

**Finding Aid for the
OBU Diploma collection
OBU.2026.001**



**OUACHITA
BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**

*Archives & Special Collections
Riley-Hickingbotham Library
Ouachita Baptist University
410 Ouachita Street
Arkadelphia, AR 71998*

Repository: Archives and Special Collections, Ouachita Baptist University

Title: OBU Diploma collection

Dates: 1880-

Quantity: 0.91 c.f.

Abstract: Artificial collection of diplomas awarded by Ouachita Baptist College, which became Ouachita Baptist University in 1965.

Identification: OBU.2026.001

Languages: English, Latin

Acquisition Information: Provenance unknown.

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Preferred Citation: Ouachita Baptist University Diploma collection, Archives and Special Collections, Riley-Hickingbotham Library, Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, AR.

Biographical or Historical Summary

Ouachita Baptist University was founded as Ouachita Baptist College on September 6, 1886, and has operated continually since that date. Its current location is on the former campus of the Arkansas School for the Blind, which relocated to Little Rock.

The first president was J. W. Conger, who was elected to the post on June 22, 1886. The OBU Board of Trustees unanimously elected Dr. Ben Sells, former vice president for university advancement at Taylor University, as the sixteenth president of Ouachita Baptist University on April 7, 2016. Those who have served as president include J. W. Conger (1886–1907), Henry Simms Hartzog (1907–1911), R. G. Bowers (1911–1913), Samuel Young Jameson (1913–1916), Charles Ernest Dicken (1916–1926), Arthur B. Hill (1926–1929), Charles D. Johnson (1929–1933), James R. Grant (1933–1949), Seaford Eubanks (1949–1951), Harold A. Haswell (1952–1953), Ralph Arloe Phelps Jr. (1953–1969), Daniel R. Grant (1970–1988), Ben M. Elrod (1988–1998), Andrew Westmoreland (1998–2006) and Rex Horne (2006–2015).

In 1965 the college changed its name to Ouachita Baptist University.

Scope and Contents and Arrangement

The diplomas are arranged alphabetically by last name.

Keywords

Baptist colleges and universities

Diploma

Small colleges

Processed by Lisa Speer and Fernando Bustillo, 2026.

Box Contents

Box 3539

Item 001	Bailey, Olin Cavanaugh, Bachelor of Arts, 1914
Item 002	Baker, Basil Tharp, 1895
Item 003	Barnett, Linnie May, Bachelor of Arts, circa 1907-1911
Item 004	Black, Annie Norrie, M.L.L., 1897
Item 005	Blank, not dated
Item 006	Blake, Estelle McMillan, Master of Arts, 1933
Item 007	Carpenter, Robert, Bachelor of Arts, circa 1916
Item 008	Dildy, Gary, Bachelor of Arts, 1929
Item 009	Dollarhide, Roger Freeman, Bachelor of Music, 1934
Item 010	Fleming, Guy Malcolm, Bachelor of Arts, 1934
Item 011	Flenniken, Alymer, 1890
Item 012	Gammill, Martin, Conservatory of Fine Arts, Department of Expression, 1923
Item 013	Gaster, Mary Jimye, Bachelor of Arts, 1929
Item 014	Jones, Anna Laura, Bachelor of Arts, 1933
Item 015	Jones, James Richard, Bachelor of Arts, 19?
Item 016	Kirkland, Aethel Glenn, Bachelor of Music, 1914
Item 017	Kirkland, Aethel Glenn, Conservatory of Fine Arts, Department of Expression, 1915
Item 018	Parker, Elizabeth, Bachelor of Music, Voice, 1919
Item 019	Parker, Elizabeth, Bachelor of Music, Organ, 1919
Item 020	Patterson, Alma Estelle, Bachelor of Music, Violin, 1912
Item 020a	Patterson, Alma Estelle, Bachelor of Arts, 1913

Item 021	Patterson, Marie, Conservatory of Fine Arts, Department of Public School Music, 1933
Item 022	Patterson, Marie, Bachelor of Music, 1933
Item 023	Reed, R. E., Doctor of Divinity, 1920
Item 024	Reed, Robert Emmett, 1895
Item 025	Rhodes Jr., James R., Bachelor of Arts, 1934
Item 026	Royal, James Wilson, Bachelor of Arts, 1938
Item 027	Russell, Katye Lou, Bachelor of Arts, 1933
Item 028	Sample, Mary S. Bachelor of Arts, 1933
Item 029	Sawyer, Wesley E., Bachelor of Arts, 1934
Item 030	Searcy, Louise, Bachelor of Arts, 1928
Item 031	Searcy, Louise, Conservatory of Fine Arts, Department of Expression, 1927
Item 032	Smith, Eulalee, Bachelor of Arts, 1923
Item 033	Stell, Jack S., Bachelor of Arts, 1913
Item 034	Stell, Jack S. Bachelor of Science, 1913
Item 035	Strayhorn, Marie, Bachelor of Arts, 1934
Item 036	Turner, Augusta, Conservatory of Fine Arts, Department of Voice, 1924
Item 037	Turner, Augusta, Conservatory of Fine Arts, Department of Piano, 1924
Item 038	Turner, Frank L. 1880