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Apr 18th, 10:45 AM

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Recommended Citation

Nancy Richey, "Research and Resources in WKU Special Collections" (April 18, 2016). *Mammoth Cave Research Symposia*. Paper 4. http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/mc_reserch_symp/11th_Research_Symposium_2016/Day_one/4

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Research and Resources in Western Kentucky University Special Collections

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Abstract

This presentation offers a look at the Mammoth Cave resources available at the Department of Library Special Collections on Western Kentucky University's campus. At the library, these public resources are available for students, faculty and visiting scholars. These materials, such as a complete set of Charles Waldack's underground magnesium views, encourage original research into the study of the cave and associated phenomena, and other supporting cave and karst research. The library is continually collecting speleological information and maintains a library with a large collection of books and journals on caving topics as well as primary resource materials that can aid professionals in historical as well as karst hydrology, archaeology, and geology fields of study. Researchers will be introduced to two access portals, KenCat and TopSCHOLAR. TopSCHOLAR is the digital repository and publishing platform that provides open access to scholarly works created by the faculty, students, and staff of Western Kentucky University.