Dorothea Eldridge Slide Collection

This collection contains over 100 color slides taken in the 1950s-60s that capture a glimpse of what Kansas City looked like at that time.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Dorothea Eldridge
Title: Dorothea Eldridge slide collection
Dates: 1957-1968
Size: 108 color slides, 25 b & w prints, 2 color prints; 26 negatives
Location: P25

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access: Unrestricted access.

Additional physical form available: 24 prints have been digitized.

Acquisition information: Gift, 1995, Dorothea Eldridge, Accession #1995-44.

Citation note: Dorothea Eldridge slide collection (P25), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

Collection Description

Scope and content note

The Dorothea Eldridge slide collection consisted only of 108 color slides when it was received in Missouri Valley Special Collections. These slides were taken by amateur photographer Dorothea Eldridge and are primarily a group of various images pertaining to Kansas City, Missouri, taken during the 1950s and 1960s. The collection was initially given to the library's Plaza branch and was then transferred by them to Missouri Valley Special Collections in September 1995.

Each slide is identified, dated, and the exposure and film noted. Scenes include buildings, fountains, hospitals, downtown rooftop views which include both the riverfront areas and Municipal Airport, Richards Gebaur Air Force base, shopping centers, streets, Union Station, and the West Bottoms. The slides were in no particular order when received and have been placed in a subject arrangement determined by the processor.

At a later date, black and white photographs with negatives were made from 24 of the slides and color prints were made from two of the slides. These photographs have been added to the original donation. Of special interest are the interior views of both Union Station and Municipal
Airport, a view of the Wayne Miner housing development, and views of downtown in the 1960s.

All 108 color slides were digitized in 2018.

**Collection Inventory**

**Airports**
- Municipal - Folder 5 - 8 slides; Folder 5,6 - 3 black and white photographs; Folder 18 - 1 color photograph
- Richards Gebaur - Folder 5,6 - 3 slides

**Apartments**
- Quinlan Apartments at 8th and Highland - Folder 1 - 1 slide; Folder 7 - 1 black and white photograph

**Banks**
- Commerce Trust Company - Folder 1 - 4 slides

**Bridges**
- Intercity Viaduct (Lewis and Clark) - Folder 1 - 3 slides

**Buildings**
- 811 Building - Folder 1 - 3 slides
- Halls on the Plaza - Folder 1 - 2 slides
- Ten Main Building - Folder 1 - 1 slide

**City Hall**
- Flower pots in front - Folder 1 - 1 slide

**Federal**
- Federal Building (Bolling) on 12th Street - Folder 1 - 2 slides; Folder 7 - 1 black and white photograph

**Fountains**
- Commerce Tower Fountain - Folder 2 - 1 slide
- Missouri Muse - Folder 2 - 3 slides
- Nelson Gallery of Art - Rozelle Fountain - Folder 2 - 1 slide; Folder 14 - 1 black and white photograph
• Nichols, J.C. - Folder 2 - 3 slides; Folder 8 - 1 black and white photograph

Highways

• Southeast Trafficway - Folder 2 - 1 slide
• Turnpike and 18th Street Cloverleaf - Folder 2 - 1 slide
• 6th and Southeast Trafficways - Folder 2 - 1 slide
• I-70, taken northeast from City Hall - Folder 2 - 1 slide

Hospitals

• Children’s Mercy - Folder 2 - 5 slides; Folder 8 - 1 black and white photograph
• St. Luke’s - Folder 2 - 3 slides; Folder 9 - 1 black and white photograph
• Trinity Lutheran - Folder 3 - 1 slide
• St. Mary’s - Folder 3 - 1 slide; Folder 9 - 1 black and white photograph

Kansas City - Downtown - Skyline (Distant)

• Various view including at night - Folder 3 - 8 slides; Folder 10 - 1 black and white

Kansas City - Downtown - Skyline (Rooftop)

• Various views - Folder 3 - 7 slides; Folder 10 - 2 black and white photographs

Kansas City - Midtown

• Various views - Folder 3 - 2 slides

Kansas City - Northeast

• Folder 3 - 1 slide

Kansas City - Riverfront Area

• Various views - Folder 4 - 10 slides; Folder 11 - 2 black and white photographs

Kansas City - Westside

• Various views - Folder 4 - 2 slides

Libraries
• Kansas City Public Library, Main branch, 12th and Oak - Folder 5 - 5 slides; Folder 12 - 1 black and white photograph

Parks

• Loose Park - Folder 5 - 2 slides; Folder 14 - 1 black and white photograph
• 27th and Madison Playground - Folder 5 - 3 slides

Shopping Centers

• Brookside - Folder 6 - 1 slide; Folder 15 - 1 black and white photograph
• Waldo - Folder 6 - 1 slide; Folder 15 - 1 black and white photograph
• Ward Parkway - Folder 15 - 2 slides

Street Railways

• Electric Country Club Trolley Line - Folder 6 - 1 slide; Folder 16 - 1 black and white photograph

Streets

• Southwest Trafficway - Folder 6 - 1 slide
• Southeast Trafficway - Folder 6 - 2 slides
• Walnut - Folder 6 - 1 slide - 1 black and white photograph

Union Station

• Interiors - Folder 6 - 3 slides; Folder 17 - 3 black and white photographs; Folder 19 - 1 color photograph
• Exterior - Folder 6 - 1 slide

Utilities and Public Works

• Water - Folder 6 - 1 slide

Wayne Miner Housing Development

• Exterior - Folder 6 - 1 slide; Folder 16 - 1 black and white photograph

West Bottoms

• Various views - Folder 6 - 3 slides
Processed by Special Collections Librarian Sara Nyman, September, 1995.