

Resources for Local History...

Kansas City, Missouri

Books

These books are located in the Penn Valley Special Collections. Circulating copies of titles are indicated where they exist. Special arrangements for limited checkout can be made by an instructor's request and the librarian's permission. Other books on more specific topics or people related to Kansas City history can be found by doing a keyword search in WILO, our online catalog.

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| PV Spec Coll
PV Circ
977.84
Sch3a | At the River's Bend: An illustrated history of Kansas City, Independence and Jackson County
Sherry Lamb Schirmer & Richard D. McKinzie (1982)
Description: General history of the Kansas City metropolitan area, including Independence and Jackson County, including company profiles. |
| PV Spec Coll
977.84
H27c | City of the future: A Narrative history of Kansas City, 1850-1950
Henry C. Haskell, Jr. and Richard B. Fowler (c.1950)
Description: Looks at KC history by eras (decades) from 1850 to 1950, covering people and events. |
| PV Spec Coll
977.84
G82c | A Condensed history of the Kansas City area: its mayors and some V.I.P.s
George Fuller Green (1968)
Description: Biographies of Kansas City mayors. Short histories about banking, hospitals and sanitariums, the zoo, the American Royal, music and musicians, the Board of Education, fire and police departments, public utilities, airports, city physicians, and the Jackson County Medical Society. Invaluable information about funding and how people were selected for certain positions in local government. |
| PV Spec Coll
977.84
G19c | Crossroads of America, the story of Kansas City
Darrell Garwood (1948)
Description: Important people and events in Kansas City history such as the Border War, Order No. 11, George Caleb Bingham, William Rockhill Nelson, and Swope Park. |
| PV Spec Coll
PV Circ
977.84
B81f
v.1 | Frontier Community, v. 1
A. Theodore Brown (1963)
Description: General history of Kansas City to 1870 including the impact of the Civil War on this region and the subsequent development of the city, economic growth, the Railroad, and metropolitan politics. |

- PV Spec Coll
PV Circ
977.84
Sa5h
Here Lies Kansas City: a collection of our city's notables and their final resting places
Wilda Sandy (1984)
Description: Biographical sketches of individuals important in Kansas City history.
- PV Spec Coll
PV Circ
PV Reference
977.84
M76k
Kansas City: an American Story
Rick Montgomery, Shirl Kasper (1999)
Description: Looks at KC history by **eras** (decades) from the 1830s through the 1990s.
- PV Spec Coll
PV Circ
977.84
B81k
K.C.: a history of Kansas City, Missouri
A. Theodore Brown and Lyle W. Dorsett (1978)
Description: Examines streets and transportation, fairs, real estate cycles, political reform movements, Kansas City Government, ethnic diversity, Black Kansas City, the 1951 Flood, the airport, crime, associations, and Kansas City leadership. Also contains biographical sketches of important local residents.
- PV Spec Coll
977.84
M71k
Kansas City: Heart of America
Jane Mobley; corporate profiles by Shifra Stein (1994)
Description: Topical history of KC: neighborhoods, health care, sports, art and artists, education, business; also people and general KC history.
- PV Spec Coll
977.84
W89k
Kansas City: rise of a regional metropolis
William S. Worley (2002)
Description: General history of Kansas City, business enterprises, and economic conditions.

Online Databases

History Resource Center: U.S. provides full-text reference and journal articles related to Kansas City history. For local history, select "subject" search and type in "Kansas City." You will retrieve a list of topics on Kansas City history.

NewsBank provides full-text articles from the "Kansas City Star" and the "St. Louis Post-Dispatch" as well as other major U.S. newspapers. It also includes state and regional stories from wire services and other Missouri newspapers.

Kansas City Star, 1991-current

St Louis Post-Dispatch, 1988-current

Vertical File

Older newspaper clippings and articles related to Kansas City can be found in the **Vertical File**.

Kansas City, Missouri Area Vertical File Subject List

A through C

Afro-Americans
Airports
American Royal
Architecture
Art
Art Galleries and Museums
Bartle Hall
Biographies
Black Archives of Mid-America
Bruce Watkins Cultural Heritage Center
Business
Centennial
City Market
Civic Improvement
Country Club Plaza
Crown Center
Cultural Life

D through G

Description and Travel
Downtown
Eighteenth and Vine Streets
Floods
Folly Theater
Fountains
Freedom, Inc.
Gambling
GOP Convention

H through L

History
Hotels, Motels
Houses
Housing
Hyatt Disaster
Industries
Kansas City Museum
Kemper Arena
Labor and Laboring Classes
Laws, Statutes, etc.
Learning Exchange
Libraries

M through R

Mafia
Magnet Schools
Mid-America Regional Council
Midwest Research Institute
Memorials
Minorities
Motion Pictures
Music
Neighborhoods
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art
Newspapers
Parks and Recreation
Police
Politics and Government
Population
Public Buildings
Public Utilities
Race Problems
Railroads
Rape
Refuse and Refuse Disposal
Religion
Restaurants
Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base
River Quay

S through Z

Sailors Project
Schools
Segregation Trial
Small Business
Social Services
Sports
Statistics
Streets
Student Uprising
Taxation
Transportation
Union Station
Universities and Colleges
Urban Renewal
Weather
Westport
Women
Woodlands
World's Fair
Zoo

Local History Websites

City Hall – Kansas City, Missouri

City hall provides information about Kansas City, Missouri history; 150th anniversary timeline; Parks and Recreation Archives; Liberty Memorial; Country Club Plaza.

www.kcmo.org/kcmo.nsf/web/history?opendocument

Liberty Memorial Online Museum

This website provides a virtual tour and key facts about the Liberty Memorial Museum, as well as a list of KC war dead.

www.libertymemorialmuseum.org/

Kansas City Public Library Local History Collection – Special Collections Department

This department provides access to extensive Kansas City photographs, postcard collections, maps, and biographies related to Kansas City history. An invaluable collection of materials.

www.kclibrary.org/localhistory/

The Kansas City Star – History

Decade by decade history of the *Kansas City Star* newspaper and its founder, William Rockhill Nelson. Includes information about the City Beautiful Movement, the Pendergasts, Thomas H. Swope, and general history about the *Star* itself. At the URL below, go to the Services box, click on ‘About the Star,’ and then click on ‘Our history.’ www.kcstar.com/

The Kansas City Star – Millennium Kansas City

Kansas City history from its earliest beginnings as a fur trading community up through the 20th century. The Kansas City Millennium Projects was a series of monthly article researched and written by two Star reporters and local history authors, Shirl Kasper and Rick Montgomery. To access, use NewsBank. Under the Kansas City Star, click on Advanced Search and enter ‘Millennium Kansas City’ as an index term.

Negro Leagues Baseball Museum

Nice collection on the history of African American baseball, leagues and teams, and player profiles.

www.nlbm.com/s/index.cfm

The Western Historical Manuscripts Collection – UMKC

This collection contains local history information related to commerce and industry, community histories, art and culture, religion, and science and technology. Specific topics in the collections include information about Crown Center, Ward Parkway, the speeches of J.C. Nichols, and the Jewish Community Archives.

www.umkc.edu/whmckc/