



Collection Summary

Title

Midwest Genealogy Center Collection

Date

1927 - Current

Extent

9 archival boxes, 1 oversized tube

Name and Location of Repository

Midwest Genealogy Center, Independence (Mo.)

Reference code: MGC 1067-MGCC

Processed by: Jolene Clark, 2018; finding aid created by Jolene Clark, 2018

Name of Creator

Midwest Genealogy Center staff

Biographical History

The Midwest Genealogy Center (MGC) is one of the United States' preeminent resources for family history, providing access to almost three-quarters of a million on-site materials. MGC features 52,000 square feet of space that houses all of the free resources needed to research your family history.

MGC's collections offer resources for genealogy research that span the United States and countries around the world. MGC also houses a uniquely expansive circulating collection and almost completely open stacks. You'll find access to databases, scanning and digitization stations, oral history recording kits, microfilm reader scanners, and more.

MGC is part of the Mid-Continent Public Library (MCPL) system which has a long history of providing outstanding genealogy resources. In 1971, MCPL acquired a collection of Missouri county histories, and the "Missouri Room" was opened at the Independence Branch to accommodate patrons pursuing local historical information. By the mid-1970s, the North Independence Branch became the home of MCPL's genealogy collection. This collection was moved to the lower level of the North Independence building in 1996 and became known as the Genealogy and Local History Branch. In June 2008, MGC opened at 3440 S. Lee's Summit Road in Independence, Missouri.

MGC's circulating collection is donation based and began with contributions from genealogy organizations such as American Family Records Association (AFRA), the Missouri State Genealogical Association (MoSGA), the Heart of America Genealogical Society (HAGS), and the Gann Historical Society & Library, Inc.



Scope and Content

This collection primarily covers the history of the genealogy branch of Mid-Continent Public Library, which has been located in several buildings in Independence, Missouri over the years. Included in this collection are photographs of staff, events, customers, and buildings. Many of the photographs have been scrapbooked. Other items in the collection are representative of the work done at the library including programs, newsletters, sign-in sheets, and thank you cards.

Collection Inventory

System of Arrangement

These records are arranged in 5 series.

Box 1

- Item 1, Scrapbook, 1988 to 2001
- Item 2, Scrapbook, undated pages circa 2002
- Item 3, Scrapbook, 2004 to 2006
- Item 4, Haiku, 2008

Box 2

- Item 5, Scrapbook, 1927 to 2001
- Item 6, Scrapbook, Annette Curtis Retirement, 2001

Box 3

- Item 7, Scrapbook, Midwest Genealogy Center, Ground Breaking, Construction, and Grand Opening, 2006 to 2008—Some loose scrapbook pages from Midwest Genealogy Center

Box 4

- Item 8, Scrapbook, 2002-2007
- Item 9, Scrapbook, 2004-2011

Box 5

Series 2, History

- Folder 1, MGC information packets
- Folder 2, *News Bytes* (Newsletter) (2005-2012)
- Folder 3, Thank you cards
- Folder 4, Access Guide
- Folder 5, Beyond the Books
- Folder 6, Genealogy branch suggestion box (1977-1984)
- Folder 7, Family History Contest for Students (2004)
- Folder 8, MGC Outreach and misc. programs
- Folder 9, Marketing flyers for MGC programs and events
- Folder 10, Marketing flyers, misc.
- Folder 11, *Library Journal*, January 1993 (Librarian of the Year 1992, John W. Ferguson)
- Folder 12, Volunteer dinner program and photos (2010)
- Folder 13, Annual Workshop program (2009)
- Folder 14, Annual Workshop program (2010)
- Folder 15, Ancestry Day program (2013)

Box 6



- Folder 16, Wooden book marker for books kept in warehouse
- Folder 17, MCPL History
- Folder 18, Staff memories
- Folder 19, Newspaper clippings
- Folder 20, Roots of a Nation Docents Training Handbook
- Folder 21, Guest Sign-In Sheets from events
- Folder 22, Famous Missourian trading cards
- Folder 23, Misc. history
- Folder 24, MGC Community hall groundbreaking

Series 3, Photographs

- Folder 1, Negatives
- Folder 2, MCPL-various branches
- Folder 3, MCPL-North and South Independence
- Folder 4, Genealogy at North Independence

Box 7

- Folder 5, Groundbreaking—New Genealogy Wing at North Independence
- Folder 6, Janice Schultz's Retirement Party
- Folder 7, MGC Staff

Series 4, Topical and collection guides

- Folder 1, African-American Genealogy Sources
- Folder 2, Antebellum Southern Plantations Guide
- Folder 3, Census Records on Microfilm
- Folder 4, Biographies and Manuscripts on Microform
- Folder 5, Early Virginia Genealogical Resources
- Folder 6, Genealogy from the Heartland (catalog of titles in the genealogy circulating collection)
- Folder 7, German, Austrian & Swiss Genealogical Resources
- Folder 8, Interlibrary Loan Sources
- Folder 9, Jackson County Missouri Records on Microform
- Folder 10, Jewish Genealogy Resources
- Folder 11, Microfilm and microfiche records

Box 8

- Folder 12, Military Records and Sources
- Folder 13, Missouri State & County Records on Microform
- Folder 14, Native American Genealogy Resources
- Folder 15, Newspapers on Microform
- Folder 16, Passenger Lists on Microform
- Folder 17, State County & International Records on Microform (excluding Missouri)
- Folder 18, Misc. Research Guides

Box 9

Series 5, Oversized

- Item 1, Framed Photo of Senior Administrative Staff (2010) [oversized]
- Item 2, 50th Anniversary Newspaper Advertising Supplement (2 copies) [oversized]
- Item 3, MGC groundbreaking poster, 2007 [oversized]

Oversized Tube

- Item 4, MCPL 50 year anniversary banner [Oversized Tube]



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 archival boxes and file folders

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

This collection was created from items from the Midwest Genealogy Center and Mid-Continent Public Library.

Accruals

Accruals are expected for this collection.

Existence and Location of Originals

Originals owned by the Midwest Genealogy Center.

Notes

The following sources were consulted during the preparation of the biographical history:

“About the Midwest Genealogy Center.” *Mid-Continent Public Library*,
www.mymcpl.org/genealogy/mgc-information/about-mgc.