

# Robert Earl Dawson Santa Fe Trail Collection

This collection contains information collected and donated around the turn of the 20th century on the subject of the Santa Fe Trail.

## Descriptive Summary

**Creator:** Robert Earl Dawson  
**Title:** Robert Earl Dawson Santa Fe Trail collection  
**Dates:** 1906-1912  
**Size:** 1 box, 14 folders  
**Location:** SC53

## Administrative Information

**Restrictions on access:** Unrestricted access.

**Acquisition information:** Gift, circa 1912, Robert Earl Dawson.

**Custodial history:** Formerly classed in department, MVSC Q 917.8 D27.

**Citation note:** Robert Earl Dawson Santa Fe Trail collection (SC53), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

## Collection Description

### **Scope and content note**

This collection was originally titled *Santa Fe Trail, Kansas City History and Missouri History: Clippings and Manuscripts, 1906-11*. The compiler has been identified as Robert Earl Dawson. Included within the 14 folders are 187 numbered legal size pages of material consisting of newspaper clippings which were photocopied during processing, typewritten excerpts from books, an outline, a handwritten account of the Santa Fe Trail by W. S. Bonham, a speech, recollections, etc. A typewritten version of the Bonham Santa Fe Trail account is located in SC7, Missouri Valley Historical Society Records, Series II, Manuscripts, Folder 5.

The material has been divided between Kansas City history contained in three folders with 57 pages and Missouri history contained in 11 folders with 129 pages. The Missouri history part contains material relating to the Santa Fe Trail. During processing this material was found to be somewhat out of number order. It was rearranged during processing and placed in the proper order.

## Collection Inventory

### **Kansas City Section (Pages 1-57), 3 folders**

- **Folder 1** - *History of Kansas City* by Carrie Westlake Whitney, 1908, 7 p., typewritten plus 3 small sheets attached, handwritten, (p. 1-8); *Westport & Santa Fe Trade*, Wm. R. Bernard, Kansas Historical Collections, v. IX, 1905-06, p. 552, 2 p., typewritten, (p. 9-10)
- **Folder 2** - *Wm. R. Bernard*, p. 553, 7p., typewritten, (p.11-17); *Recollections of J. S. Chick Who Went to Westport in 1836*, 3p.,

typewritten, (p.18-20); *Early History of Col. Saml. C. Owens and I Aull*, John McCoy, 3 p., typewritten, (p.21-23); K. C. Star 8/28/10 Rollins Bingham, 2p., typewritten, (p.24-25); History of Jackson County (excerpts from), 4p., typewritten, (p.26-29)

- **Folder 3** - Newspaper clippings, 1909-12, photocopied, (p. 30-57)

**Missouri History Section** (Pages 58-187) 11 folders

- **Folder 4** - Newspaper clippings, 1911-12, photocopied, (p. 58-64)
- **Folder 5** - *The Old Santa Fe Trail* by "Pathfinder" (Harold Spencer Williams, 06), (p.65-82)
- **Folder 6** - *Outline for Thesis on Santa Fe Trail*, 1p., typewritten, (p.83)
- **Folder 7** - List of Books, 1p., typewritten, (p.84); Inman's *The Old Santa Fe Trail* Introduction, 11p., typewritten, (p.85-95)
- **Folder 8** - *Advertisement of the Santa Fe Trail from Journal of 1858*, 2p., typewritten, (p.96-97); Chapter 7 - "The Santa Fe Trade and the Santa Fe Trail" from Napton's *History of Saline County*, 1910, 6p., typewritten, (p.98-103)
- **Folder 9** - *The Old Santa Fe Trail*, H. S. Williams, 8p., typewritten, (p.104-111); *The Santa Fe Trail*, Mrs. John Van Brunt, 14p., typewritten, (p.112-125); Stage driver (A.L. Carpenter) memory, Kansas City Star, 9/23/1906, 1p., typewritten, (p.126); *The Old Santa Fe Trail*, Robert Jones (From Columbia, Missouri Herald, 8/4/1905), v.37#31, 1p., typewritten, (p.127)
- **Folder 10** - Handwritten account of Santa Fe Trail, unsigned or dated, (p.128-132)
- **Folder 11** - Speech Made to the Commercial Club of Independence, Missouri, July 7, 1909, unsigned, typewritten, (p.137-138); hand drawn maps of trail, 2p., (p.139-140)
- **Folder 12** - Newspaper clippings, 1911, photocopied, (p.143-164)
- **Folder 13** - Newspaper clippings, 1911-12, photocopied, (p.165-185)
- **Folder 14** - Excerpt from A. Majors Book, p.85, 2p., typewritten, (p.186-187)

Processed by Special Collections Librarian Sara Nyman, December 1995.