

PRELIMINARY INVENTORY
K0028 (KA0001)
CHARLES BERTAN WHEELER, JR. PAPERS

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City. If you would like more information, please contact us at kansascity@shsmo.org.

Introduction

Approximately 132 cubic feet, plus 11 microfilmed volumes

The collection consists of Charles Wheeler's personal papers for his period of public service. A small portion of the collection is from his days as Western Judge of the Jackson County Court and his service as Jackson County Coroner. The bulk of the papers, however, relate to his time spent as Mayor of Kansas City. The scrapbook volumes have been microfilmed.

The papers have been arranged in the following manner:

Boxes 001-002

Correspondence and miscellaneous files relating to Wheeler's service as Western Judge for Jackson County.

Boxes 003-051

Correspondence relating to Wheeler's daily schedule as Mayor of Kansas City. These papers date from 1971 to 1979 and include invitations for Wheeler to appear at various public events. These include Wheeler's response to the invitation.

Boxes 052-058

Correspondence files for the period ca. 1971 to ca. 1975. These files are subject and individual files arranged in an alphabetical sequence for the years given.

Boxes 059-085

Correspondence files which have been arranged by subject categories. These files usually relate to issues confronting the city government or activities of particular departments of the city government.

Boxes 086-090

Notebook collections of information of various topics, which served as briefing books, which kept Wheeler apprised of the latest information on a variety of topics of interest to the city or to his medical practice.

Boxes 095-098

Obligation notebooks consisting of thank you letters to Wheeler in response to his various activities and public appearances.

Boxes 099-101

Press conferences and press statements made by or released by Wheeler for the period 1971-1978.

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Box 102

Speeches delivered by Wheeler. This box also includes invitations to Wheeler to deliver speeches and indications that he would indeed speak. Speech texts are not available for all of Wheeler's speeches.

Boxes 103-110

City Council Dockets, 1971-1979

Boxes 111-118

City Council Proceedings, 1970-1979

Boxes 119

City Council miscellaneous papers

Boxes 120-124

Miscellaneous

Volumes 1-14

Scrapbooks and photograph albums

Biographical Sketch

Charles Bertan Wheeler, Jr. was born in Kansas City, Missouri, on August 10, 1926. After receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Louisville in 1946, Wheeler entered the University of Kansas Medical School and graduated in 1950. He served as a flight surgeon in the United States Air Force during the Korean War and afterwards, returned to Kansas City to begin work as a pathologist. He attended evening classes at the University of Kansas City Law School and earned a Juris Doctor degree in 1959.

Wheeler entered the world of elected politics as a successful candidate for Jackson County Coroner in 1964. After his initial victory in the political arena, Wheeler ran for, and was elected to, the office of Western Judge of the Jackson County Court and held office for two terms. Following a primary election defeat for the post of Presiding Judge of the Jackson County Court in 1970, Wheeler opted to run for Mayor of Kansas City, Missouri. In 1971, he was successful and held the post for two terms.

Following his defeat for reelection in 1979, Wheeler returned to his position as Director of the Wheeler Medical Laboratories in Kansas City, Missouri.

Donor Information

The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Charles B. Wheeler, Jr. on March 23, 1979 (Accession No. KA0001). An addition was made on November 12, 2013 (Accession No. KA2169). An addition was made on May 1, 2014 (Accession No. KA2216).

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The Donor has given and assigned to the University all rights of copyright, which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

Location Note

The collection is stored offsite and will need to be retrieved before viewing.

Box List

Box 001

Western Judge, correspondence and miscellaneous files, no date

Box 002

Western Judge, correspondence and miscellaneous files, no date

Box 003

Scheduling, April-August 1971

Box 004

Scheduling, September-November 1971

Box 005

Scheduling, December 1971-February 1972

Box 006

Scheduling, March-April 1972

Box 007

Scheduling, May-July 1972

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Scheduling, August-October 1972

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Scheduling, November 1972-January 1973

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Scheduling, February-April 1973

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Scheduling, May-June 1973

Box 012

Scheduling, July-September 1973

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Scheduling, October-November 1973

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Scheduling, December 1973-January 1974

Box 015

Scheduling, February-March 1974

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Scheduling, March 1974-April 1974

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Scheduling, March 28, 1974, May 1974-June 8, 1974

Box 018

Scheduling, June 9-July 1974

Box 019

Scheduling, August-September 1974

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Scheduling, November-December 1974

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Scheduling, March-April 1975

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Scheduling, April-May 1975

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Scheduling, August-September 20, 1975

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Scheduling, September 21, 1975-October 17, 1975

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Scheduling, October 18, 1975-November 1975

Box 029

Scheduling, December 1975-January 1976

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Scheduling, February-March 17, 1976

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Scheduling, March 18, 1976-April 1976

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Scheduling, April-May 1976

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Scheduling, June 1976

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Scheduling, July-August 17, 1976

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Scheduling, August 18-September 21, 1976

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Scheduling, September 22-October 23, 1976

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Scheduling, October 24–November 19, 1976

Box 038

Scheduling, January 18-March 15, 1977

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Scheduling, March 16-April 30, 1977

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Scheduling, July-September 15, 1977

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Scheduling, September 16-October 1977

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Scheduling, November-December 1977

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Scheduling, January-February 1978

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Scheduling, March-April 1978

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Scheduling, May-June 1978

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Scheduling, July-September 15, 1978

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Scheduling, November-December 1978

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Scheduling, January-February 1979

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Correspondence, Narcotics and Drug Abuse, 1972-1973

Correspondence, Department of Commerce, 1975, 1976

Planning Grant Funding, Employment and Training Consortium Administration, 1977

Proposal Northeast Owl Center, 1975

Appraisal Folly Theatre 1974

Hill-Burton Grant Application for Neighborhood Health Center, 1975

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Correspondence A-E, 1971-1975

f. 1 Allied Services Project

f. 2 Alternative Futures Program, steering committee

f. 3 American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Local #500

f. 4 Area Transit Authority

f. 5 Arterbery, Karl

f. 6 Baker, Bruce

f. 7 Bittner, E.L.

f. 8 Breeze, George

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- f. 11 Benton, Rita (Mrs. Thomas Hart)
- f. 12 Benson, Arthur A. II
- f. 13 Burke, Jim
- f. 14 Bumpers, Dale (Arkansas Governor)
- f. 15 Bauman, Edward J.
- f. 16 Carpenter, Shirley
- f. 17 Carnes, William Kenneth, Sheriff Patrol Headquarters
- f. 18 Caudle, Don (TWA)
- f. 19 Christy, John G.
- f. 20 Cusick, Leo
- f. 21 Curran, Kevin E., M.D.
- f. 22 Curran, Dr. Charles (Chuck)
- f. 23 Crawford, H.R. (HUD)
- f. 24 Coulson, Fred
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- f. 26 Corzo, Guillermo
- f. 27 Cortina, Don Pedro
- f. 28 Capital Improvements
- f. 29 Centropolis Crusher, Inc.
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- f. 31 Coro
- f. 32 Canizaro, Joseph (River Quay)
- f. 33 Central Industrial District Association
- f. 34 Community Development Act
- f. 35 Docking, Robert (Kansas Governor)
- f. 36 Donegan, George J.
- f. 37 DeMaria, Edith M.
- f. 38 Daw, John Lawrence
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- f. 45 Dimond, E. Grey
- f. 46 Dye, Lamar (Attorney)
- f. 47 Dial-A-Ride letters
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- f. 57 Drug Abuse Project
- f. 58 Drugs
- f. 59 Coordination of Drug Abuse Prevention Meeting
- f. 60 Economic Development Corporation
- f. 61 Emergency Employment Act Funds
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- f. 64-65 Energy Crisis, letters
- f. 66 Energy, letters from Federal officials
- f. 67 Ervin, Samuel J.

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Correspondence F-H, 1971-1975

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Miscellaneous materials, political, minority, enterprise project, 1975

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Correspondence, memos and reports, 1975-1977

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f. 2 Water Rate Committee, no date

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- f. 3 Information Directory for the City of Kansas City, Missouri, no date
- f. 4-5 Operations Committee, 1972-1974
- f. 6-7 Finance and Audit Committee, no date
- f. 8 Community Development, no date
- f. 9 Bob Gordon, Washington Assistant, correspondence and reports re: Federal activities,
no date
- f. 10-11 Planning and Zoning, no date

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Correspondence, Board, Commissions and Departments including rosters of members,
reports, and correspondence, no date

Box 066

Correspondence, Board, Commissions and Departments including rosters of members,
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Correspondence, Zoning and Plans Commission, no date

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Correspondence, Sports Complex construction, no date

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Correspondence

- f. 1 Convention Center, 1973
- f. 2 Convention Center Associates, 1973
- f. 3 Convention Center, 1974

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- f. 4 American Royal Arena Corporation, 1973-1977
- f. 5 American Royal Arena Corporation, meeting, April 15, 1975
- f. 6 American Royal Association, 1974
- f. 7 American Royal Arena, Edwin G. Thompson, 1975
- f. 8 Rich Ward letter, February 12, 1975
- f. 9 American Royal Arena, no date
- f. 10 American Royal Board, minutes, 1973-1976
- f. 11 Central Industrial District, 1973
- f. 12 Contracts, no date
- f. 13 Groundbreaking, April 14, 1973
- f. 14 Lawsuit, 1973
- f. 15 Tour information, 1973
- f. 16 Building and Operations Committee, 1973-1975
- f. 17 Contract change orders, 1974-1976
- f. 18 Potential exhibitors, 1973

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- f. 19 Parking facility, no date
- f. 20 J.E. Dunn Construction Co., April 1973
- f. 21 Insurance program, 1973
- f. 22 Clippings, no date
- f. 23 Correspondence, 1973
- f. 24 Meetings and minutes, 1973-1974
- f. 25 Notice of meetings, 1973-1974
- f. 26 Ordinances Resolutions, no date
- f. 27 Pro Forma Post Statement, no date
- f. 28 Progress estimates, no date
- f. 29 Revenue of Expense estimate, no date
- f. 30 Stearn Brothers and Co., 1974
- f. 31 Site selection and property purchase, no date
- f. 32 Sports arena, 1972-1973
- f. 33 Architectural plan (revised), convention center catering kitchen, 1974
- f. 34 Kemper Arena, seating proposal, 1973

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- f. 1 Board of Directors, minutes, agendas, notices, 1975-1976
- f. 2 Federal Highway Act, correspondence, 1974
- f. 3 Midland Transportation Associates, thank you letters, 1975
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- f. 6 Miscellaneous, women in military, 1974
 - Paseo toll bridge, 1972
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- f. 7 Correspondence, 1975
- f. 8-9 Letter promoting Kansas City to former University of Missouri students,
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Convention and Visitors Bureau

- f. 10-11 Letters inviting businesses to Kansas City, signed by Mayor Wheeler,
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- f. 12 Correspondence re: events, invitations to businesses, no date
- f. 13 USTS Foreign Travel Writers convention, June 30-July 5, 1972
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Correspondence, Model Cities, 1971-1972, 1975-1976

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Correspondence, seminars and conferences, correspondence and information related to seminars and conferences and materials received while attending seminars and conferences, no date

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Miscellaneous articles and information on schools, city taxes, University of Missouri-Kansas City, University of Central Missouri, Westport community, transportation and housing center proposal, 1971

Bulletins of educational institutions, information on the sports complex, business and industry, CATV, civic affairs, the fire department and health agencies, city council and city government, data processing, no date

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Notebooks, hospital and medical school, KCIA, Midtown Freeway and Model Cities,
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Miscellaneous publication, college and university bulletins and publications, no date
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Original Boxes 89 and 90 were combined to create Box 087

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Notebooks, obligations (S-Z), 1974- 1978

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City Council Dockets, June 1, 1973-January 4, 1974

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City Council Dockets, October 4, 1974-June 27, 1975

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City Council Dockets, July 17, 1975-June 24, 1975

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Correspondence to the Council from E. Richard Brenneman, 1977

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City Council Proceedings, November 25, 1970-September 17, 1971

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City Council Proceedings, March 14, 1974-December 27, 1974

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City Council Proceedings, January 3, 1975-November 26, 1975

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Miscellaneous, 11 video tapes relating to Wheeler's career in politics, no date

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f. 2 Photograph album two, no date

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- f. 2 v. 2, 1966
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- f. 5 v. 10, folder 1, 1977-1979
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- f. 9 Various items removed from scrapbooks, no date
- f. 10 Program, Loose Memorial Park, May 30, 1942
 - “Greater Kansas City Medical Bulletin”, March 4, 1967
 - Various articles, March 25, 1967, January 21, 1967
 - Kansas City Star illustration by Sanders re: Jackson County Sheriff’s Office and budget cuts
 - “Dreams of a Greater Kansas City”, *Kansas City Star*, September 9, 1951

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- f. 2 Correspondence, 1950-1953
- f. 3 Correspondence, 1951
- f. 4 Scrapbook, Marjorie Martin, July 1934
- f. 5 Martin Family Vacation, 1959
- f. 6 Gordon Wheeler, Birth Certificate, Grade Cards, Childhood Artwork, no date
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- f. 8 Graham Wheeler, Diploma, Grade Cards, Childhood Correspondence, Pictures, etc., no date
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- f. 10 Mark Wheeler, Correspondence, Grade Cards, Childhood through Naval Academy, 1960’s-1970’s
- f. 11 Mark’s Correspondence, 1970’s
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- f. 14 Memorial Service for Mark Wheeler, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, January 25, 1988
- f. 15 Condolence Letters for Mark, 1988, and Gordon, 2000
- f. 16 Photographs, Real Estate Papers, Family Correspondence, no date
- f. 17 Greeting Cards, Correspondence, no date
- f. 18 Articles, Correspondence, 2005
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- f. 23 1411 Main Street, Articles and Grimaldi Correspondence, 2005
- f. 24 Events and Email Correspondence, no date

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f. 25 Correspondence, Americans for Balanced Energy Choices, 2007

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- f. 3 Nina, etc., no date
- f. 4-5 Nina and Mark, no date
- f. 6 Scrapbook Contents: Photographs of Dwayne, Nina, and Mark, no date
- f. 7 Martin Family, Colorado, 1959
- f. 8 Martin Family, Uncle Carl and Aunt Elsa, no date
- f. 9 Martin Family, The Cricket, Memorial Service, no date
- f. 10 Martin Family, Aunt Edna, Anne, Turin Cousins, Ruth, Ruby, no date
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- f. 17-21 Family Photographs, 1990's-2000's
- f. 22-23 Photographs, clippings, no date
- f. 24 Scrapbook Contents, Photographs, Charles Wheeler, Medical School, Air Force, Marjorie Martin, Nursing School, Nursing Certificate, Family Photos, no date
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- f. 2 Event photographs, Great Midwest Corporation, World Trade Week, 1972
- f. 3 Charles Wheeler Senior Funeral Guestbook, 1976
- f. 4 Funeral Programs and Clippings
- f. 5 Speaking Notes
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- f. 8 Charles Wheeler Curriculum Vitae, MCC Telephone Directory, 2000
- f. 9 Harp and Shamrock Club
- f. 10 Humanitarian of the Year Award, 2011, Women of United Kansas City
- f. 11 St. Paul's Episcopal Day School Children's Material, 1980-1986
- f. 12 New Orleans Vacation, Antoine's Restaurant Menu, New Orleans Map and Guide, 1980, Les Vieux Chenes de Lafayette Golf Score Cards, 1980
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- f. 20 Global and Multi-Cultural Center United Nations Day Master File Listing,
no date
- f. 21 "Doctor's Dilemma," Act 1, no date
- f. 22 Composition Notebook, "Every Couple", no date
- f. 23 Financial and Real Estate, no date
- f. 24 "By the People, America in the World", no date
- f. 25 Western Gas Processors, Royals, no date
- f. 26 Nancy J. Loman v. M.A.S.T., no date
- f. 27 Buttons, no date
- f. 28 Artifacts, Medals, button, Copper Plate, Collar Stays, no date
- f. 29 Helping Hand and Goodwill Industries, 2006
- f. 30 Plaque, Marjorie Wheeler, "Mental Health Citizen of the Year," 1981
- f. 31 Plaque, Gates BBQ Charity Golf Tournament, no date
- f. 32 Inter-Department Communication, downtown "User Parks," August 18,
1977, to Mayor Charles B. Wheeler, Jr. from Patti Browne, Municipal Art
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- f. 6 Photographs of Charles Wheeler, no date
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- f. 8 Newspaper Clippings, 1990's
- f. 9 Booklets and Publications, Masonic and Kansas City related materials, no
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- f. 13 Newspapers, articles, no date
- f. 14 Clippings, Election, 1975, Campaign Reform Law, 1975
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- f. 18 Photocopies of awards and plaques, no date
- Item 1 "Lucky Bag 1973," United States Naval Academy, 1973
- Item 2 Photograph Album, no date
- Item 3 "Doctor in Politics: The Campaign and the Election", no date
- Item 4 "Hospital Hill: An Illustrated Account of Public Healthcare Institutions,
Kansas City, Missouri", no date

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Audio and Video Recordings

Compact Discs

- Kansas City Choc Fest, 2005
- Wheeler for Executive, 2006
- Honoring Senator Charles Wheeler, no date

Audio Cassettes

- "Our Global Gestalt" April 1997 (2)

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KU Radio Sports, Fall 1998
Charles Wheeler, WHB Interview, World Food Day, August, 11, 1998
October 16, 1999
Charlie Wheeler KMZU/WHB, Charlie Wheeler, no date

VHS

The History Speaks Project, Charles Wheeler, February 13, 2002
KC Week in Review, August, 11, 2002
Charles B. Wheeler Downtown Airport, December 20, 2001
James R. Moody Report, no date

Film

Wheeler for Mayor, KMBC (2 boxes) 1983
Mayor's Inaugural Program, April 10, 1971
Unidentified Film Reels (8), no date

Scrapbooks and Photograph Albums

Vol. 1 Scrapbook, 1964

Collected congratulatory letters and newspaper clippings relating to all aspects of Wheeler's campaign for election to the office of Jackson County Coroner. Also includes clippings related to reform of the Coroner's office such as salary, locations, and laboratories for example. Information on blood banks and an anti-trust law is also discussed.

Vol. 2 Scrapbook, 1966

This scrapbook contains newspaper clippings covering the Democratic candidates for the 1966 local and county elections. Includes articles on the Clint Kanaga Jr. campaign, George Lehr, Charles Curry, Alex M. Petrovic, Harlan Moody Murry, and Charles Wheeler campaigns. Tax money wasted by the government is incorporated, March 20, 1966-January 2, 1967.

Vol. 3 Scrapbook, 1967

Newspaper clippings discussing the political issues Charles Curry, presiding judge, Alex Petrovic, eastern judge, and Charles Wheeler, western judge of Missouri were involved with. Harry S. Truman's 83rd birthday and the political battle between the three judges and Sheriff Arvid (Hippo) Owsley are also included.

Vol. 4 Scrapbook, 1968

Newspaper clippings discussing Jackson County politics. Items of interest include the death of Robert F. Kennedy, Sr., April riots, the 1968 campaigns and elections, and the new stadium proposal, June 3, 1968-December 31, 1968.

Vol. 5 Scrapbook, 1969

Newspaper clippings related to Wheeler's service as Western Judge for Jackson County. A few of the items discussed are the stadium, various taxes, the argument between the legislature and Governor Hearn, various other politicians, the Black Panther Party, the stand-off between Judge Alex Petrovic, Judge Charles Curry, and Judge Charles Wheeler, ambulance services, and the Missouri school district, January-June 1969.

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Vol. 6 Scrapbook, 1969

Newspaper clippings related to Wheeler's service as Western Judge for Jackson County. A few of the items discussed are the stadium, various taxes, the argument between the legislature and Governor Hearnese, various other politicians, the Black Panther Party, the stand-off between Judge Alex Petrovic, Judge Charles Curry, and Judge Charles Wheeler, ambulance services, the Missouri school district, drug problems, Hospital Hill, welfare problems, and the New City Plan, June-December 1969.

Vol. 7 Scrapbook, 1976

Personal scrapbook of newspaper clippings. Includes information on unions, "fattened" public pensions, Bartle Hall, Wheeler as Mayor of Kansas City, Wheeler's race for Senate, and Wheeler's personal image, January-December 1976.

Vol. 8 Scrapbook, 1976

Newspaper clippings related to the following subjects, the War on Poverty, the U.S. Corps of Engineers, the Hard Hat War, American Women, Neighborhoods, Spotlight on Parenting, Consumer Complaints and the Ford Conference.

Vol. 9 Scrapbook, 1977

Kansas City Flood, September 1977

Vol. 10 Scrapbook, 1977-1979

Includes letters at the time of Wheeler's defeat for reelection to Mayor's office. Also discussed is Proposition 13, cloning (test-tube babies), neighborhoods, schools, health, U.S. Department of Health, education, and welfare (HEW), Brookside, city construction, planning and revitalization, Taiwan and the United States, Freedom Inc., Human Resources Corporation Program (HRC), libraries, Bruce Rice, Housing and Urban Development (HUD), 1980 GOP Convention, Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), ambulance services, 911 telephone service, and American Cablevision.

Vol. 11 Scrapbook, 1979

Newspaper clippings and material related to the race for Kansas City Mayor. Includes articles on Charles Wheeler, Bruce Watkins, Richard Berkley, and Joel Pelofsky, 1979.

Oversize

- x. 1 Poster, framed color poster "How to Build a Winner"
- x. 2 "Kansas City's Year," framed print of the 1972 Southwestern Bell Telephone Directory Cover
- x. 3 Rapid Transit, Kansas City, structural design concept by Earl D. Bishop, P. E., concerning the KCATA Metroplan, Project INT-T9-6, for rapid transit service in Kansas City
- x. 4 Certificates, 22 certificates given to Wheeler in recognition of speeches and services rendered, and proclamations signed by the Mayor
- x. 5 Photographs, 13 oversized photographs of Wheeler at various public events and with various personalities

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- x. 6 Photographs. 4 photographs of public buildings in Kansas City and 3 presentations by Marshall and Brown, architects, relating to transit routes in Kansas City

Flatbox 001

Scrapbook, clippings, articles, 1983
Harry Truman Tribute Luncheon and Related Materials, 1984-1989
Harry Truman Portrait, no date
University of Kansas School of Medicine Class of 1950, 1950
Horse Illustrations, no date
Kiwanis Pancake Day, proclamation, March 15, 1973
Wheeler Site Plan, Auditorium Garage, no date
Map of Offensive in Vietnam, Kansas City Star, February 6, 1968
Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Bicentennial Celebration, no date
Clippings from "The Independent" Sept. 2, 1978
March of Dimes Certificate of Appreciation to Marjorie Wheeler, June 5, 1978
"The New Stanley," October 17, 1976
Resolution honoring Charles Wheeler for Service as Chairman of Fairness in Construction Board, no date
United States Marine Corps 210th Birthday Ball, Guest of Honor Dr. Charles B. Wheeler, 1985
Meritorious Service, Marjorie Wheeler, MCC, 1976
Certificate from the Missouri State Board of the Healing Arts, no date
Poetic License, no date
Marjorie Wheeler Artistic Renderings, no date
Certificate of Qualification from the American Board of Pathology, 1936
Certificate to Practice Medicine and Surgery, 1950
Portrait of Charles Wheeler, no date
Juris Doctor Degree from University of Missouri, 1959
Bachelor of Arts, University of Louisville, 1946
Graduate Nurse Degree, University of Kansas, 1949

Box 130x3

Roll 1 Aerial photographic Map
Location Clay County, Missouri
Designer Unknown
Date 1964

Roll 2 Kansas City International Airport, dedication
Location Kansas City, Missouri
Architect Kivett and Myers
Date 1972

Roll 3 Map of Jackson County, Agricultural Potential and Urban Area
Location Jackson County, Missouri
Designer Unknown
Date 1974

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Roll 4 Concept Drawing for Downtown "User Parks"
Location Kansas City, Missouri
Architect City Development Department
Date 1975

Roll 5 Downtown User Parks, A Prototype
Location Kansas City, Missouri
Architect City Development Department
Date 1976