

Louis O. Honig Scrapbooks

These scrapbooks, primarily of newspaper clippings, were compiled by local author and businessman Louis O. Honig. They concentrate on the history of Westport, Kansas City, and Missouri.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Louis O. Honig
Title: Louis O. Honig scrapbooks
Dates: 1855-1951, bulk 1937-1950
Size: 1 box, 30 folders
Location: SC30-14

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access: Unrestricted access.

Additional physical form available: Scrapbooks photocopied, original discarded.

Publication note: Mr. Honig may have compiled the scrapbooks as part of his research for the publication of his book, *Westport: Gateway to the Early West*.

Acquisition information: Unknown, likely purchased by the library in the 1950s according to documentation found with collection.

Citation note: Louis O. Honig scrapbooks (SC30-14), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

Collection Description

Biographical/Historical note

Louis O. Honig (1888-1954), was a local historical writer and real estate manager/business realtor. He was the manager of the real estate division of Fox-Midwest Theaters, Inc., for 20 years, 1932-1952. He was born in Brownstown, Illinois, and came to Kansas City from St. Louis, Missouri, in 1932.

Apparently he was always interested in the Westport area of Kansas City as reflected in his book publications, *Westport: Gateway to the Early West* (977.8411 H77w) and *James Bridger: the Pathfinder of the West* (92 B851h). The Missouri Valley Special Collections also has in its holdings a map Honig drew showing 1855 Westport in relation to the streets and business firms of the early 1940s (q099.7 B86o). Mr. Honig also wrote a syndicated historical newspaper column called "Historical Miniatures" which ran in several Midwestern newspapers.

Two Westport related civic positions he held included being president of the Broadway Association of Kansas City for several years as well as serving as the first president of the Westport Historical Society (1950). At the time of his death on August 13, 1954, he was 66 years old. He died in Kansas City and is buried in Forest Hill Cemetery.

Scope and content note

The contents of this collection are derived from three letter size notebooks/scrapbooks. The scrapbooks are divided into three subject areas: Scrapbook 1 -Westport; Scrapbook 2 - Kansas City (Missouri); and Scrapbook 3 - the state of Missouri. Each scrapbook page was numbered during processing and each scrapbook contains over 100 pages. The scrapbooks were disassembled during processing and the contents placed in folders. Newspaper clippings make up the majority of what is contained in the scrapbooks. These articles are primarily from the *Kansas City Star* and *Times*, with some other papers included. Most of the clippings are dated with the majority clipped from newspapers in the 1930s-early 1950s. All the clippings were photocopied during processing onto acid free paper and the originals discarded.

In addition there are 43 photographs, mostly all snapshot size with a few 8" x 10," all being black and white. These include scenes of the Westport area as well as areas of Kansas City, Missouri. The Missouri related scrapbook contains a few photographs primarily of Ozark scenes. There are a number of pictures, many from an early photocopying process and most of these are identified. Some limited correspondence is included, mostly related to Mr. Honig. Also included in the scrapbooks are a few map reproductions, pamphlets, magazine articles, as well as some other miscellaneous items which are noted in the collection inventory.

It is presumed that Mr. Honig created these scrapbooks for personal interest or while researching his two book publications. It is obvious that some of the duplicated clippings came from the Kansas City Public Library and the clipping collection housed currently in the Missouri Valley Room. The strength of the collection is found in the assemblage of these clippings by subject arrangement. No indexing was provided by the creator and the collection inventory provided with this finding aid is the only known indexing available. The typewritten manuscript to the book, *Westport: the Gateway to the West*, can be found in the microfilm copy of the Native Sons Scrapbooks available in the department on Roll 71.

Collection Inventory

Box 1 - Three scrapbooks

- **Folder 1** - Scrapbook #1 - "Old Westport" - 2 newspaper obituaries for Louis Honig, n.d.
- **Folder 2** - Scrapbook #1 - "Old Westport" - p. 1-10 - newspaper clippings including from the *Community Herald*, many featuring the Broadway Association of Kansas City, Inc. and the history of Westport, 1941; pictures, some photographs, of McCoy and Harris Family.
- **Folder 3** - Scrapbook #1 - "Old Westport" - p. 11-21 - newspaper clippings featuring the Daughters of Old Westport, Broadway Association of Kansas City, Inc., history of Westport, obituary of Mary L. Kearney, etc., 1941-1950; 2 photographs (1930s-40s) of Westport area including one of the Boone Trading Post or Westport Inn.
- **Folder 4** - Scrapbook #1 - "Old Westport" - loose items between p. 21-22 - newspaper clippings, 1939-1950, featuring history of Westport, obituary for Mary Kearney; illustrations primarily of Westport area, and pictorial map of Kansas City and vicinity, done by George Fuller Green, 1939.
- **Folder 5** - Scrapbook #1 - "Old Westport" - loose items between p. 22-23 - Fold-out advertising piece for Old Westport bread made by Holsum Bread; photograph of Westport marker ceremony; newspaper clippings, 1950-51,

obituary of Mrs. R. Jay Ingraham, history of Westport, and mentions of Honig's book; illustrations, primarily of Westport area; correspondence; copy of Yoacham patent of 1908.

- **Folder 6** - Scrapbook #1 - "Old Westport" - p. 23 and loose items between p. 23-24 - newspaper clipping, 1937 featuring Westport Map; "Speech of Frank H. Backstrom, Mayor Pro Tem...At Dedication of Westport Marker, June 5, 1950", 2c.; correspondence to Honig from historian, James Anderson; Kansas City chronology; "Pageant Item" from Albert Doerschuk; additional Honig correspondence.
- **Folder 7** - Scrapbook #1 - "Old Westport" - p. 24-39 - Pamphlet "Old Westport" by Margaret Ostertag; newspaper clippings on topics of Eleanor Krause, Katherine Harris, Mattie McCoy, K.C. & W. Horse Railroad, Frank Wornall, and Fannie Toye Mardis, 1938-1949; pictures including Daughters of Old Westport, 1927, etc.
- **Folder 8** - Scrapbook #1 - "Old Westport" - p. 40-53 - Illustrations of Westport, including photographs of the Eisile Building, 3rd Allen School, McCoy family members; newspaper clippings pertaining to Westport Centenary, Yoacham's Tavern, and the Santa Fe Trail, 1946-1950; correspondence by Albert Doerschuk.
- **Folder 9** - Scrapbook #1 - "Old Westport" - p. 54-70 - Newspaper clippings pertaining to Old Westport historical marker, Horace Greeley, Nathan Scarritt, Westport, Westport Methodist Church, and Battle of Westport, 1933-1950; Westport related pictures; map of Battle of Westport; and photocopied book page.
- **Folder 10** - Scrapbook #1 - "Old Westport" - p. 71-91 - Newspaper clippings pertaining to Battle of Westport, William Gilpin, and Westport, 1932-1950; illustrations pertaining to Westport; map of Indian territory in Kansas and of Jackson County.
- **Folder 11** - Scrapbook #1 - "Old Westport" - p. 92-114 - Newspaper clippings pertaining to early Westport, wind wagons, Seth Ward home, Santa Fe Trail, Westport Public Library, Quantrill and guerrillas, 1933-1948.
- **Folder 12** - Scrapbook #1 - "Old Westport" - p. 115-127 - Pictures and photographs (with negatives) of Westport including the Harris-Kearney House and other homes; newspaper clippings pertaining to Westport fairgrounds and Joella M. Shivvers, 1945; paper entitled "August Hornung's Wine Cellar" by A.N. Doerschuk; copies of birth, marriage, and death pages pertaining to Simpson and Majors families.
- **Folder 13** - Scrapbook #1 - "Old Westport" - p. 128-143 - Newspaper clippings pertaining to Westport, Alexander Majors and home, Campfire Girls, James H. Rout, 1927-1950; photocopies from Kansas City directory, etc.; Senate bill pertaining to the Russell-Majors-Waddell National Monument.
- **Folder 14** - Scrapbook #2 - "Kansas City" - Loose items in front - Poem titled "Old Wide Awake"; *City Manager's Centennial Year Report*, 1950.
- **Folder 15** - Scrapbook #2 - "Kansas City, Mo." - Loose items in front - Newspaper clippings, 1950; photograph of Convention Hall fire; numerous photostat copies of papers and clippings concerning early Methodism in the Kansas City area including the Porter family; and "*City of the Future*" News, June 1, 1950, Vol. 1, #1.
- **Folder 16** - Scrapbook #2 - "Kansas City, Mo." - p. 1-10 - Newspaper articles photocopied pertaining to early Kansas City history as well as obituaries for Lewis C. Boone and Dabney Lipscomb, 1935-1941; snapshot photograph of Santa Fe Trail marker and of the Scout statue and Kansas City skyline.
- **Folder 17** - Scrapbook #2 - "Kansas City, Mo." - p. 11-24 - Photograph of Scout statue; photocopied newspaper clippings pertaining to early Town of Kansas history, Waddell and Majors, and Chouteaus, 1943-1950.

- **Folder 18** - Scrapbook #2 - "Kansas City, Mo." - p. 25-39 - Newspaper articles and pictures photocopied pertaining to Native Sons, Chouteaus, Elmhurst residence, McGee house, Johnston Lykins, 1942-1950.
- **Folder 19** - Scrapbook #2 - "Kansas City, Mo." - p. 40-49 - Miscellaneous pictures and eight snapshot photographs pertaining to the Scout and Pioneer Mother statues and Penn Valley Park, with negatives.
- **Folder 20** - Scrapbook #2 - "Kansas City, Mo." - p. 50-58 - Paper entitled "History of a Branch of the Famous Daniel Boone Family from October, 1717 to June, 1950" by Margaret M. Lawlor (12p.); photocopied newspaper clippings pertaining to Joel F. Chiles, George Caleb Bingham, and early Kansas City topics, 1939-1948.
- **Folder 21** - Scrapbook #2 - "Kansas City, Mo." - p. 59-75 - Photocopied newspaper clippings pertaining to 1921 American Legion Convention, Coates Opera House and Hotel, Union Station, Santa Fe Trail, early railroads, Jackson County pioneers, McGee family, St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, and Loose Park, 1939-1950.
- **Folder 22** - Scrapbook #2 - "Kansas City, Mo." - p. 76-90 - Photocopied newspaper clippings pertaining to Robert Van Horn, Independence, Mo., trails markers, Frank Clay Wornall, early railroads, George Tinker, and Kansas City Life Insurance building, 1925-1950.
- **Folder 23** - Scrapbook #2 - "Kansas City, Mo." - p. 91-104 - Photocopied newspaper clippings pertaining to Joshua Self, May Dillon Thatcher, Broadway Baptist Church, Brown House, Cyprien Chouteau home, Charles Kearney, historic tree at Battle of Westport site, and Quality Hill, 1938-1947; booklet about historical ball benefit dance, 1949.
- **Folder 24** - Scrapbook #2 - "Kansas City, Mo." - p. 105-123 - Photocopied newspaper clippings pertaining to "Aunt E." Wallace, Father Donnelly, buried money, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Missouri River, Civil War memories, Keith and Perry Building, Alexander Majors home, Kansas City Stockyards, William M. Johnson home, early railroads, and Judge Albert Reeves, 1937-1949.
- **Folder 25** - Scrapbook #3 - "Missouri Miscellaneous" - p. 1-17 - Photocopied newspaper clippings and magazine articles pertaining to the Ozarks, legal issues, Coe Library at Yale University, Blair House, Eugene Field, P. L. Edwards, Missouri towns of Charleston and Clinton, Battle of Dunksburg, and Newton County, 1937-1949. Also correspondence between Honig and Carrie Llewellyn concerning James Newton Baskett.
- **Folder 26** - Scrapbook #3 - "Missouri Miscellaneous" - p. 18-43 - Photocopied newspaper clippings pertaining to various old homes in Missouri, M'Gee College, the name "Missouri", Osage Indians, Cass County and Senator Vest, Watkin's Mill, towns of Laclede and Lexington, 1937-1942.
- **Folder 27** - Scrapbook #3 - "Missouri Miscellaneous" - p. 44-64 - Photocopied newspaper clippings pertaining to the towns of Independence, Liberty, Marshall, Osceola, Pleasant Hill, and Rolla, William Clark, account and list of deaths of a Pacific Railroad of Missouri train wreck in Nov. 1, 1855; a map in two pieces showing historical points in Jackson County, 1855-1947; and Honig correspondence to St. Louis Public Library relating to Chouteau lineage.
- **Folder 28** - Scrapbook #3 - "Missouri Miscellaneous" - p. 65-80 - Photocopied newspaper clippings pertaining to the Missouri-Iowa border, C. J. Schackleford and the Civil War, covered bridges, Riversene mansion, "Missouri Waltz" song, Mormon Trail, 1938-1942; *Life Magazine* article on Missouri murals located in St. Louis post office, 1942; and 10 snapshot photographs of the Lake of the Ozarks.
- **Folder 29** - Scrapbook #3 - "Missouri Miscellaneous" - p. 81-110 - Photocopied newspaper clippings pertaining to the Ozarks, Mormons in Missouri, B. Gratz Brown and Thomas C. Reynolds, Capt. John S. Campbell, Mark Twain, Carrie Nation, University City and Edward G. Lewis, Edna

Ferber, Mrs. Clyde Porter and collection of Alfred Miller art, and Noel (Missouri), 1937-1945.

- **Folder 30** - Scrapbook #3 - "Missouri Miscellaneous" - p. 111- Photocopied newspaper clippings pertaining to famous old Missouri homes, Ozarks, Bolivar (Missouri), Henry Routt and Liberty Arsenal, Civil War, Ray County, St. Regis Seminary, Vernon County, Missouri mules, 1867-1942; and two snapshot photographs identified as Anti-Thief Associations.

Processed by Special Collections Librarian Sara Nyman, December 2006.