



Collection Summary

Title

Jackson County, Missouri collection

Date

1894-2001

Extent

5 box (3 archival box, 2 oversize archival box)

Name and Location of Repository

Midwest Genealogy Center, Independence (Mo.)

Reference code: MGC 1015-JCM

Processed by: Nicole Pye, 2014; finding aid created by Jolene Clark, 2019

Administrative History

Jackson County was originally part of Lafayette County until the General Assembly of the State of Missouri passed an act in 1825. The county was officially organized in 1826 and named for Andrew Jackson, then a U.S. Senator and later the 7th president of the United States. It has two county seats; Independence and Kansas City. Early settlement was centered in towns such as Fort Osage, Independence, Westport, and Lone Jack. As the western migration began in the 1830s and 1840s, the cities of Independence and Westport saw an explosion in population as well as importance. The Santa Fe, Oregon, and California trails either started or went through western Jackson County. Independence even gained the nickname "Queen City of Trails". Kansas City became a city on March 28, 1853. It quickly grew in population and size. Jackson County was the site of many battles and skirmishes during the Civil War. The period after the Civil War brought prosperity to Jackson County, especially the decade 1880-1889. The county has continued to grow in population and national importance.

Scope and Content

This collection contains items relating to Jackson County, Missouri history. These items cover a wide range of the county with the cities of Independence, Kansas City, and Raytown separated into series. Included within this collection are ephemera from these cities' school districts and events/programs. Items include commencement programs, reproductions of images, graduation invitations, performance brochures, reunion packet, student directory, football program, and school publications.

Collection Inventory

System of Arrangement

These records are arranged in 6 series.

Box 1,

Series 1, Independence

Folder 1, Brochures

Item 1, Independence Centennial pageant program, 1927 (donated by Shirley Dillon)

Item 2, Welcome to Historic Independence booklet, 1950

Item 3, Visitors' Guide, 1992 [accrual, 2019]

Item 4, Visitors' Guide, 1993

Item 5, Visitors' Guide, 1994

Item 6, Visitors' Guide, 1995

Item 7, Visitors' Guide, 1996

Item 8, *Souvenir Pictures Independence, Missouri: "Queen City of the Trails"* [accrual, 2019]

Item 9, Independence, MO Sesquicentennial [accrual, 2019]

Item 10, *Independence Missouri in Historic Jackson County, 1964* [accrual, 2020]

Folder 2, History scrapbook, undated (donated by Shirley Dillon)

Folder 3, William Chrisman High School

Item 1, Student directory, 1944 (2 copies)

Item 2, Football program, 1944

Item 3, Handbook, 1945

Item 4, 40th Reunion Class of 1946 "Freshmen in our hearts" speech

Item 5, 40th Reunion Class of 1946 program

Item 6, High School Song, 1942

Item 7, photo post card

Item 8, Graduation program, 1942

Item 9, Senior Sermon program, 1942

Item 10, Graduation announcement for Warren A. Kernaghan, 1942

Item 11, Class Day Exercises program, 1923

Item 12, Graduation program, 1946

Item 13, 55th Reunion of Class of 1946, letter and photos

Item 14, 60th Class Reunion of Class of 1946 letter (2 pages)

Item 15, 60th Class Reunion of Class of 1946 photo and identification page

Item 16,

Folder 4, Truman High School

Item 1, Football program 1972

Folder 5, Independence High School

Item 2, Commencement program, 1894

Folder 6, Jackson County Court House

Item 1, Dedication pin [accrual, 2018]

Item 2, Jackson County Courthouse print by George L. Lightfoot [accrual, 2019]



- Folder 7, "Goose Hunting with Harry Truman" By Gene Rinacke as told to James Rinacke [accrual, 2019]
- Folder 8, Rock Creek Elementary School
 - Item 1, commencement exercises program, 1938 (2 copies)
 - Item 2, Commencement exercises program, 1951
- Folder 9, Maywood Baptist Church 75th Anniversary 1905-1980
- Folder 10, Funeral memorial books
- Folder 10, Funeral memorial
 - Item 1, William H Wells [1866-1936] of Independence, MO
 - Item 2, Nicholas McPherson of Independence, MO [1836-1914]
- Folder 11, DAR, Independence Pioneers Chapter, Supplement, 2001-2002 [accrual, 2019]
- Folder 12, Cross stitch pattern from Waggoner-Gates Milling Company with envelope [accrual, 2020]
- Series 2, Kansas City
 - Folder 1, Program from Dedication of the Liberty Memorial, 1926
 - Folder 2, Great American luncheon at Muehlebach Hotel, 1966 (12 photographs)
 - Folder 3, East High School
 - Item 1, East High School 1948-1949 Reunion photograph, 1998
 - Item 2, East High School 50th & 51st Class reunion program, 1999
 - Item 3, High School Graduating Classes East reproduction from *Kansas City Star*, 1937
 - Folder 4, Southwest High School
 - Item 1, Commencement program, 1926
 - Folder 5, Argentine High School
 - Item 1, Commencement program, 1927
 - Folder 6, Northeast High School Alumni newsletter
 - Folder 7, Northeast High School Class of 1943 Reunions
 - Item 1, 40 year re-union, 1983
 - Item 2, 45th re-union, 1988
 - Item 3, 50th re-union, 1993
 - Item 4, misc. reunion papers
- Box 2,
 - Folder 8, Pinkerton School
 - Item 1, Photograph of Principal, 1978
 - Item 2, Photograph of Principal, 1979
 - Folder 9, Pitcher School
 - Item 1, History of Pitcher School, 1961
 - Folder 10, Publications
 - Item 1, Teachers College Scout-Magazine Edition, 1931
 - Item 2, The Parent=Teacher Bulletin, 1933
 - Folder 11, Southeast High School
 - Item 1, Southeast High School graduate invitation, 1950
 - Item 2, Southeast High School performance brochures, 1950
 - Item 3, Southeast High School Reunion packet, 2000
 - Item 4, Southeast High School 50th anniversary Photograph, 2001
 - Folder 12, Class book of Bernice Essmueller of Kansas City, MO [1928]
 - Folder 13, Scrapbook of newspaper clippings about real estate in Kansas City, 1925-1927



- Folder 14, Skelly service station blue print, Gregory Blvd and Oak St, Kansas City, 1960
- Folder 15, School Days and Dates scrapbook belonging to Mildred Jeanne Wood, Kansas City, 1973
- Folder 16, J.C. Nichols Company
 - Item 1, *J.C. Nichols Company 75 Years*
 - Item 2, *A Scrapbook of the Country Club District*
- Folder 17, Memorial book for Bessie Ann Pointer, Kansas City, MO 1980 [accrual, 2018]
- Folder 18, List of nurses at the Willows Hospital, 1922-1923 along with notes
- Folder 19, Marriage Certificate, Charles A Roth and Lola Belle Highley, MO, 1911 [accrual, 2018]
- Folder 20, *Prom Magazine* [Kansas City, MO]
 - Item 1, June 1950
 - Item 2, Oct 1950

Box 3,

- Folder 21, Cub stage show schedule and map [Kansas City, MO], 1947
- Folder 22, Memorial book for Betty Matthews, Kansas City, MO, 2003 [accrual, 2018]
- Folder 23, *Operation Handshake: A Guide to the Open House and Air Show*, July 25-26, 1987 Richards-Geaur AFB, MO [accrual, 2019]
- Folder 24, The Kansas City Museum at "Corinthian Hall" print by George L. Lightfoot [accrual, 2019]
- Folder 25, Elmwood Cemetery [accrual, 2018]
 - Item 1, *Beautiful Elmwood*
 - Item 2, *Rules and Regulations Elmwood Cemetery*
 - Item 3, Elmwood Cemetery tour brochure
 - Item 4, 20 burials at Elmwood Cemetery
 - Item 5, Grave dowsing instructions
 - Item 6, Copy of cemetery map
 - Item 7, Sample copies of Interment cards, cremation cards and accompanying death certificates
- Folder 26, Kansas City postcards [accrual, 2018]
 - Item 1, Interstate Viaduct, postmarked 1909
 - Item 2, Colonnade at the Paseo, postmarked 1912
 - Item 3, Scene on Cliff Drive, postmarked 1911
 - Item 4, Baltimore Hotel, postmarked 1912
 - Item 5, The Bellerive Hotel
 - Item 6, Kansas City Power and Light Company
 - Item 7, William Rockhill Nelson Art Gallery Atkins Museum of Fine Arts
 - Item 8, Union Station and Skyline
 - Item 9, Liberty Memorial
 - Item 10, Home of Harry S. Truman, Independence, Missouri [circa 1947]
 - Item 11, Japanese Garden, 1934
 - Item 12, Scene on Ward Parkway in Beautiful Country Club District, 1932
 - Item 13, Country Club Plaza, 47th and Mill Creek Boulevard, 1934
 - Item 14, Marble Fountain in Country Club District, 1937 (2 postcards)
 - Item 15, Rose Garden, Jacob L. Loose Park, 1938
 - Item 16, Kersey Coates Drive, 1938
 - Item 17, Inter-City Viaduct Connecting Kansas City, Mo. And Kansas City, Kansas, 1937



Item 18, 12th and Main Looking North, 1938

Item 19, Country Club Plaza at Night

Item 20, Spring Cliff Dr

Item 21, Flower Garden and Fountain, Loose Park

Folder 27, PTA Newsletter, Feb 1948, Kansas City Missouri Council

Folder 28, Envelope from Harzfeld's, Petticoat Lane, Kansas City, MO [accrual, 2020]

Series 3, Lee's Summit

Folder 1, Lee's Summit High School graduation program, 1938

Series 4, Buckner

Folder 1, United Methodist Church information

Folder 2, Methodist Episcopal Church information

Box 4, [oversized]

Series 5, Framed prints

Item 1, The Truman Home/Independence, MO by George Lightfoot

Item 2, Westport High School, Kansas City, Missouri by Michael D. Eifler, 1996

Item 3, Harry S. Truman portrait

Box 5, [oversized]

Series 6, Oversized items

Folder 1, Border Star School

Item 1, Commencement Exercises program, 1938

Item 2, Class photo, 1938

Folder 2, General Conference, 1903 Stone Church, Independence, Missouri print by Jack W. Garnier

Folder 3, Frank W. Curtis, High School Diploma, William Chrisman High School, Independence, MO, 1922

Folder 4, "Thanks Bill", Art tribute to Bill Brewster for 36 years of parks and recreation and 30 years as teacher and coach in Independence, MO, 1993

Rights and Access

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research use by appointment.

Physical Access

Most records within this collection are housed in file folders. Some documents and pictures are in plastic sleeves or tissue paper. Some items are oversized and are housed in MGC's oversize archival storage.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the Midwest Genealogy Center.

Languages and Scripts of the Material

Materials in the collection are entirely in English.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Portions of this collection were donated by Shirley Dillon and also by Ted Nelson. The other sections of this collection were donated anonymously.

Accruals

Accruals, 2018, 2019, ,2020.

Existence and Location of Originals

Originals owned by the Midwest Genealogy Center.

Notes

The following books were consulted during preparation of the administrative history:

Hickman, W.Z. *History of Jackson County*. Topeka, KS: Historical Publishing Company, 1920.

Wilcox, Pearl. *Jackson County Pioneers*. Independence, MO: Jackson County Historical Society, 1990.