Local History

Primary Sources

Primary sources provide firsthand accounts of the past. Examples include letters, photographs, diaries, newspaper accounts, interviews, oral histories, and speeches. Official documents such as laws, court decisions, treaties, party platforms, and constitutions are also primary sources.

INTERNET

Kansas City Public Library Missouri Valley Special Collections
http://www.kclibrary.org/kchistory/local-history

Search for photographs, postcards, maps, and letters in the Digital Gallery. Read reminiscences written by Kansas Citians.

Missouri Digital Heritage:  http://www.sos.mo.gov/mdh/

Over nine million records including art, books and pamphlets, magazines, journals, newspapers, maps, organizational records, personal papers, photographs, sound recordings, and videos from institutions throughout Missouri. Can be searched by individual collections within topics, keyword, media type or institution.

Missouri State Archives:  www.sos.mo.gov/archives/

Includes state records of permanent historical value dating from 1770 such as court records, land records, military records, penitentiary records, photographs, maps, and census records from 1830-1940.

The State Historical Society of Missouri
shsmo.org/research

Includes census records, photographs, oral histories, full-text access to historic newspapers, full-text first-hand accounts of the Civil War, letters and diaries, and maps.

MICROFILM

The Kansas City Star  1974 - 2011

ONLINE CATALOG

Search for books by author, title, keyword or subject in the Maple Woods Library online catalog at mcckc.edu/library/maple-woods. A link on the library online catalog page connects to the shared library online catalog for MOBIUS, a network of academic libraries in Missouri that includes Maple Woods. The MOBIUS online catalog accesses over 27 million items. Request books online from other libraries at no charge.

Use LC subject search terms of correspondence; diaries; interviews; oral history; personal narratives; sources; speeches, addresses, etc.; and treaties, along with keywords relevant to your topic. Be sure to include applicable geographic terms such as “Kansas City” to limit your search locally.
SELECTED CIRCULATING BOOKS

917.8 On1  On the Santa Fe Trail

92 T77roo  Eleanor and Harry: The Correspondence of Eleanor Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman

92 T77tL  Letters from Father: The Truman Family’s Personal Correspondence

92 T77tLh 2003  Letters Home

92 T77tm Folio  Mr. President: The First Publication from the Personal Diaries, Private Letters, Papers, and Revealing Interviews of Harry S. Truman, Thirty-Second President of the United States of America

973.918 T77s 1999  Strictly Personal and Confidential: The Letters Harry Truman Never Mailed

973.918 T77ta  Talking with Harry: Candid Conversations with President Harry S. Truman

977.8 N17b  Before Lewis and Clark; Documents Illustrating the History of the Missouri, 1785-1804 (2 volumes)

977.8 W58m  Memories

977.8 W58t  That’s the Way It Was

977.84 AL5k  Kansas City’s Parks and Boulevards

977.84 C83k Folio  Kansas City – The Way We Were

977.84 Is15k  Kansas City in Vintage Postcards

977.84 R21p Folio  Postcards from Old Kansas City

978 B93g  Great Plains Originals: Historic Documents from America’s Heartland

978.1 K75h  Historic Photos of Kansas

REFERENCE

REF 977.84 K13g 1986  Guide to the Archival Collections / The Kansas City Museum, Kansas City, Missouri