

Jackson County, Missouri Collection

Descriptive Summary

Dates: 1894-2001

Identification: MGC1015

Extent: 5 boxes

Language: Materials in the collection are in English.

Repository: Midwest Genealogy Center, Independence, Missouri

Biographical Sketch or 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.

Restrictions

Access: This collection is open for research.

Conditions governing reproduction and use: Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the Midwest Genealogy Center.

Administrative Information

Immediate source of acquisition: Sections of this collection were donated anonymously, and others were donated by Shirley Dillon and Ted Nelson.

Citation: The Jackson County, Missouri Collection (MGC1015), Midwest Genealogy Center, Independence, Missouri

Processing Information: This collection was processed by Nicole Pye, 2014; Jolene Clark, 2019; John Mason 2025.

Container List

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

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"*

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

Item 10, *Independence Missouri in Historic Jackson County*, 1964

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

Folder 3, William Chrisman High School

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- 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

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
- Item 2, Jackson County Courthouse print by George L. Lightfoot

Item 3, Official Program, Dedication of Jackson County Courthouse, 1933

Item 4, Court Houses of Jackson County, Missouri

- Folder 7, "Goose Hunting with Harry Truman" By Gene Rinacke as told to James Rinacke

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

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

Folder 12, Cross stitch pattern from Waggoner-Gates Milling Company with envelope

Folder 13, *Official Souvenir, Independence Missouri Centennial, 1927*

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

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

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

Folder 23, *Operation Handshake: A Guide to the Open House and Air Show*, July 25-26, 1987 Richards-Geaur AFB, MO

Folder 24, The Kansas City Museum at "Corinthian Hall" print by George L. Lightfoot

Folder 25, Elmwood Cemetery

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

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

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

Series 5: Jackson County (General)

Folder 1, County Map of Jackson County, c. 1950s

Folder 2, "Knowing Missouri's Jackson County," c. 1975

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