

Rudolph Umland Collection (SC28)

Introduction

This collection consists of notes, correspondence, and miscellaneous papers accumulated by author Rudolph Umland as he wrote articles about Kansas City history for local periodicals. Umland was a Nebraska author who, after leading the Nebraska Federal Writers' Project and serving in World War II wrote for local, regional, and national publications while working in the Social Security Administration.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Rudolph Umland
 Title: Rudolph Umland Collection
 Dates: ca. 1970s
 Size: 0.2 linear feet, 1 box, 14 folders
 Collection Number: SC28

Donor Information

Gift, 1992, Rudolph Umland.

Citation Note

Rudolph Umland Collection (SC28), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

Administrative Information

Related Collections: The Kansas City-related articles by Umland in local magazines, including those based on the notes included in SC28 can be found in the following:

- Umland, R. (1972). Gambling halls, saloons and bawdy houses. *The Attic Window*, 1(3). (SC66 Kansas City Fine Arts Programs- Tiffany's Attic).
- . (1972). Life under the Eighth Street Viaduct. *The Attic Window*, 1(5), 12, 18-21. (SC66 Kansas City Fine Arts Programs- Tiffany's Attic).
- . (1973). Jesse Nichols... and his fantastic idea! the Country Club Plaza. *The Attic Window*, 2(1), 22-23, 25-26, 30, 33. (SC66 Kansas City Fine Arts Programs- Tiffany's Attic).
- . (1973). The worlds of Mr. and Mrs. Bridge. *The Attic Window*, 2(2), 13, 17, 21-22, 35. (SC66 Kansas City Fine Arts Programs- Tiffany's Attic).
- . (1973). The terrible Mr. Lewis in Kansas City. *The Attic Window*, 2(3), 20-21, 23, 25, 27, 29. (SC66 Kansas City Fine Arts Programs- Tiffany's Attic).
- . (1973). The enigma of a painting. *City Window*, 1(1), 14-15, 38-41. MVSC Q977.8411 C581
- . (1973). The duke and duchess of Kansas City. *City Window*, 1(2), 18-19, 42-47. MVSC Q977.8411 C581

- (1973). The glory years of Westport. *City Window*, 1(3), 2223, 46-57.
MVSC Q977.8411 C581
- (1973-1974). The Wornalls, the Johnsons, and some others. *City Window*, 1(4), 22
23, 48-53. MVSC Q977.8411 C581
- (1974). Waldo: the man behind it! *City Window*, 2(1), 18-19, 40-43.
MVSC Q977.8411 C581
- (1974). Early Independence. *City Window*, 2(2), 22-23, 43-48. MVSC Q977.8411
C581
- (1974) Ernest Hemingway the cub reporter. *City Window*, 2(3), 14-15, 40, 42-43,
48. MVSC Q977.8411 C581
- (1974). Crazy about history. *City Window*, 2(4), 15, 37-41. MVSC Q977.8411
C581
- (1974). Johnson County, Kansas: Kansas City's bedroom. *City Window*, 2(5), 18
20, 50-51. MVSC Q977.8411 C581

Biographical Sketch

Rudolph Umland was born on his German immigrant family's farm outside Eagle, Nebraska, on December 26, 1907. Between work on the farm and courses at the University of Nebraska, Umland found time for riding the rails beginning in 1928; some of Umland's first published work recounted his hobo adventures. In 1935 Umland was hired to the Nebraska Writers' Project, a Works Progress Administration program, working his way up to the leadership position he resigned in 1941 to enlist in the military. After the war, Umland worked for the Social Security Administration, edited the *Nebraska Guide to the Cornhusker State*, and wrote prolifically for a wide range of publications. Umland and wife, Emma, lived in Kansas City in the 1960s and 1970s where he wrote a series of articles on the city's history for local periodicals. Umland died in Lincoln, Nebraska on July 15, 1993.

Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of notes, correspondence, and miscellaneous papers accumulated by author Rudolph Umland as he wrote articles about Kansas City history for local periodicals. The collection is arranged topically as donated by Umland; most material dates from the late 1960s through the mid-1970s. The folders on the Bruening and Wornall families include extensive, but uncited, genealogies.

Collection Inventory

- f. 1 Bruening: genealogical notes, n.d.
- f. 2 Country Club Plaza: pamphlet, n.d.; Robert Whitmer article series, 1972
- f. 3 Independence: attractions pamphlets, n.d.; manuscript page, n.d.
- f. 4 Johnson County, Kansas: pamphlets, n.d.; correspondence, 1974; clippings,
ca. 1974
- f. 5 Kansas City, Kansas: clippings, 1974
- f. 6 Kansas City, Missouri history: timeline, n.d.; correspondence, 1972; notes,
1972; clippings, ca. 1972; miscellaneous
- f. 7 Missouri history: Clippings, ca.1973-1974
- f. 8 River Quay: Pamphlets, ca. 1970-1971; article drafts, n.d.

- f. 9 River Quay, Inc.: Meeting minutes, 9/7/1971-11/2/1971
- f. 10 River Quay Journal: June/July 1972; May 1973
- f. 11 Swope murder: Town Squire article, February 1974
- f. 12 Trozzolo: Notes, n.d.; correspondence draft, n.d.; article clipping 6/12/1966; copy of resume, n.d.
- f. 13 Waldo: booklet, ca.1967; notes, n.d.; correspondence, 1973; *Armour Gazette*, 4/1974; Umland article, 3/1974.
- f. 14 Wornall: notes, n.d.; Wornall Home manuscript, n.d.; Wornall genealogy notes, n.d.

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