

#### SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Washington, D.C. 20560 U.S.A.

Office of Folklife Programs
July 12, 1991

In September 1960, when I first met Doc, I was seeking music, but what struck me first was Doc's personal qualities rather than his musical genius. It was his warmth, sense of humor, keen mind . . . the feeling that if the world could learn a lesson in humanity from him, global peace could be attainable. About 18 months later, Pete Seeger first talked with Doc, and I recall his comment afterwards: "He's one of the wisest people I've met."

Like any personal contact with Doc, this tape leaves you enlightened. Yes, the music is extraordinary, but no more so than the clarity of the teaching or the encouragement with which he offers it. You may learn all the technical elements, but Doc's message is deeper. It springs from the tradition he passes onto us. And he, in turn, absorbed it from the family members and neighbors he chose as his musical and spiritual role models. After you have lived with this tape for a while, you will want to know him, his family, his neighbors and their music better. Fortunately, you can. His recordings have been published by Folkways, Rounder, Vanguard, Sugar Hill and Flying Fish. Some of the recordings will introduce you or lead you back to the people and music that inspired Doc. He's always quick to acknowledge the powerful musical influences of his family and neighbors. The guitar picking and singing of the Carter Family, Delmore Brothers, Merle Travis and others like them are never absent from his lessons -- on recordings or in conversation. A selected list of recordings is included at the end of this booklet along with some helpful addresses and phone numbers for acquiring them.

Don't stop here; do what Doc did. Go back to the roots to strengthen and enrich your musicianship. Doc's real power is not technical alone. It carries the spirit of centuries of fine musicians who shaped sound throughout their lives. Only since Doc's generation has it been possible to learn directly from so many who have gone before. If you are determined to learn Doc's deepest lessons, there's where you must go.

Ralph Rinzler
Assistant Secretary Emeritus

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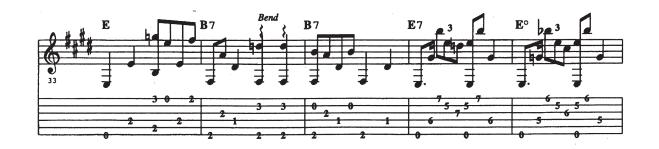
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Transcribed and Inscribed by Steve Kaufman

# Deep River Blues Var.

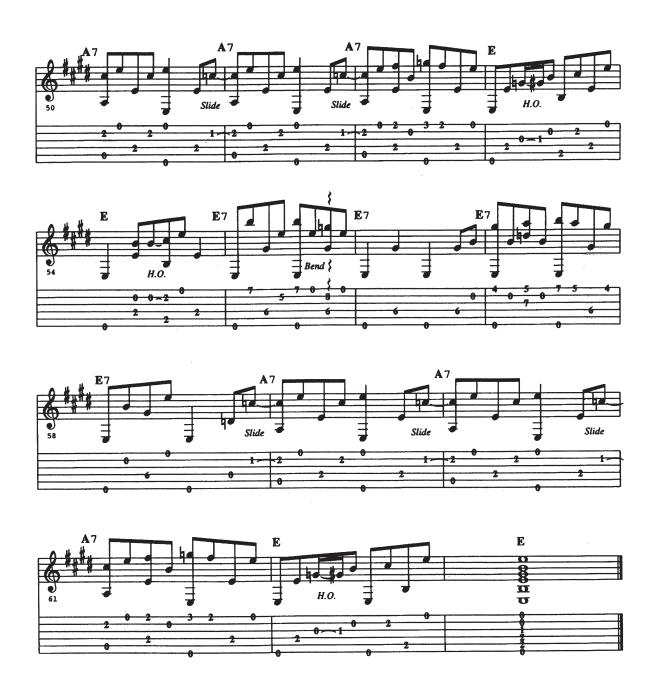








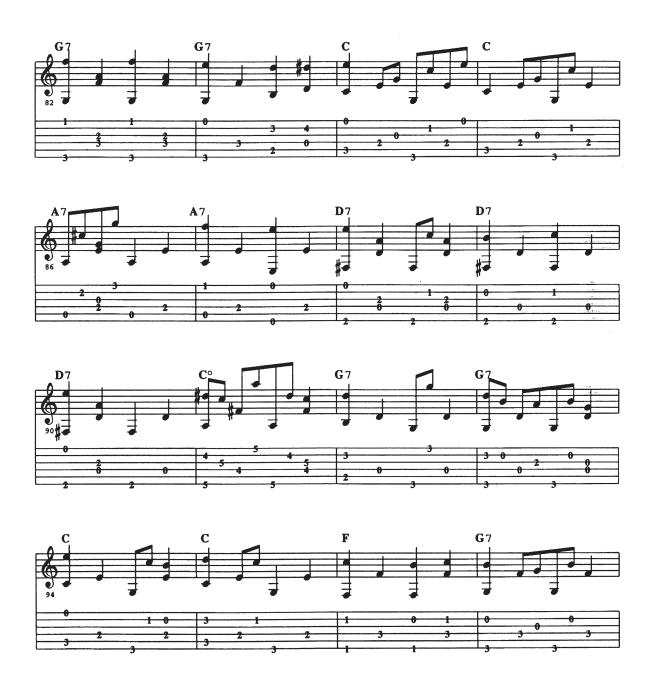


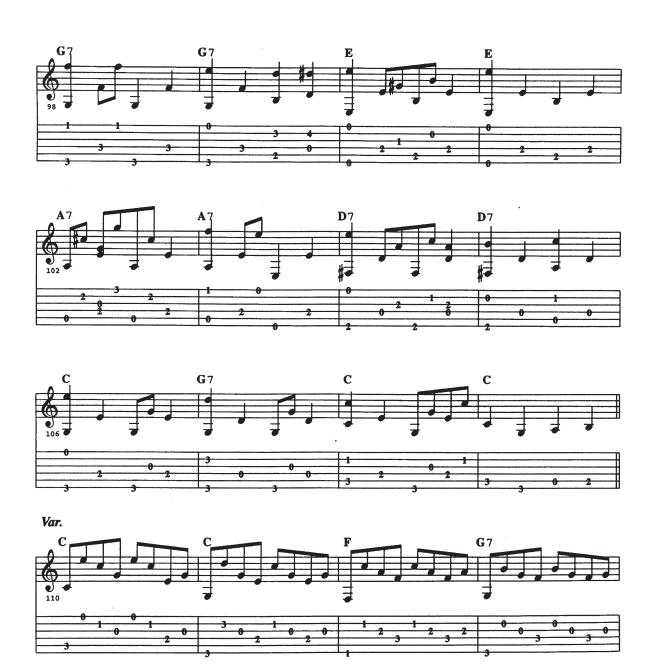












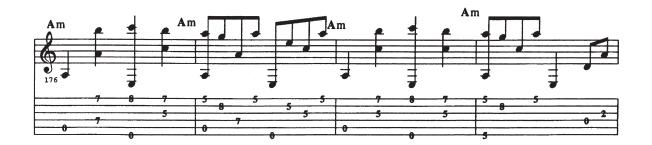




### Windy and Warm



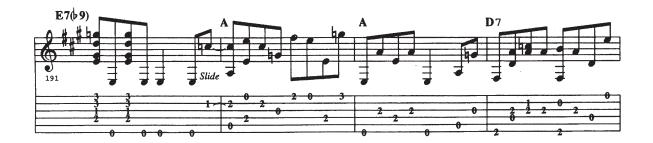












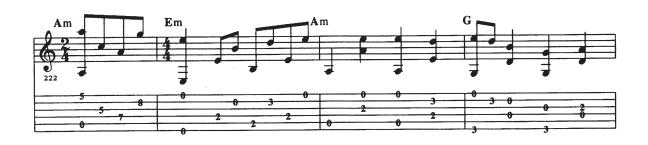




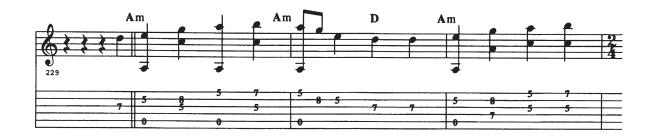


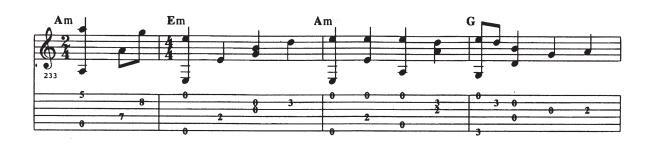




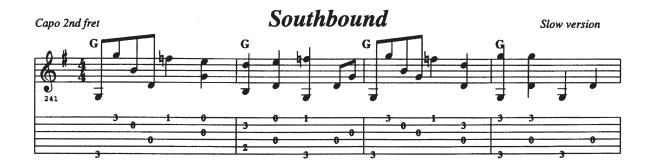










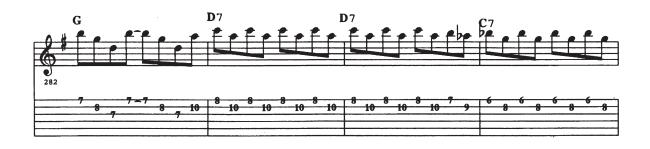


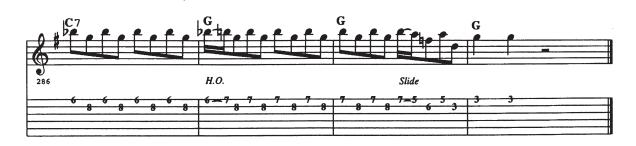




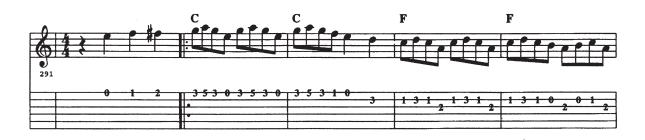








### East Tennessee Rag

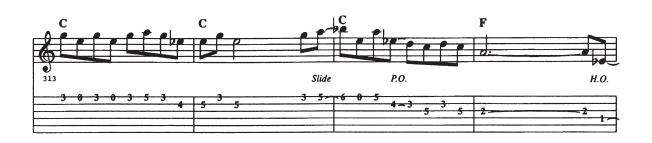






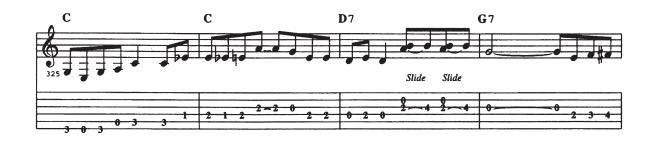




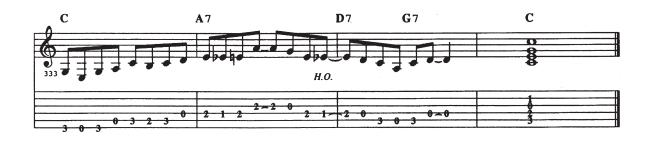








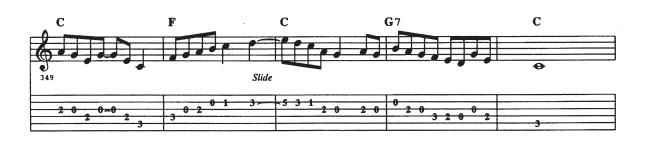


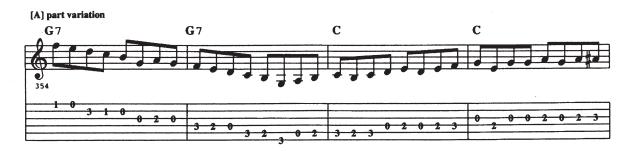




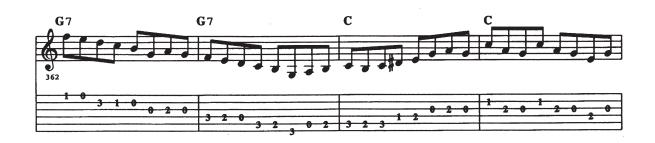


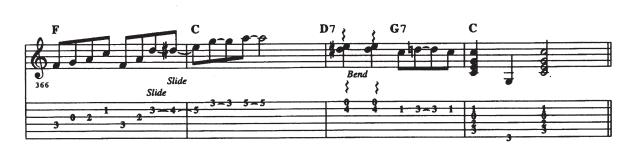






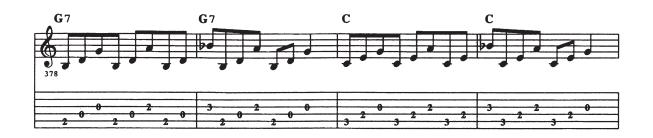


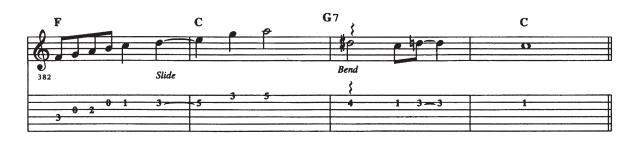








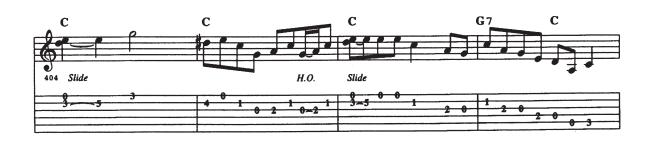




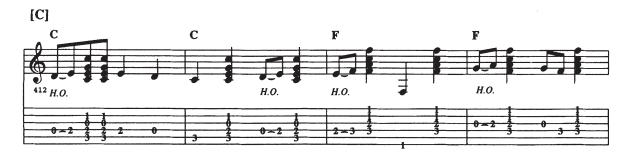


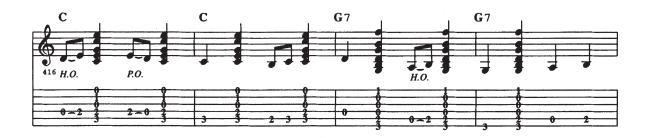


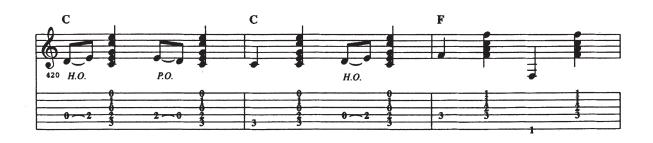


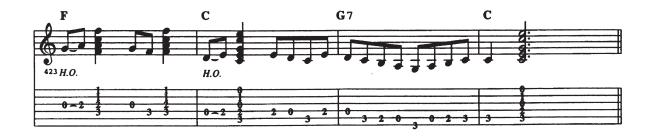


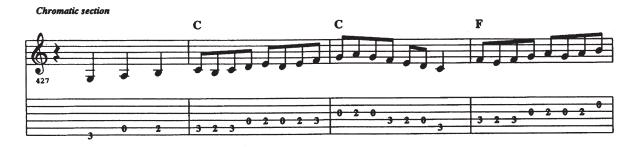








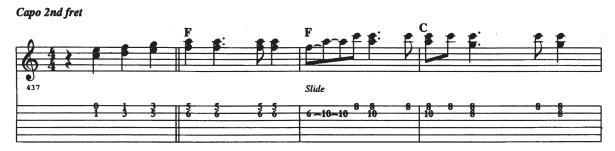




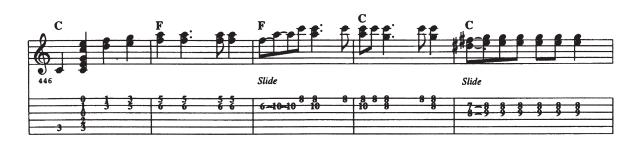




### Way Down Town









#### Selected Discography

The Watson Family Tradition, Rounder 0129
The Doc Watson Family, Smithsonian/Folkways SF40012

Two recordings of Doc with his family.

Old Time Music at Clarence Ashley's, Smithsonian/Folkways Records SF40029/30

These are the first recorded performances of Doc Watson (1960-2) ever produced, reissued from the original Folkways albums. This collection also includes previously unreleased recordings from the earliest sessions.

Anthology of American Folk Music, compiled by Harry Smith, Folkways Records 2951, 2952, 2953 (each a double album), available on cassette only.

These performances, originally recorded and released in the twenties and thirties, are by many of the artists whose music influenced Doc as a youth.

Recordings of early, commercially-issued, southern traditional music (The Carter Family, Delmore Brothers, Merle Travis, etc.) can be ordered from **County Sales**, P.O. Box 191, Floyd, VA 24091, (703) 745-2001, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; **Down Home Music Mail Order**, 6921 Stockton Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530, (415) 525-1494; **Smithsonian/Folkways And Rounder Records**, Roundup Distribution, P.O. Box 154, Cambridge, MA 02140, (617) 661-6308; **Old Homestead Records**, P.O. Box 100, Brighton, MA 48116, (313) 227-1997, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Field recordings commercially available from the **Library of Congress Archive of Folk Cultures** may be ordered by writing for a catalog or a specific recording to: MBRS Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.