justices to commission artists to paint the justices' portraits for judges, lawyers, and Arkansans to enjoy.

Each portrait not only represents a unique personality, but also reveals the people who have been responsible for shaping this state's case law, its court procedures and rules, and the function of the judiciary.

You will see the justice who spearheaded voter reform in Arkansas, another who helped found Ducks Unlimited, and a justice who served as president of both Arkansas State University and the University of Arkansas. The portraits include a justice who was on the court for 38 years and also wrote crossword puzzles. Many justices served important roles in developing Arkansas constitutional law. Many served in the military and held state and federal political offices. The experiences and the knowledge that they brought to the supreme court supported and enriched their work.

As a branch of government, the judiciary reacts slowly, thoughtfully, and deliberately because the law is based on history and precedent. These jurists have laid a solid foundation. It is my honor to build on that foundation, and it is with deep gratitude that I serve as your chief justice and continue the work of my predecessors.

Warmest regards,



Chief Justice Howard W. Brill
Arkansas Supreme Court

Architecture

Dedicated on April 27, 2001, the new wing of the Justice Building stands as a symbol of faith in the legal system. It enables the judiciary to take its rightful place alongside the legislative and executive components located in the majestic architecture of the State Capitol complex. To the citizenry it is the physical embodiment of the public trust regarding the ideals of truth and justice.

Designed using accepted forms of the classical canon, the structure is a block configuration with a central Doric hexastyle portico flanked on the ends by pavilions. The Doric style was selected because its simpler detailing matches the nature of the law and the court in that it sometimes has to be severe to carry out justice.

Anchored by a rusticated granite base representing the rugged attachment to the earth, the building is organized horizontally in three layers: the base, a refined limestone main floor or piano nobile, and the crowning entablature. The structural steel frame is clad in Indiana limestone quarried from large blocks. The exterior envelope is composed of the meaningful order of the pilasters that carry the entablature consisting of architrave, frieze, and cornice. Each element has a logical base that is shaped with grace to interest the eye. This is the nature of classical building, to achieve balance and serenity through refined features whose nature will endure over a long period of time. It is appealing because it is the most simple and straightforward expression of a building, an enduring asset to be utilized by future generations.

The interior floor consists of granite patterns in contrasting shades of dark and light. The decor is classical with a system of painted wood. The public lobby is given definition by the pilasters and treatment of the coffered ceiling. This area is the “Hall of Justice” with exhibits pertaining to the history of law in Arkansas.

This noble building is the home of Arkansas law and it stands as an extraordinary construct representing justice, the greatest mechanism for the identification of truth.

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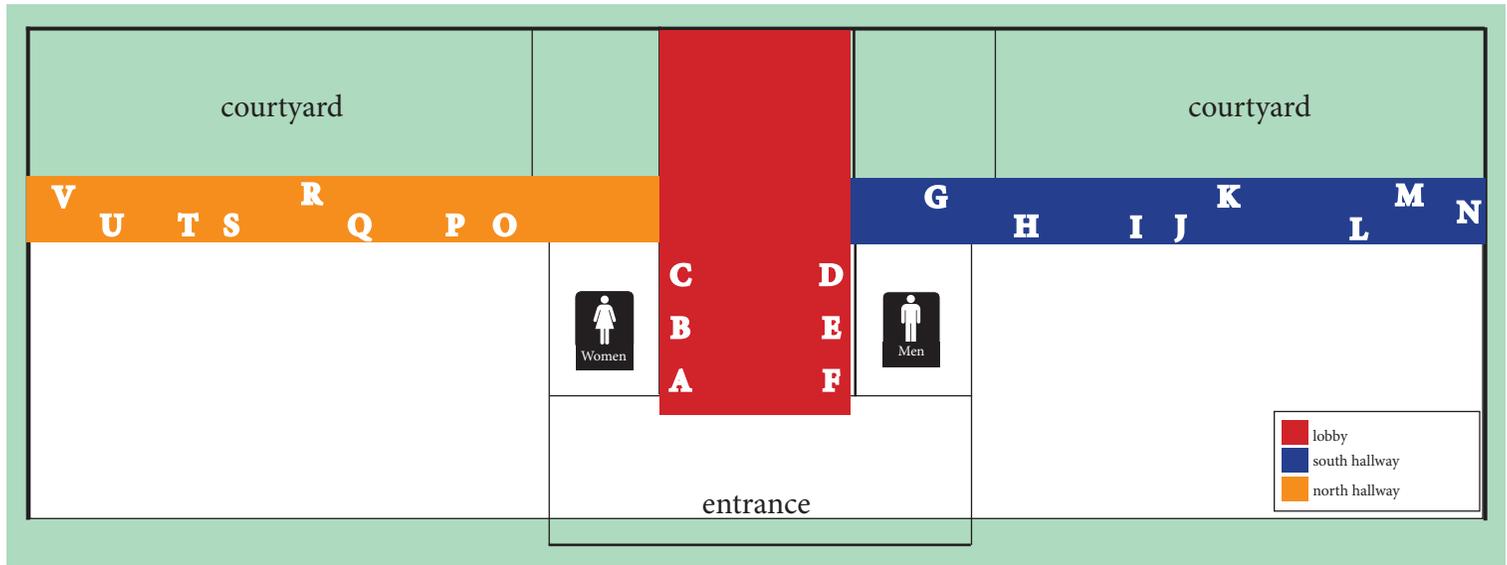
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Map of Justice Building

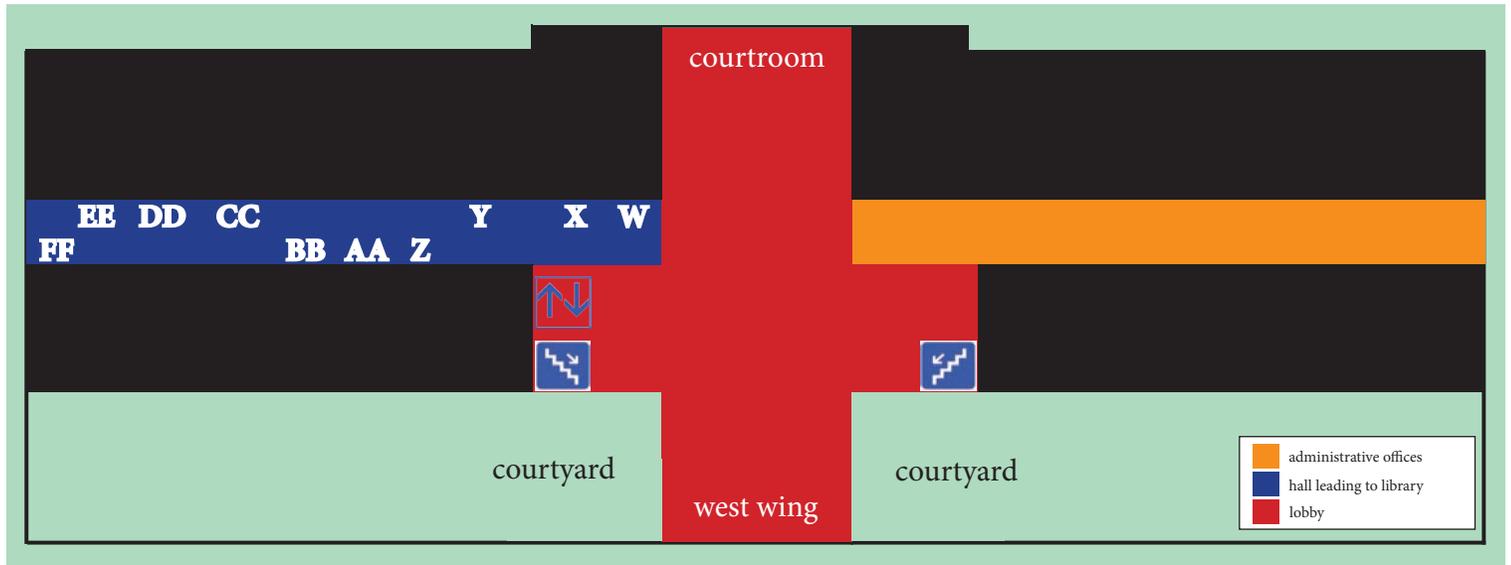
The West Wing



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| A - Justice Edward McFaddin | L - Chief Justice William Wilshire |
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Map of Justice Building

The East Wing



- W - Chief Justice Jack Holt, Jr.
- X - Justice Steele Hays
- Y - Justice Minor Millwee
- Z - Justice J. Frank Holt
- AA - Justice Sam Dunn Robinson
- BB - Justice Turner Butler
- CC - Justice Annabelle Imber Tuck
- DD - Chief Justice W.H. Arnold
- EE - Chief Justice Griffin Smith
- FF - Justice J. Fred Jones

Lobby



Justice Edward McFaddin

Born in Hope, Arkansas, on December 30, 1894. McFaddin graduated from Hardin-Simmons University and the University of Texas Law School. He was admitted to the bar in 1919 after serving in World War I and began practicing law in Hope, Arkansas. McFaddin was a past director of Rotary International, a member of the XV Club, and a 32nd degree Mason. He was elected to be an Associate Justice in 1942 and served until 1966 when he retired. McFaddin died on July 18, 1982.

Portrait by unknown artist

Justice Townsend Dickinson

Born in New York, Dickinson moved to Batesville, Arkansas, in 1821. That same year, he became a member of the Legislative Council of Independence County and was appointed to be the Prosecuting Attorney for the Second Territorial Circuit. In 1833, Dickinson was appointed to be the U.S. Land Office Registrar in Batesville. Dickinson was a delegate to the first Arkansas Constitutional Convention of 1836. After being elected to the first State Legislature, he was subsequently elected to be an Associate Justice of the first Arkansas Supreme Court in 1836 where he served until 1842. He died in 1851.

Portrait attributed to Harding



Lobby



Chief Justice Sterling Cockrill

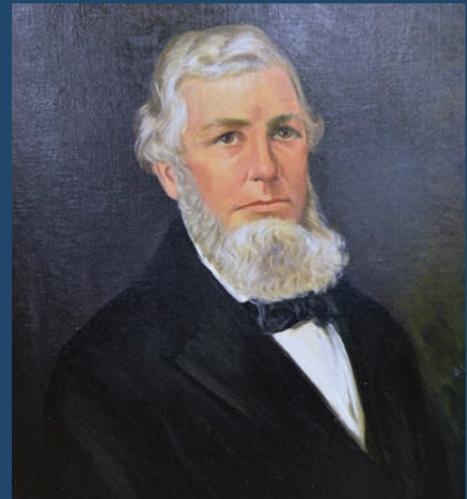
Born in Nashville, Tennessee, on September 26, 1847. Cockrill served in the Confederate Army as Sergeant of Artillery at the age of 17. He graduated from Washington & Lee and Cumberland Law School. In 1884, Cockrill was elected to be Chief Justice where he served until retiring in 1893. He continued to practice law in Little Rock, Arkansas, until his death on January 13, 1901.

Portrait by Beverly Best Rimmel

Justice Christopher Scott

Born in Scottsburg, Virginia, on April 27, 1807. Scott graduated from Washington College with highest honors at the age of 20 and attended Staunton Law School. He was elected to be a Circuit Judge for the Eighth Judicial District in 1846. Scott was appointed to be an Associate Justice in 1848 where he served until his death on January 20, 1859.

Portrait by Guy Gilbert



Lobby



Chief Justice Jesse Hart

Born in Dardanelle, Arkansas, on July 25, 1864. Hart attended college at the University of Arkansas and Vanderbilt Law School, graduating in 1890. He was elected to be a Chancery Judge for the First Chancery Circuit from 1903 until 1907. Hart was appointed to be an Associate Justice in 1907 where he served until being appointed to be Chief Justice in 1927. Hart served as Chief Justice until his death on March 6, 1933.

Portrait by Adrian Brewer

Justice Frank G. Smith

Born near Marion, Arkansas, on August 2, 1872. Smith was elected to be a State Representative in 1894 and 1896 and a State Senator in 1902 and 1904. In 1906, he was elected to be a Circuit Judge for the Second Judicial Circuit. Smith was elected to be an Associate Justice in 1912 where he served until 1949 when he retired. He died on October 27, 1950.

Portrait by James Yale



South Hall

right from lobby



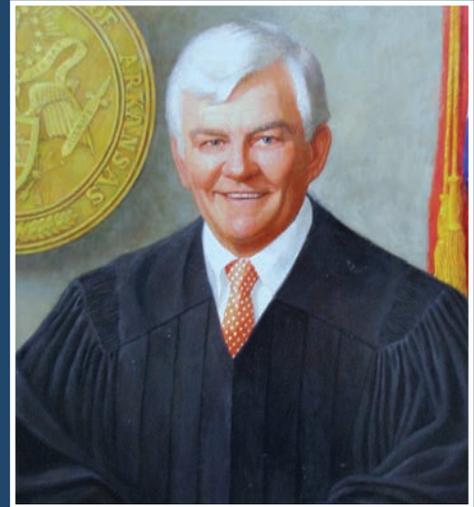
Justice Robert L. Brown

Born in Houston, Texas, on June 30, 1941. Brown graduated from the University of the South, Columbia University with a masters, and the University of Virginia Law School. Brown was admitted to the bar in 1968. He was a legal aide to then Governor Dale Bumpers from 1972 until 1974 and a legislative assistant from 1975 until 1977 when Governor Bumpers was elected to be a U.S. Senator. He served as an administrative assistant to U.S. Congressman Jim Guy Tucker in 1977 and 1978 before returning to private practice in Little Rock, Arkansas. Brown was elected to be an Associate Justice in 1991 and served until 2012 when he retired. He lives in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Portrait by Nancy Harris

Justice Thomas Glaze

Born in Joplin, Missouri, on January 14, 1938. Glaze graduated from the University of Arkansas and its Law School. He was admitted to the bar in 1964 and moved to Little Rock, Arkansas. He worked at the Election Research Council, the Veteran's Administration, the Legal Aid Bureau of Pulaski County, and the Attorney General's Office. In 1970, Glaze founded the Election Laws Institute with the mission of ending voter fraud. He was elected to be a Chancery Judge for the Sixth Chancery Circuit in 1978 and a Judge for the newly created Court of Appeals in 1980. In 1986, Glaze was elected to be an Associate Justice where he served until 2008 when he retired. Glaze died on March 30, 2012.



Portrait by Lee Freppon

South Hall

right from lobby



Justice Paul Ward

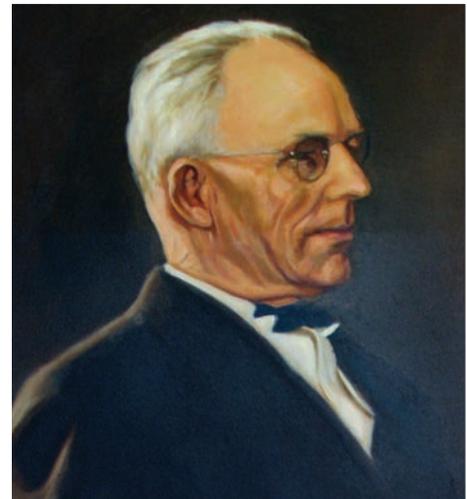
Born in Independence County, Arkansas, on February 20, 1880. Ward attended Tulane University and the University of Oklahoma Law School. He was a veteran of World War I and served as Mayor of Batesville, Arkansas. Ward was elected to be a State Senator in 1932 where he served until 1938. In 1942 he was elected to be a Chancery Judge in the Eighth Chancery Circuit where he served until he was elected to be an Associate Justice in 1951. Ward served as an Associate Justice until 1968 when he retired. He died on November 8, 1972.

Portrait by M. Lile

Chief Justice Cecil E. Johnson

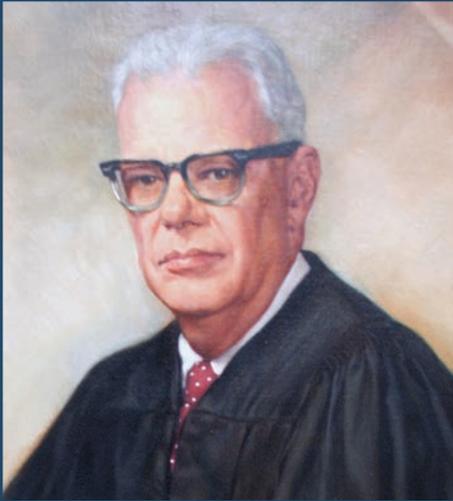
Born in Arkansas on July 26, 1888. Johnson was active in the Arkansas Democratic Party, and his support was often sought by candidates. He was elected to be a Chancery Judge for the Sixth Chancery Circuit in 1922 where he served until 1933. Johnson was appointed to be Chief Justice in 1933 where he served until 1936 when he returned to private practice. He died on April 19, 1955.

Portrait by unknown artist



South Hall

right from lobby



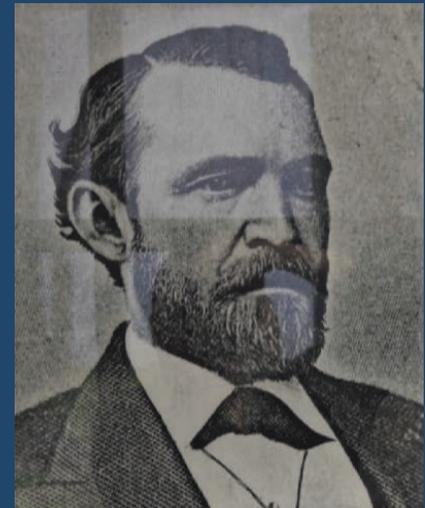
Justice John Fogleman

Born in Marion, Arkansas, on November 5, 1911. Fogleman was accepted to the University of Arkansas at the age of 15 and studied law at the University of Memphis. He practiced law in Marion, Arkansas, and served in the U.S. Army during World War II. Fogleman worked extensively with the Arkansas Bar Association and he served as its President in 1958. He was elected to be an Associate Justice in 1967 where he served until he was appointed to be Chief Justice in 1980. Fogleman served for one year before retiring in 1981. He died on March 10, 2004.

Portrait by Mallie V. McAninch

Chief Justice William Wilshire

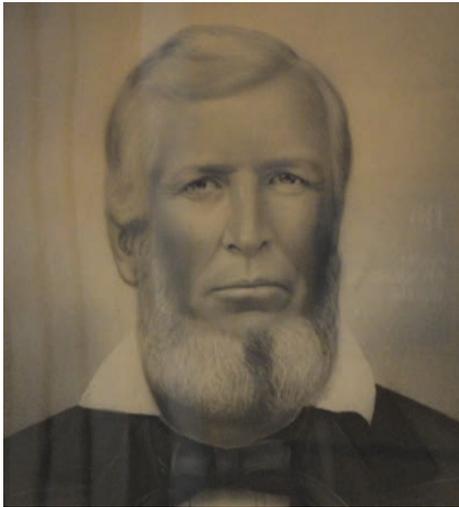
Born in Shawneetown, Illinois, on September 8, 1830. Wilshire traveled to California in 1852 where he spent three years mining for gold. Wilshire then moved to Illinois where he studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1859. He served in the Union Army as a major from 1862 to 1864 and was in command of his regiment at the capture of Little Rock. After the war Wilshire settled in Little Rock and began practicing law. He was appointed Solicitor General in 1867. In 1868, he was appointed to be Chief Justice where he served until 1871. He was elected to be a U.S. Congressman from 1873 until 1874 and 1875 until 1877. Wilshire then practiced law in Washington, D.C. until his death on August 19, 1888.



Portrait by unknown artist

South Hall

right from lobby



Judge Andrew Scott

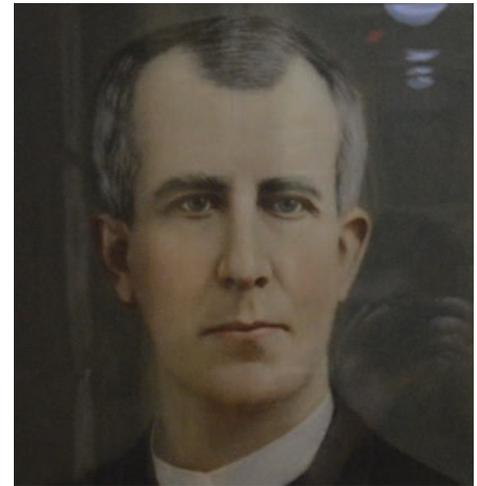
Born in Virginia on August 6, 1789. Scott eventually moved to Pope County, Arkansas Territory. From the years of 1819 to 1827, he served as a member of the Superior Court of the territory of Arkansas. Scott also held the first Territorial Court at Arkansas Post. He was reappointed for a third term as a member of the Superior Court, but failed to receive senate confirmation. Scott was then appointed to be a Circuit Judge for the First Territorial Circuit. Scott also served as a delegate to the first Arkansas Constitutional Convention of 1836. He died in on March 13, 1851.

Portrait by unknown artist

Justice William W. Mansfield

Born in Scottsville, Kentucky, on January 15, 1830. Mansfield moved to Arkansas in 1856 and was elected to be a State Representative that same year. He was a delegate to the constitutional conventions of 1861 and 1874 as well as the Secession Convention of 1861. Mansfield was elected to be a Circuit Judge for the Fifth Judicial Circuit from 1874 until 1878, Digester of Arkansas Statutes in 1884, and Supreme Court Reporter from 1887 until 1890. He was elected to be an Associate Justice in 1891 where he served until his retirement in 1894. Mansfield died on July 27, 1912.

Portrait by unknown artist



North Hall

left from lobby



Justice Robert Dudley

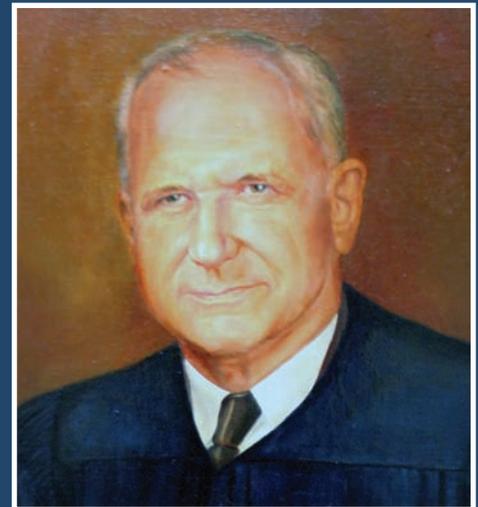
Born in Jonesboro, Arkansas, on November 18, 1933. Dudley attended George Washington University and the University of Arkansas Law School. He was elected to be the Prosecuting Attorney for the Sixteenth Judicial District in 1964 and served until 1970. In 1970, he was elected to be a Chancery Judge for the Eighth Chancery Circuit and in 1979 the Third Chancery Circuit. In 1980, Dudley was elected to be an Associate Justice and served until 1996 when he retired. Dudley lives in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Portrait by Larry Bishop

Chief Justice Lee Seamster

Born in Benton County, Arkansas, on September 14, 1918. Seamster became a schoolteacher at the age of 18. After teaching for two years he began studying the law and was admitted to the bar in 1913. He was elected to be a State Representative in 1918, Mayor of Bentonville in 1920, and a Chancery Judge for the Thirteenth Chancery Circuit in 1924 where he served until 1942. Seamster was elected to be a State Representative again in 1946 and Chancery Judge again in 1948. He was appointed to be Chief Justice in 1955 where he served until 1956. He died on July 25, 1960.

Portrait by Adrian Brewer



North Hall

left from lobby



Chief Justice Carleton Harris

Born in Arkansas on December 31, 1909. Harris was elected to be a State Representative in 1932 where he served until 1938. In 1948, he was elected to be a Chancery judge for the Fourth Chancery Circuit where he served until he was elected to be Chief Justice in 1957. Harris served as Chief Justice until he retired for health reasons in 1979. He is the longest-tenured Chief Justice in Arkansas Supreme Court history. Harris played a major role in the expansion of the duties of the Chief Justice to include oversight of Arkansas's court system as an administrative head and the creation of the Arkansas Court of Appeals. He died on December 1, 1980.

Portrait by Harlan Burrous Hunt

Justice Ray Thornton

Born in Conway, Arkansas, on July 16, 1928. Thornton attended Yale University for his undergraduate studies and did post-graduate work at the University of Texas and the Naval School of Engineering. He received his law degree at the University of Arkansas. Thornton served as Arkansas Attorney General from 1971 until 1973. He served as congressman to the U.S. House of Representatives from 1973 until 1979 and again from 1991 until 1997. Thornton also served as president of Arkansas State University and then the University of Arkansas. Thornton was elected to be an Associate Justice in 1997 and served until 2004. He became the first chairman of the Arkansas Lottery Commission in 2009. Thornton lives in Little Rock, Arkansas.



Portrait by Nancy Harris

North Hall

left from lobby



Justice E. L. McHaney

Born in Gibson County, Tennessee, on November 6, 1876. McHaney graduated from Southern Normal University and Arkansas Law School. McHaney was one of the original organizers of Ducks Unlimited. He served as its President in 1948. In 1921, McHaney was elected to be a State Representative. He was appointed to be an Associate Justice in 1927 where he served until his death in 1948.

Portrait by Adrian Brewer

Justice Basil Baker

Born in Columbia County, Arkansas, on January 29, 1871. Baker graduated from Ouachita College before moving to Craighead County, Arkansas, where he taught school while teaching himself law. He was admitted to the bar in 1898. Baker served as City Attorney of Jonesboro in 1903 and 1904 and Jonesboro City Water & Light's attorney from 1918 until 1934. He was appointed to be an Associate Justice in 1934 where he served until his death on September 20, 1941.

Portrait by Adrian Brewer



North Hall

left from lobby



Justice Robert Carr Knox

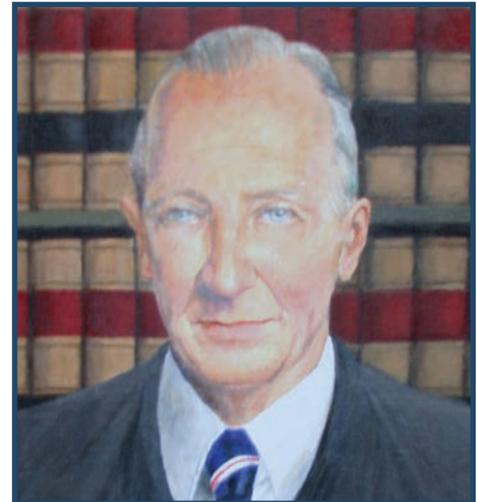
Born in Monticello, Arkansas, on April 19, 1892. Knox graduated from the University of Arkansas and Harvard Law School. He was admitted to the bar in 1914 and began his practice in Monticello. He was elected Mayor of Monticello in 1916 at the age of 24. He was appointed to be Drew County Judge in 1917 and Assistant Attorney General in 1919. Knox was elected to be a State Senator in 1922 and 1924. In 1943, Knox was appointed to be an Associate Justice where he served until 1944. He died in 1947.

Portrait by Adrian Brewer

Justice George Rose Smith

Born in Little Rock, Arkansas, on July 26, 1911. Smith graduated first in his class in high school and at the University of Arkansas Law School. Smith was admitted to the bar in 1933. He served in World War II, and shortly after returning he wrote an article criticizing the current Justices for their mistakes in legal research and opinion writing. This article was widely read and may have launched his judicial career. Smith was elected to be an Associate Justice in 1949 where he served until his retirement in 1986. He developed the Arkansas Supreme Court's system for submitting cases that is still in use today. Smith died on October 20, 1992.

Portrait by Josephine Graham



Feature

Thirty-Eight Years of Justice

Justice George Rose Smith's thirty-eight years on the Court marked the longest time served on the Court in the twentieth century, during which time he wrote 1,923 opinions. He was studious, curious, and hard-working; he was constantly looking for the principle behind the outcome to prior cases, rather than blindly deciding issues the way they had been previously decided. Justice Robert Brown described him as, "knowledgeable, emphatic, to the point, and somewhat intimidating."

His economy of words was well regarded; in Justice George Rose Smith's opinions, Judge Richard S. Arnold explained, "he leaves out nothing important, and includes nothing superfluous. Words are his stock in trade." He enjoyed writing crossword puzzles, two of which were printed in the *New York Times*. It is rumored that several of his crossword puzzles were rejected by the *Times* because they were too difficult. Among Justice George Rose Smith's more personable qualities was his sense of humor. He wrote opinions for April Fool's jokes, two of which found their way into the *Arkansas Law Review*. Eccentric and whimsical, he fed the raccoons that lived behind his house on Cantrell and the raccoons always featured prominently in his Christmas cards. He had a curious and active mind, which led him to become proficient in both carpentry and bricklaying. He built custom cabinets to store the many golf balls he collected over the years living near a golf course. He said he never picked up a golf ball until it stopped rolling, and he kept his golf balls in alphabetical order. When the Supreme Court moved from the State Capitol to the Supreme Court building, the spiral staircase in the Old Supreme Court Library was to be discarded. Instead, Justice George Rose Smith requested permission to take the staircase home and wound it around one of his trees in his yard. He built a platform in the tree where he would occasionally go to read and prepare for court. When asked what he would like future generations to write about him, Justice George Rose Smith said, "Anything they like, as long as it's the truth."

Hall Leading to Library

straight from lobby



Chief Justice Jack Holt, Jr.

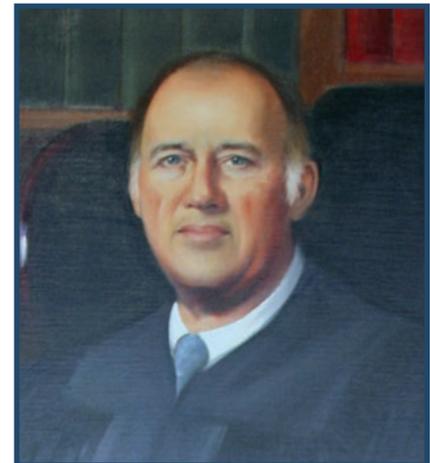
Born in Harrison, Arkansas, on May 18, 1929. Holt graduated from the University of Arkansas School of Law in 1952. He spent three years serving in the U.S. Air Force. In 1955, Holt became a Deputy Prosecutor for the Sixth Judicial Circuit until becoming Chief Assistant Attorney General in 1960. Holt was appointed to be Attorney General in 1962. In 1963, he went into private practice in Little Rock, Arkansas. Holt was elected to be Chief Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court in 1984 where he served until he retired in 1995. After leaving the Court, he successfully campaigned for Amendment 80 to the Arkansas Constitution, passed in 2000, which reformed and reorganized Arkansas's judicial system into its modern form. Holt lives in Pulaski County, Arkansas.

Portrait by Jane Holt

Justice Steele Hays

Born in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1925. Hays served in the U.S. Coast Guard before graduating from the University of Arkansas and the George Washington University Law School in 1951. Hays practiced law in Little Rock, Arkansas until he was appointed to be a Circuit Judge for the Sixth Judicial Circuit in 1970. In 1979, he was appointed to the newly created Arkansas Court of Appeals. Hays served on the Court of Appeals until he was elected to be an Associate Justice in 1981 where he served until his retirement in 1994. He died June 22, 2011.

Portrait by Ovita Goolsby



Hall Leading to Library

straight from lobby



Justice Minor Millwee

Born in Arkansas on June 9, 1901. Millwee was elected to be a State Representative in 1932 where he served until 1936. In 1937, he was appointed to be a Circuit Judge for the Ninth Judicial Circuit. Millwee was elected to be an Associate Justice in 1945 where he served until 1958. He went on to be a lecturer at the University of Arkansas Law School until his death. The law school established the Minor W. Millwee Memorial to be awarded to the law student with the highest scholastic achievement. He died on March 31, 1963.

Portrait by Ovita Goolsby

Justice J. Frank Holt

Born in Harrison, Arkansas, on October 22, 1910. Holt graduated from the University of Arkansas Law School. He was elected to be the Prosecuting Attorney for the Sixth Judicial Circuit in 1954. In 1961, Holt was elected to be Attorney General. He resigned a year later when he was elected to be an Associate Justice. Holt served as an Associate Justice from 1963 until 1966 and again from 1969 until his death on October 30, 1983.

Portrait by Betty Dortch Russell



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Justice Sam Dunn Robinson

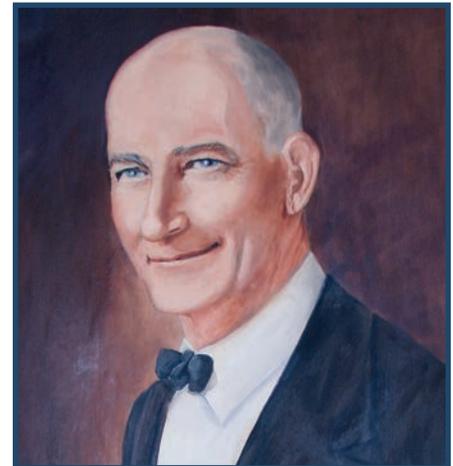
Born in Chicot County, Arkansas, on March 20, 1899. Robinson enlisted in the Army at the age of 18 and served in France during World War I. After the war, he went back to work in Arkansas herding cattle and overseeing agricultural work. In 1923, Robinson began studying at the Arkansas Law School and graduated at the top of his class despite his lack of any formal education beyond the third grade. He practiced law for the next 16 years. Robinson was elected to be the Prosecuting Attorney for the Sixth Judicial Circuit in 1940 and an Associate Justice in 1950. He served as an Associate Justice until he retired in 1966. Robinson died on June 7, 1997.

Portrait by R. S. Perry

Justice Turner Butler

Born in Poplar Bluff, Arkansas, now Parkdale, on July 7, 1869. Butler worked as a farmer and store clerk before studying law. In 1894 and 1896, he was elected to be a State Representative. Butler was elected to be a State Senator in 1898. He was elected to be a Circuit Judge for the Tenth Judicial Circuit in 1914 where he served until 1929. Butler was appointed to be an Associate Justice in 1929 where he served until his death in 1938.

Portrait by Helen Godwin



Hall Leading to Library

straight from lobby



Justice Annabelle Imber Tuck

Born in Heber Springs, Arkansas, on July 15, 1950. Tuck graduated from Smith College in Massachusetts, and the University of Arkansas at Little Rock School of Law. She was admitted to the bar in 1977. Tuck was appointed to be a Circuit Judge for the Sixth Judicial Circuit in 1984. She served one year as Circuit Judge before returning to private practice until she was elected to be a Chancery Judge for the Sixth Chancery Circuit in 1988. Tuck served as Chancery Judge until she became the first woman elected to be an Associate Justice in 1996 where she served until 2009 when she retired. In 2010, Tuck was elected chair of the Arkansas Access to Justice Commission. She lives in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Portrait by Bob Crane

Chief Justice W. H. Arnold

Born in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, on May 19, 1935. Arnold graduated from the University of Arkansas Law School and was admitted to the bar in 1963. He returned to Arkadelphia after graduating. Arnold was elected to be the Prosecuting Attorney for the Eighth Judicial Circuit in 1969. In 1973, he was appointed to be the Chairman of the Arkansas Worker's Compensation Commission. He returned to Arkadelphia in 1978 where he was elected to be Arkadelphia's Municipal Judge. Arnold was elected to be the Prosecuting Attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit again in 1980 and a Circuit Judge in 1990. He was elected to be Chief Justice in 1996 where he served until 2003 when he retired. Arnold lives in Hot Springs, Arkansas.



Portrait by Rita Earles

Hall Leading to Library

straight from lobby



Chief Justice Griffin Smith

Born in Dekalb County, Tennessee, on July 13, 1885. Smith moved to Arkansas in 1911. He was editor, part owner, and eventually full owner of the Paragould Daily Press and weekly Paragould Soliphone. During World War I he reported from France to those papers, the Arkansas Gazette, the Memphis Commercial Appeal, and the United Press. After 10 years in the newspaper business, Smith decided to pursue a career in law. He graduated from Cumberland University Law School and was admitted to both the Tennessee and Arkansas bars. Smith opened a law practice in Marianna, Arkansas, in 1926. He was appointed to be the State Comptroller in 1932 and was elected to be Chief Justice in 1936. Smith served until his death on April 29, 1955.

Portrait by B. Lenon

Justice Fred Jones

Born in Mount Ida, Arkansas, on January 12, 1907. Jones graduated from Arkansas Tech University and the University of Arkansas Law School. He was elected to be a State Representative in 1934 where he served until 1940. Jones was Little Rock's first traffic judge. He was elected to be an Associate Justice in 1966 where he served until 1977 when he retired. Jones died on March 05, 1991.

Portrait by Sher Stewart









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