The Kansas Historical Society’s State Archives holds large collections of one of a kind, primary sources—government records, personal papers, records of organizations and businesses, and other unpublished materials. Researchers need basic descriptions of the contents in order to know what they would find within these records.

Without these tools researchers wouldn’t know that the Richard B. Sheridan collection contains resources on William C. Quantrill, or that the Melvina M. Williams collection contains African American church records from Nicodemus. These records contain letters written by freed men of the South to...
the governor of Kansas in hope of moving to the state. They include photographs of members of women’s clubs in Kansas.

In an effort to make these holdings more accessible, the State Archives took advantage of a 2008 grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

The grant funded a two-year project to create basic descriptions for thousands of items in the collections. An online archives catalog database was also part of the project, which was recently added online at kshs.org/16432.

The archives catalog opens a window into these one-of-a-kind collections. Searches by keyword, title, creator, material type, date range, and retention range can be made.

While most of these items are non-digitized, some can be accessed on Kansas Memory at kansasmemory.org. This growing online archives continues to add more and more of these valuable resources.

Top to bottom, meeting of the Kansas Association of Colored Women’s Club; Marie Jackson Clardy, Topeka, 1898; Henry and Clara Smith of Marshall, Texas, wrote to Governor John P. St. John in 1879 in the hope of immigrating to Kansas.
From Our Collections

Out of the Rubble: Items from Quantrill’s Raids

The name of William Clarke Quantrill was already known before he led his band of guerillas in a deadly raid on Lawrence, Kansas, August 21, 1863. Claiming to fight for the confederacy, Quantrill organized a group of men in December 1861. Operating near the Kansas-Missouri border, the raiders began forays into Kansas, attacking towns about 15 miles from the border.

Born at Canal Dover, Ohio, in 1837, Quantrill came to Kansas in 1857 to farm. He went west to seek adventure in the Rockies and returned to Kansas where he worked briefly as a schoolteacher in Stanton, Douglas County. Then Quantrill turned to stealing slaves and horses from Missouri and reselling them to the highest bidder. When the Civil War began, Quantrill joined the Missouri Confederate troops but soon left to form his own army.

Quantrill led his first attacks in 1862 with 30 men. His band included William “Bloody Bill” Anderson, George Todd, Fletcher Taylor, Cole Younger, and Frank James. While they were officially mustered into the Confederate army that August, the members murdered and looted for their own gain.

On September 7, 1862, just after midnight, Quantrill led about 140 men in an attack on Olathe, Kansas. The raiders killed six men and held Olathe residents in the public square while they looted businesses and private homes. During the chaos, one of the raiders apparently dropped a flag in the public square. Olathe resident Jonathan Millikan found the flag in the square.

Since Quantrill’s band was not known to carry flags, its use is unclear. Only seven inches by 13 inches, the flag may have been a “streamer,” the type placed on the staff above a regimental flag. It may have been a keepsake, like a “Bible” flag, used as a bookmark in large family Bibles by both northern and southern families.

Quantrill’s raiders spent the winter of 1862 to 1863 in Indian Territory, Arkansas.

Top to bottom: William Clarke Quantrill, circa 1861; Jonathan Millikan’s son, Orion, donated the flag he found to the Kansas Museum of History; a receipt signed by Quantrill records a final payment that settled a land dispute.
and Texas. The raids continued in the summer of 1863. About 300 men arrived in Lawrence at daybreak on August 21, 1863. By noon the raiders had destroyed more than 200 homes and businesses and left 150 men dead or dying. Larkin Skaggs was the only one of Quantrill’s band who was killed. On his body were found a coin purse and money belonging to 19-year-old John Speer. Speer and his brother Robert were among the Lawrence residents killed in the attack.

H.M. Simpson, a Lawrence banker, described the experience in a letter dated September 7, 1863. “Judge Carpenter was pursued all over his house and finally shot repeatedly while in his wife’s arms,” Simpson wrote. “They raised Mrs. Sargent’s arm in order to make a fatal shot at her husband. Mrs. Fitch was not allowed to pull her husband’s body out of the burning house, but was compelled to stand by and see the corpse consumed. Men were repeatedly shot with children & even babies in their embrace.”

On May 10, 1865, one month after the end of the Civil War, Quantrill was mortally wounded in a skirmish with Union soldiers in Kentucky.

Top to bottom; Lawrence resident H.M. Simpson wrote this letter September 7, 1863, to document the attack; these items, stolen from Speer, were found on the body of Larkin Skaggs, one of Quantrill’s men; this illustration of the destruction in Lawrence was copied from the September 5, 1863, issue of Harper’s Weekly.
The Kansas Historical Foundation wishes to thank the speakers, volunteers, and participants who joined in a successful and enriching spring meeting in Wichita on June 14 and 15. Participant Sue Sutton, from Concordia expressed in an email about her experience, “many conversations have spun off from topics presented at the conference: Innes Tea Room, Dockum sit-in, the railroad district, downtown hotels, Farha family, The Forum, the Miller Theatre—too many to list,” Sutton wrote. “Bravo to you and your staff for creating and executing a wonderful, memorable experience.” Staff members are already at work planning next year’s event.

Volunteers for the New Capitol Store

In January 2014 the Kansas Historical Foundation’s new Capitol Store will be located on ground level in the new visitor center. It will feature an expanded selection of Kansas made products and works by Kansas artists. An active search is underway to find Kansas-made products to showcase.

Volunteers will be essential in keeping operating costs down and improving guest experience. Kathy Luckman has volunteered in the museum store for more than two years. “I like talking with visitors and interacting with the public,” Luckman said. “It’s fascinating to meet people from all over the world who come to Kansas to spend their vacation and learn about our history. I am very much aware that as a volunteer I am a representative of our state. Kansas is a friendly place and I am excited to share that with our visitors.” She also likes the variety of the job, assisting with museum admissions, pointing out artifacts that might be of interest in the galleries, and helping customers find unique products not found in other places. For more information on job duties contact Marla Holt, 785-272-8681 ext. 454; mholt@kshs.org.

2013 Spring Meeting, Wichita

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Two winners of Edward N. Tihen Historical Research Grants have recently published books on Kansas history.

Kevin Olson, a 2006 recipient of the grant from the Kansas Historical Foundation, published *Frontier Manhattan*, in April 2012. The grant helped with his primary Kansas research. “Part of what I hoped to accomplish in writing the book was to cast a wide net and to incorporate all historical resources relevant to the settlement of Manhattan,” Olson said. “The grant was extremely important in ensuring that the book became a quality work of history.”

*Frontier Manhattan* chronicles the 19th century history of Manhattan, Kansas and the rich history of the state through the settlement by New Englanders and other freestaters in the 1850s. Olson’s work was recently honored by the State Library of Kansas as a 2013 Kansas Notable Book.

Linda Johnston is a 2012 grant recipient. Her book, *Hope Amid Hardship: Pioneer Voices from Kansas Territory*, will be published in August 2013. Johnston’s book is the result of a decades-long research project. The grant helped fund her final research trip to the Historical Society. *Hope Amid Hardship* features 60 settlers who wrote about the brighter side of pioneer life from 1854 to 1861. Their writings reveal moments of singing, dancing, and celebration. “I felt a responsibility to define Kansas pioneers not just by what they endured, but what gave them the strength to carry on,” Johnston said. “I wanted others to get to know these fascinating men and women who helped form the character of the Sunflower State.”

The Edward N. Tihen Historical Research Grants are awarded annually in June by the Kansas Historical Foundation to non-academic researchers for research in the collections of the Historical Society. Established in 1995, funds were provided by Tihen’s family and friends in his memory and in appreciation of his role as an amateur historian. Find more information online at kshs.org/15431, or contact Terry Marmet at 785-272-8681, ext. 209; twmarmet@kshs.org.

**Save the Date**

138th Kansas Historical Foundation
Annual Members and Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, November 1, 2013, Kansas State Capitol

In compliance with Article VIII of the bylaws of KSHS, Inc., nominees to the board of directors and to the executive committee will be posted online by October 1, 2013. Visit kshs.org to view the list.
Treasures in the Archives: The Menninger Foundation Collection

When the Menninger Foundation moved to Texas in 2003, it donated its large archives to the Kansas Historical Society. This vast collection tells the story of the internationally known and influential psychiatric facility, which was operated by the Menninger family in Topeka. The collection includes personal papers from many Menninger family members.

Also part of the archives are corporate records documenting the early clinic, the school of psychiatry, the foundation’s local community efforts, fundraising efforts, and public communication about mental health issues. Additionally included is correspondence from the 1930s and 1940s regarding the rise of professional psychoanalysis in the western half of the U.S., as spearheaded by Menninger family and staff.

C.F. Menninger was a highly respected doctor when he and his son, Karl, established the Menninger Diagnostic Clinic in 1919. The clinic was conceived as a community where doctors would cooperate to heal patients, where the mental health of the patient would be considered along with physical health.

In 1925 Will Menninger joined the practice and they relocated to a 20-acre site west of Topeka. Following World War II, Karl Menninger helped to establish the Winter Veterans Administration Hospital in Topeka, which was the largest psychiatric training center in the world. Karl Menninger specialized in neurology and psychiatry and built an international and popular reputation through his writings.

The foundation established an archives to preserve its important history. The archives expanded its focus...
beyond the foundation and family to collect materials from individuals important to the history of mental health. Included in the archives is correspondence involving advocate Dorothea Dix, health worker Florence Nightingale, Sigmund Freud and his daughter Anna, 18th century physician Benjamin Rush and his son Richard, and materials on Kings George II, III, and IV. A portion of the archives is available on Kansas Memory, kansasmemory.org, and extensive finding aids available online provide detailed descriptions of the entire collection.

Karl, Will, and Roy Menninger became recognized leaders in the field of psychiatry. The programs they started expanded to support a variety of treatment, prevention, training, research, and publication efforts.

Access is restricted on documents containing identifiable information about individual patients or research subjects.

Clockwise: B. Horne, archivist for the Menninger Foundation, 1983; Helen Keller greets Karl Menninger, 1949; Will Menninger is interviewed for the CBS program, “Age of Anxiety,” 1961; Anna Freud greets Karl and his son Robert Menninger, 1962; Anna Freud, daughter of psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud, wrote this letter to Karl Menninger, 1936.
Lucy Tayiah Eads

The first woman to serve as principle chief of the Kaw Nation, Lucy Tayiah Eads was born October 4, 1888, in a tipi on the banks of Beaver Creek, Indian Territory, now Oklahoma, to Little Tayiah and Lezitte (Mo Jan Ah Hoe) Bertrand. Named Cha-me “Little Deer,” her father was a Kansa Indian and her mother was Kansa and Potawatomi.

Eads was born during a difficult transition for the Kansa people. During the early 19th century the Kansas or Kaws occupied much of what would become eastern Kansas. Treaties diminished their lands to 20 square miles near Council Grove, and in 1873 the people were moved to 100,000 acres on the Osage Reservation in present-day Kay County, Oklahoma. No dwellings existed to accommodate the 500 Kaw men, women, and children. Amid poverty, sickness, and discontent, Washungah was elected principal chief in 1885.

When Eads was only five years old her parents died of starvation. She and her younger brother, Emmett (Ki He Kah Mah She), were left orphans. According to tribal tradition, Chief Washungah adopted and raised the children. He died in 1908 before Emmett was 18. Eads was trained as a nurse at Haskell Institute in Lawrence and she soon moved to New York. In about 1908 she married Herbert Edward Kimber. The couple had three daughters. They divorced and she married John Rhea Eads around 1913. They had six children.

The Kaws were left for several years without a principal chief after Washungah’s death. In November 1922 the people elected Eads the first female chief of the Kaw, and a council of eight members. “I cannot tell just yet how I feel about being chosen chief of the Kaws for the honor is too new,” Eads commented in the Tulsa Daily World, November 2, 1922. “I fully realize the responsibilities which I have assumed, but I appreciate the opportunity I have to help my people.”

In 1924 Eads delivered a petition to the Commission of Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C., to reestablish the Kaw Agency. She was invited to the 1929 presidential inauguration for Herbert Hoover and Charles Curtis, vice president from Kansas, and fellow Kaw. Eads made education a priority for her people. She was reelected principle chief, but the government agency was abolished in 1928. Eads later worked as a nurse at Haskell. The family was living in Pawhuska, Oklahoma, when she died October 11, 1961.
Witness to History

Santa Fe Trail

When Mexico won independence from Spain in 1821, it gave the United States a new trade opportunity. The new country needed manufactured goods—cloth, clothing, jewelry, and hardware; while the U.S. needed raw materials—fur, wool, silver, and mules.

The 1,200-mile Santa Fe Trail mostly served civilian traders—Mexican and American—with some military traffic. The two major routes started in Missouri and crossed southwest through Kansas. The Cimarron Route crossed through the corner of Oklahoma and ended in Santa Fe, Mexico. The other route diverted near Dodge City and passed through Colorado.

The Kansas Historical Society recently partnered with the National Park Service to document 30 Santa Fe Trail properties; 20 have been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under the Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail. This thematic listing explains the shared general context connecting historic resources that may not be located within close proximity, defines the types of properties that are associated with the theme, and establishes the requirements that make the properties eligible for listing.

The Point of Rocks-Middle Spring District includes several nominated resources in the southwest portion of the state. The nominated property includes four trail segments; a spring; a high rock formation, which could be seen for several miles; and a 1914 commemorative marker erected by the Kansas Daughters of the American Revolution.

In the central part of the state was French Frank’s, a ranch established in 1861 by French immigrants Claude Francis (French Frank) Laloge and Peter Martin. Located in Marion County near other French-speaking settlers, the ranch offered meals and small provisions to trail travelers until about 1866. At least six swales are visible on this route that connected the Cottonwood Creek Crossing and the Little Arkansas River crossings along the main route.
“Everything Worth Seeing”: County Fair Posters

Colorful posters from the 19th century rekindle the thrill of county fairs, depicting excitement with activities like horse racing, bicycle racing, and parachuting. They illustrate the ideal—healthy children, stout livestock, lush vegetables, and abundant grains. They promise “Larger, better and more inviting than ever before;” “A Grand Opportunity for a Re-union of the Farmers, Stock Growers, Horticulturists;” and “Exhibits of Everything Worth Seeing in Ness County, Kansas.” They promote hefty cash prizes available to participants.

By the 1870s most counties sponsored an annual fair, usually held in the county seat. They promoted Kansas as a prosperous place to live, work, and raise a family. Companies like Gast Art Litho of St. Louis; Strobridge Litho, Cincinnati, Ohio; Donaldson Lithographic Company, Newport, Kentucky; and Russell, Morgan & Company, Cincinnati, Ohio; created and distributed the artwork.

In addition to horse racing, trotting, sulky races, and pacing, posters touted livestock displays, reduced rates on railroad tickets, music, lacrosse, and even snake dances. They often promised first class entertainment with a guarantee and occasionally featured patriotic speeches.

Left to right, Bismarck Fair, Lawrence, 1885; Russell County fair, 1921.
The 1887 Cowley County fair poster said “All farmers, artisans, and strangers are hereby warned not to forget the date of the fair.” The 1886 Smith County fair poster promised a “Grand Balloon Ascension Each Day.”

The Kansas Historical Society's early staff members understood the importance of these fair posters and soon began collecting the colorful lithographs to document the state's agricultural and local history. The collection includes more than 300 items from 1860 to present day. In January 2014 images of select fair posters will be on display at the Kansas State Capitol visitor center.
George B. Steen lived with his wife, Martha, on Buchanan Street in Topeka in the early 1900s. Born about 1873 in Kansas, Steen worked as a clerk in the Santa Fe offices, as a grocery man, and was an amateur photographer.

In 1904, the year after the Kansas State Capitol was officially completed, Steen climbed the 296 steps to the dome with his camera. Shooting on glass plates from the cupola, he captured nearly a 360-degree view of the neighborhood surrounding the Capitol.

The photographs show a horse and buggy, a trolley car, First Presbyterian Church to the west, the city high school to the northwest, Assumption Church to the north, the city library on the northeast quadrant of Capitol Square, and Santa Fe offices to the east. First Baptist Church, located at 9th Avenue and Jackson, is under construction. This moment in time also reveals the residential neighborhood located to the west and south. These images were recently donated to the Kansas Historical Society. They will be included in a new book on the Capitol to be published by January 2014.
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Kansas Memory

Brothers Joe Ramirez, Jr., and Mark Ramirez wait for the start of the annual Fiesta Mexicana parade in Topeka, July 14, 1973. kansasmemory.org/item/219915