

Kansas City Health Care Photograph Collection

The Kansas City Health Care Collection contains photographs of health care facilities and services maintained by the city of Kansas City during the 1940s and 1950s. This collection (34-1) is a part of the Landmarks Commission Collection (P34).

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Kansas City Health Department/Kansas City Landmarks Commission

Title: Kansas City health care photograph collection

Dates: 1940s-1950s

Size: 1 box, 33 folders

Location: P34-1

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access: Unrestricted access.

Additional physical form available: Photographs digitized.

Acquisition information: Gift, March 2005, Accession #2005-17, Kansas City Landmarks Commission.

Custodial history: This group of photographs was part of a larger group of photographs donated and placed in a P34 series.

Citation note: Kansas City health care photograph collection (P34-1), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

Collection Description

Scope and content note

This collection contains 198 black and white photographs of varying sizes, but primarily measuring 8" x10". Some photographs do include some sort of identification but the majority do not. A few are dated and all appear to have been taken in the 1940s and 1950s. A number of local photographers are represented including Anderson Photo Company, "Howdy" Williams, Warner Studio, FotoService, and Roger S. Odneal of General Hospital. An unknown city photographer probably took many of them. There are only three negatives with the collection and one of them is a large negative with two views of the Municipal Airport and is filed in the last folder in the box. The other two negatives are identical nursery views and are in Folder 13. The collection was in no particular order when received, and the processor arranged the photographs by subjects during processing.

The originating source of the photographs appears to be the Kansas City Health Department. A few are stamped "Research and Budget Department." Although the city operated both General Hospital No. 1 for whites and General Hospital No.2 for African Americans, there are very few views from General No. 2. Most of the scenes have to do with different departments in General No. 1 as well as the nursing program which was associated with the hospital. Hospital related services are also included as ambulance, outpatient, and school services. The collection inventory below lists the areas covered. Another hospital included is the Kansas City Tuberculosis Hospital which was located in the Leeds District.

Some of the photographs were taken to be included in city publications of the time. These include the city manager's annual report from the 1940s to the mid

1950s, a city employee publication from the 1940s called the *Municipal Mirror*, and other Health Department publications. It has been noted on the back of the photograph if it did appear published and gives the issue, call number, and annotation if it had one.

Collection Inventory

- Folder 1 - African American Care - #1-3
- Folders 2 - 3 - Ambulance Services - #1-11
- Folder 4 - City Officials - #1-4
- Folder 5 - Hospitals--Exterior - #1-3
- Folder 6 - Hospitals--Interior - #1-3
- Folders 7 - 8 - Hospitals--Adult Patient Care - #1-14
- Folder 9 - Instruction - #1-7
- Folders 10 - 11 - Laboratory - #1-12
- Folder 12 - Miscellaneous - #1-5
- Folders 13 - 14 - Nursery - #1-9
- Folders 15 - 17 - Nurses/Interns/Nurses Aids - #1-22
- Folders 18 - 20 - Nutrition/Food Service - #1-24
- Folders 21 - 23 - Operating Room - #1-20
- Folders 24 - 25 - Outpatient/Clinic/Services - #1-14
- Folders 26 - 27 - Pediatrics - #1-16
- Folder 28 - Psychiatric - #1-8
- Folders 29-30 - TB Hospital - #1-16
- Folders 31-32 - X-Ray Department - #1-7
- Folder 33 - Photograph permission slip and negative of Municipal Airport

Processed by Special Collections Librarian Sara Nyman, Winter 2005-2006.