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Library Hours:

By Appointment Only
(library@mhgswichita.org)

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- Latest Library Additions
- Items of Interest
- Calendar of Events

LIBRARY REOPENING IN APRIL!

We're going to start reopening the library in April! We're planning on Tuesdays noon to 4 starting April 6. As more of us get vaccinated, we'll add more hours. Special interest groups and classes will have to wait a little longer.

2021 ANNUAL MEETING

Attention MHGS members!

Due to the ongoing COVID pandemic, the board of directors has decided that the Annual Meeting should be postponed. Usually, the Annual Meeting is held in March. However, this year we are changing the projected meeting date to Saturday, May 15, 2021. At this meeting we will conduct our usual elections and vote on a by-law change to allow mail-in voting (currently we are only allowed to vote in person.)

We are hoping that this later date will allow us all to have a safer meeting. Meanwhile we will keep you informed through the newsletter.

HOW TO LOCATE BOOKS FOR YOUR RESEARCH

Have you run across a reference to a book someone wrote on one of your surnames? Perhaps you know that a church your family helped start has written a centennial history? Did your ancestor publish a book of poetry? How do you find a book if it's not currently available on Amazon? Here's what I do...

First, I check the MHGS catalog at **MHGSwichita.org** to see if it's in our library or if we've already found a digital copy (if you ask about a book and I find it online, I add a link to the book to the catalog.)

Second, I do a **Google** search. If I know the title exactly, I enclose the name in quotation marks -- "The Smith Family of Jones County" -- so Google knows I want these words in this precise order. Sometimes the results will just be references to footnotes in other people's research, but sometimes I find that the book has been digitized and posted on, say, a USGenWeb site.

Third, I look at **WorldCat.org**. I may do a search on the title, or the author, or a phrase that will give me what I want. If you are not familiar with WorldCat, it's a massive, world-wide library catalog. Rather than a
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HOW TO LOCATE BOOKS, CONT

direct link to a book, you will get a list of libraries that hold copies of the book, sorted in order of increasing distance from your current location. Occasionally, this will include a link to a digital copy, but usually not. If you are lucky, there's a physical copy in a library close to you; if not, you might inquire with your local public library to see if they can borrow it through InterLibrary Loan (many libraries are still doing ILL during the pandemic) or make photocopies if you only need a few pages. Another thing WorldCat is good for is verifying that you have the correct title and author for your other searches (if WorldCat doesn't have it, you very likely have something wrong!)

Fourth, I go to **FamilySearch.org**. There are two places to search for books – in the catalog, which searches everything in the FamilySearch holdings in Salt Lake City, and in “Books” which searches a digital collection that includes other family history libraries. Search results seem to fall into three categories. If the book has been digitized and is publicly available, all you need to do is click and read (you may need to sign in to your free account.) If the book has been digitized but is still under copyright, it may only be viewable at a LDS Family History Center (like the one at the LDS church in Derby.) Unfortunately, most of these are closed because of the pandemic, but I have read that at some centers, it is possible to log in to the special network from the parking lot and view these restricted records (I have not tried this myself!) If a book has not been digitized and is only available in Salt Lake City, you will have to wait until the library reopens and contact them.

Fifth, I try the Internet Archive at **archive.org**. There, you can search across a dizzying array of books, videos, postcards, podcasts, government databases and legal cases.

By this time, I may be getting a bit desperate, but sixth, I try **HathiTrust.org**. Like the Internet Archive, they have an incredible array of digitized items, but unlike the Internet Archive, not everything is publicly available. Some copyright holders have restricted viewing to people with academic library access or other arrangements. Fortunately, you can limit search results to the items you can view.

If I fail to find a digital copy of the book, I turn to the used book market. Of course, **Amazon.com** and **bookfinder.com** offer used books, but I prefer **abebooks.com**, which includes books from hundreds of used book stores. The terrific thing about abebooks is their wants feature, which allows you to define a search for a book you're looking for (you can search by title or author, and even restrict results by what you're willing to pay) and have abebooks email you when one of their vendors posts the book you're looking for. I've had books show up months and even years after I put it on my want list!

So, am I missing any good sources? Let me know at library@mhgswichita.org!

NEW DISCOVERY !

For the school year 1918-1919: Average High School teachers salary, not including superintendents, was \$917.50 (apparently a yearly basis).

Average Grade School Teachers salary \$73.00 per month.

Average School Teachers salary \$71.34 per month.

Found in The Treearcher, Kansas Genealogical Society Vol 48 No 1. 2006

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Following the Santa Fe Trail: a guide for modern travelers	R-600 097
The Birth of New England	R-605 022
Chokma Chickasaw Magazine 2019 F	R-631 073
Cherokee Legends and the Trail of Tears	R-631 081
The Compass	R-650 031 V2
The Civil War Almanac	R-670 281
Artillery Through the Ages	R-670 282
Bushwhackers of the Border: The Civil War period in Western Missouri	R-670 283
The Ideals Guide to American Civil War Places	R-670 284
The Souvenir Guide to the Gettysburg National Military Park	R-670 285
Diaries of Robert Edwin Lawrence V1, P1 ; V1 P2; V2 P1; P2	R-210 SG 253
Wichita Memories II: A Photographic History of the 1940s, 1950s, & 1960s	R-210 SG 24
Morrison Petroleum Directory of Kansas	R-210 168
Mansion on a Hill – The Willows Maternity Sanitarium	R-300 294
Wichita High School East Alumni Directory	R-210 114
Kansas State University Alumni Directory	R-210 RL 15
Kapaun Mt Carmel Catholic High School Alumni Directory	R-210 SG 254
College Hill United Methodist Church Directory	R-210 SG 191

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020-2021

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Library open by appointment only; email library@mhgswichita.org

Please see the Google calendar or our Facebook page for details.

POWER-UP SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP	RESEARCHING THE HISTORY OF A HOUSE, BUSINESS OR A FARM
Second Tuesday @ 1:30 to 3 pm Led by Julia Langel ON HIATUS	Third Saturday @ 1:30 to 3 pm Led by Julia Langel ON HIATUS
PHOTO MYSTERIES	AFRO-AMERICAN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP
Third Tuesday @ 1:30 Led by Rex Riley ON HIATUS	Fourth Saturday @ 1 pm ON HIATUS

Midwest Historical & Genealogical Society

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Change Service Requested