

# NATIONAL HISTORY DAY IN MISSOURI 2022–2023 TOPIC IDEAS FROM THE ARCHIVES



## Topics by Research Center:

### Columbia

- **Howard A. Rusk**

Howard A. Rusk, born in Brookfield, graduated from the University of Missouri and went on to practice and teach medicine at Washington University Medical School in St. Louis. He later became known as the father of rehabilitative medicine because of his work to help people with injuries and disabilities.

- Link to collection information:

<https://collections.shsmo.org/manuscripts/columbia/c3981>

- **Charles & Elizabeth Schwartz**

The Schwartzs' created twenty-four nature films and wrote or illustrated a dozen wildlife books. The pair contributed to Missouri conservation and environmental efforts.

- Link to collection information:

<https://collections.shsmo.org/manuscripts/columbia/c2217>

## Cape Girardeau

- **Bellchamber Collection (Railroads/Transportation)**

The Bellchamber Collection contains photographs and memorabilia related to the Iron Mountain Railroad and gives insight into the history of railroads in Southeast Missouri.

- Link to collection information:

<https://collections.shsmo.org/manuscripts/cape-girardeau/cg0041>

- **Terrell Family Papers (Sikeston Little Theater)**

This collection consists of programs, tickets, photographs, correspondence, articles, and newspaper clippings associated with the Sikeston Little Theater. These materials document the development of community theater.

- Link to collection information:

<https://collections.shsmo.org/manuscripts/cape-girardeau/cg0054>

## Kansas City.

- **Kansas City Monarchs Oral History Collection**

In 1920, the Kansas City Monarchs baseball team was a charter member of the Negro National League. The team was active until the full integration of baseball in the 1950s. The collection contains oral history interviews and correspondence with individuals who played for or were associated with the Kansas City Monarchs.

- Link to collection information:

<https://collections.shsmo.org/manuscripts/kansas-city/k0047>

- **Rosemary L. Smithson & Rebecca Morris Papers; Missouri Equal Rights Amendment Coalition**

The collection contains records of the Missouri Equal Rights Amendment Coalition, of which Rosemary L. Smithson and Rebecca Morris were members. Materials include correspondence, meeting minutes, tape recordings, reports, news clippings, and campaign materials.

- Links to collection information:

- Rosemary L. Smithson:

<https://collections.shsmo.org/manuscripts/kansas-city/k0307>

- Rebecca Morris:

<https://collections.shsmo.org/manuscripts/kansas-city/k0313>

# Rolla

- **The Rotoscope**

The Rotoscope is a single camera, single projection system that is capable of taking and projecting a scope of 180 degrees on one reel of film. The inventors of the Rotoscope, Rowe Carney and Tom Smith, entered a new frontier of film technology with their 180 degree single camera and projector system.

- Links to collection information:

- Gene Carney interview (Missouri Innovation & Exploration Oral History Project Records):

<https://collections.shsmo.org/manuscripts/columbia/c4352>

- Rotoscope Collection Our Missouri Podcast, Missouri Times:

<https://shsmo.org/our-missouri/season-1/episode-16>

- **Pacific Railroad**

The Pacific Railroad was the first rail line to reach Phelps County and the city of Rolla. Construction of the route halted with the onset of the Civil War leaving Rolla as the last stop on the line before the frontier of southwest Missouri.

- Links to collection information:

- St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company Maps Collection:

<https://collections.shsmo.org/manuscripts/rolla/r1486>

- St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company Collection:

<https://files.shsmo.org/manuscripts/rolla/R1491.pdf>

# Springfield

- **Elsy Carriage Company Photographs**

The collection contains original photographs of vehicles built by the Elsey Carriage Company from 1905 to 1927. Grant Ellis Elsey and his company produced wagons and motorized vehicles for Springfield businesses between 1905 to 1968. Elsey built the first wagon used by the Springfield Fire Department, as well as ambulances and hearses. He also built the first motor-powered milk wagon in Springfield in 1910.

- Link to collection information:

<https://collections.shsmo.org/manuscripts/springfield/sp0049>

- **Betsy Balsley Collection**

Joplin-native, Betsy Balsley, was the food editor for the "Los Angeles Times" between 1973 and 1990. Balsley was a founding member of the Newspaper Food Editors Association, which helped establish a code of ethics for food journalism. The collection contains personal and professional papers related to Balsley's life.

- Link to collection information:

<https://collections.shsmo.org/manuscripts/springfield/sp0062>

## St. Louis

- **STARFLEET, The International Star Trek Fan Association, USS Discovery Chapter**

The USS Discovery Records provide a unique glimpse into the development of fandom of Missouri. Considering the large role fandom plays in our daily lives (conventions, movie franchises, etc.), this collection provides an excellent overview of the development of this subculture.

- Link to collection information:

<https://collections.shsmo.org/manuscripts/saint-louis/s0310>

- **Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign Records**

This group advocated for the bilateral nuclear weapons freeze between the United States and the Soviet Union. Although the political elite at the time scoffed at the idea, scholars have recently discovered that the Freeze Campaign influenced the Reagan administration and contributed to the thawing of relations between the United States and the Soviet Union regarding nuclear weapons policy.

- Link to collection information:

<https://collections.shsmo.org/manuscripts/saint-louis/s0454>

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