Primary Source Material on Business & Industry*

in Special Collections and Archives

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*This is a selected list of resources from our holdings. For a comprehensive list of materials in Special Collections, please consult the Regional History and the University Archives Collections Guides
Pamphlet (12p) entitled “The Truth About Mississippi County Told with Fancy’s Aid,” reprinting the report by Abernathy, a business efficiency expert from New York, distributed by the Southeast Missouri Agricultural Bureau, promoting the improvement and development of the region’s farmland.

Illustrated booklet (12p) celebrating 75th anniversary of the Bank of Perryville, providing a history of the bank, a list of officers and directors since 1891 and staff in 1966.

Bird’s Landing Warehouse Ledger and Record Book (Microfilm), 1830-1835. 2 Reels. 1998.028.
Microfilm copies of the ledger and record book from Bird’s Landing Warehouse in Cairo [Ill].

Bradford Papers, Malakiah, 1836-1866. 2 items. 1998.068.
Transcript (41 pages, 2 copies) of legal and personal papers of Bradford, a Southern businessman from Baton Rouge [LA] who owned property in Cape Girardeau, including an interest in the Johnson House.

Photographs (58), photo albums (3), postcards (7), and other documents collected by the Brase Family over the years. Also includes the baby book of Richard Brase, son of prominent Cape Girardeau businessman and philanthropist, A.C. Brase, news clippings about A. C. Brase, and a marriage record book.

Records of the milling orders for the Burfordville Mill in Burfordville, Missouri for 1900-1901.

Advertisement for the Cape Girardeau Business College discussing its location, history and curriculum.

Souvenir pocket directory (16p) containing a subject listing of “reliable” businesses in the city of Cape Girardeau, showing locations, with advertisements for local merchants. A one-page narrative essay provides an overview of the business life of the city.

Cape Girardeau Business Inventory, 1956. 1 item. 2001.039.
Photocopied typescript (14p) of alphabetical subject listing of all businesses and industries in Cape Girardeau in 1956.

Bound volume and one loose issue of magazine published monthly by the Chamber of Commerce, December 1929-December 1930. December 1929 was charter issue.

Cape Girardeau Electric Light and Water Works Plant Ledgers, 1902-1923. 2 items. 2006.020.
Ledgers of the plant formed in 1894 and reorganized in 1903, showing the accounts of customers, commercial and private.

Occupational and Industrial survey published by the Missouri State Employment Service, showing comprehensive results of an intensive study of job opportunities open to working youth of the community, 1941; and Industrial Economic survey prepared by the Chamber of Commerce, 1960.

Cape Girardeau-Jackson Interurban Railway Papers, 1913-1951. 0.5 linear feet 1998.076.
Photocopies of the legal applications made by the Cape Girardeau-Jackson Interurban Railway Company to the Public Service Commission of the State of Missouri.
Bound illustrated report (15p) outlining four options for airport expansion, with general information on area population and industry; two pamphlets (undated) regarding municipal airport bond issue; and 1956 letter from Lt. W. C. Irving, United States Naval Reserve to Felix Snider, regarding training center at Harris Field, Municipal Airport. *Oversized

Commemorative stamp from dedication of airport with letter regarding significance of stamp.

Report (15p) outlining city’s sources of revenue and its expenditures, and letter from Mayor F. A. Kage to council discussing challenges faced by city.

Cape Girardeau Surveyor’s Notebook, 1925. 1 item. 2001.060.
Bound volume (45p) with survey notes and sketches of residential and commercial properties in Cape Girardeau. Surveyor is not identified.

Carroll Manuscript, Frank, undated. 1 item. 2002.068.
Photocopied typescript (3p) possibly by William [Kaempfer], City Clerk, Cape Girardeau, regarding Frank Carroll, an African-American food vendor in the city.

Clippings Collection, 1871-2001. 12.0 linear feet. 2007.204.
Consists of newspaper clippings, from a variety of sources, on topics relating to the history of southeast Missouri and the surrounding region. Clippings are arranged by subject.

Colonial Tavern Pamphlet, circa 1940. 1 item. 2006.114.
Illustrated pamphlet advertising the services offered at Simpson’s Colonial Tavern, a service station and restaurant that opened in the 1940s in Cape Girardeau.

Evans Scrapbook, Kenneth, 1932-1934. 1 item. 2007.179.
Series of newspaper clippings from the Southeast Missourian by Evans on Cape Girardeau businesses and the surrounding area. Includes news clippings on the Depression and relief efforts.

Illustrated booklets prepared for the 25th, 40th and 43rd anniversaries of the Cape Girardeau bank. Provides information on the bank’s history, its staff and directors.

Typed manuscript (3p) by Ferguson on the history of Cape Girardeau business schools from 1904 to 1954, including the Cape Girardeau Business College, the Southeast Missouri Commercial College, Steimle Business School, and the Cape Girardeau Office Training School.

Illustrated pamphlets commemorating the 50th and 60th anniversaries of the bank, with historical notes (8p) on the bank and its leaders.

Microfilm copies of the bills of lading, shipping documents of receipt, for Sand Bar Landing [Il] from March 29, 1893-May 8, 1895.

Personal, business and legal correspondence, financial and legal papers, school, church and genealogical records, scrapbooks, photographs, postcards, and artifacts from the four allied families of Friend, Bollinger, Heise and Heldermon of Southeast Missouri. The Friends were a pioneering family in Scott County, first settling there in 1796, near Benton.
Photocopied typescript (14p) by Gaines entitled “South Spanish Street: I Remember it Well,” about his
boyhood growing up on this Cape Girardeau street, in which he recounts the home and businesses located
along Spanish between Independence and Morgan Oak Streets. Accompanied by photocopied newspaper
clipping from Southeast Missourian pertaining to Gaines’ remembrances, which were printed in the
newspaper.

Gerhardt Construction Company Payroll Ledgers, 1921-1937.  3 items.  2006.120.

Maps, photographs, slides, scrapbooks, pamphlets, newspaper clippings, publications and ephemera
collected by the Historical Association of Greater Cape Girardeau, Inc., and formerly housed in the historic
D. A. Glenn House Library. Collection documents regional history, primarily personalities, historic homes
and sites, churches, schools, businesses, clubs, and a broad spectrum of Southeast Missouri regional
history, culture and life. *Oversized

Harbinger was a monthly magazine published by the Missouri Division of Commerce and Industrial
Development. This issue, Volume II, Number 6, has articles on Cape Girardeau (pgs 14-31), discussing the
city, industry, and the arts.

Legal documents concerning the acquisition and disposition of land by the H&H Lumber Company of
Southeast Missouri, including deeds, warrants, and leases to lands in southeast Missouri and Arkansas.
Additional records include contracts and correspondence with railroad companies, material on the Little
River Drainage project, documents concerning the construction of the Himmelberger-Harrison building in
Cape Girardeau, and correspondence with other businesses. The records primarily are arranged by county.

Houck Manuscript, Louis, undated.  1 item.  2004.121.
Photocopied typed manuscript (80p) of reminiscences of Southeast Missouri railroad entrepreneur, Houck.
Original owned by Andy and Jeanette Juden. Photocopying not permitted.

Houck Papers, Louis and Giboney, 1886-1943.  172.0 linear feet.  1988.001.
Correspondence, business and legal papers of Louis Houck, Southeast Missouri railroad entrepreneur, and
his son, Giboney, a partner in his father’s business ventures and member of the Missouri House of
Representatives (1919). Some political papers relating to Giboney Houck are included, as well as business
ledgers, maps, and artifacts. *Oversized

Houck Papers Accretion, Louis, 1843-1950.  6.5 linear feet + 48 items.  2001.044.
Correspondence, maps, business and railroad papers, court records, artifacts and ephemera, from the
various business ventures of Houck, Southeast Missouri railroad entrepreneur and opponent of the Little
River Drainage project. *Oversized

Materials published about Louis Houck, Southeast Missouri railroad entrepreneur, including a newsclipping,
pamphlet, and speeches.

Bound volume (54p) of newspaper clippings from Louis Houck’s “Reminiscences” series, originally
published in the Southeast Missourian between April and June 1969.

Program from dinner honoring company’s 50th anniversary and the Cape Girardeau Sesquicentennial, May
8, 1956. Lists company executives.
Legal documents relating to the case of United States vs. Iska Carmack, regarding the federal government’s right to seize part of Court House Park in the City of Cape Girardeau for use as a Post Office. Also in the collection are the Dixie Haven Garage, Inc. Articles of Incorporation and documents on the case of the Board of Trustees of the Hannibal Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church vs. J.E Taylor, Missouri Attorney General.

Collection of materials collected by Donald and Rubye Kraft. Includes ephemera from Donald B. Kraft’s days as a student at Southeast Missouri State Teachers College (1938-1939), V-Mail correspondence from World War II, Armed Forces editions of Newsweek and the Boston Herald, and late 19th century Cape Girardeau ephemera. Also includes a typed manuscript (34p) entitled “Der Amerikanish Traum (The American Dream): A Profile of a Hessian Immigrant in Cape Girardeau, 1855-1888,” by Don Kraft. Regarding the life of Adam Kraft, owner of Kraft Bakery in Cape Girardeau, and his relationships with other local businessmen. With biographical profiles, bibliography and copied photographs. Additionally there are 36 Hindu and Buddhist religious and cultural artifacts and 9 Holograph letters and documents in French.

Three volumes of records for the A.D. Leech Company, a general store and later a cotton market, located at 102 North Main in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

The Lueders Studio Collection spans seventy years of commercial photographic work by Herbert Lueders and his sons, Paul and John. Lueders Studio, located at 427 Broadway, began operations in the 1920s. Paul Lueders earned national fame as a Master Retoucher, turning photographs into fine art. The Lueders Collection is a “who's who” of Southeast Missouri, containing images of local people, families, politicians, businesses and events. People from all walks of life came from the surrounding area to sit for portraits. After the studio closed in 1995, John Lueders donated the collection to Southeast Missouri State University.

Copies of Cementopics, the newsletter of the Marquette Cement Company, with articles in each issue featuring Cape Girardeau. Also includes a program from a June 1957 recognition dinner.

Millner, Louise R. Sparks Collection, 1941-1986. 21 items. 2008.014.
Newspaper clippings, correspondence, and other materials relating to the life of Louise R. Sparks Millner, a prominent African-American businesswoman of Southeast Missouri. Millner owned and operated the Sparks Funeral Homes of Cape Girardeau and Sikeston, Mo for 48 years, and was an active member of the community, focusing especially on the educational needs of children.

Directory (72p) printed by the Democrat [Charleston, Mo] providing information on historical milestones in the county, the soil, climate, levees and roads, agricultural production, business and industry, population, the judicial system, county school teachers, and an almanac for 1896. Information is provided for all communities in Mississippi County.

Missourian Printing & Stationary Company 10th Anniversary Booklet, 1930. 1 item. 2007.061.
Missourian Printing & Stationary Company started off as an offshoot of Naeter Brothers Publishing Company in 1920. By 1930, they had expanded and occupied a shop at the corner of Broadway and Lorimer St. in Cape Girardeau. They served as a print shop, stationary store, mail advertisement service organization, and a book and magazine publisher. This booklet celebrates their 10th anniversary and contains pictures and descriptions of the business, including machinery, offices, and personnel. *Oversized

Moonbeams, 1972. 2 items. 2002.239.
Magazine for employees of Proctor & Gamble Technical Buildings, with illustrated article on “Cape Girardeau: All America City,” (April 1972).
Mulkey Collection, Patty, 1857-1996. 27.0 linear feet. 1997.001.
Mulkey was a teacher in Southeastern Missouri for many years and helped found the River Heritage Museum in Cape Girardeau. The collection consists of sheet music, music books, news clippings, over 250 photographs, scrapbooks, ledgers, and correspondence.

Correspondence, scrapbooks, business and legal papers, ephemera, postcards, and photographs of the Owen, McCutchen, and Merritt families, who were connected by marriage and were influential, early settlers in the Campbell and Four Mile, Missouri communities in Dunklin County. The families owned and operated local businesses including a mercantile company and the Bank of Campbell, and were active in local politics. *Oversized.

Accumulation of historic postcards from Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, and surrounding areas.

Prints illustrated by St. Louis, Missouri artist Siegfried Reinhardt for the 1984 book the Man who Fenced the West, about barbed wired inventor and entrepreneur William Edenborn. The prints include images of Edenborn, his family, and residences, and of his business partner John W. Gates.

Sanborn Maps (Microform), 1884-1992. 23 rolls + 130 cards.
Large scale maps for cities in Missouri, Arkansas and Kentucky, produced by the Sanborn Map Company of Pelham, New York, originally for use by fire insurance companies and underwriters. Maps show the size, shape and construction of residential and commercial buildings, and indicate the presence of fire walls, sprinklers, windows and doors, and indicate roofing and construction material. Additionally, they provide street names and widths, house and block numbers, property boundaries, and building use.

Legal and financial papers, ledgers and photographs of Seehausen, owner of Seehausen’s Sanitary Meat Market in Cape Girardeau (637 Broadway) and of a butcher shop on North Sprigg.

Printed and bound poem (20p) entitled “Story in Rhyme of Cape Girardeau, Missouri and its People,” by Smith, printed as a “Twentieth Century Souvenir” celebrating the business people of the community.

Southeast Missouri-Northeast Arkansas Agricultural and Industrial Survey, 1953. 1 item. 2001.075.
Illustrated booklet (60p) distributed by the First National Bank, Blytheville, Arkansas, presenting composite sketches of the agricultural and industrial production of individual counties in Northeastern Arkansas and the Missouri bootheel, including Pemiscot, New Madrid, Mississippi, Dunklin, Stoddard, and Scott.

Southeast Missouri Telephone Company Scrapbook, 1931-1934. 1 item. 2007.173.
Newspaper clippings chronicling the company’s move into its new office at Broadway and Ellis in 1930 and relating a history of the company. Arranged chronologically. Articles and photographs relating to the Southeast Missouri Telephone Company’s headquarters building, employee profiles, and general information.

Southeast Missourian Pamphlet Collection, circa 1921-1954. 11 items. 1998.159.
Illustrated pamphlets published by Cape Girardeau newspaper Southeast Missourian promoting the paper, its printing services and the town, including anniversary publications for the newspaper’s 25th anniversary of ownership by the Naeters and its 50th anniversary.

Sturdivant Bank Ledgers, 1854-1890. 6 items + 1 folder. 2002.045.
Checkbook registers, signature books, daily records for loans, and other records for the Branch Bank or the State of Missouri (Sturdivant Bank) in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.
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Records of items shipped on different steamboats for Col. Robert Sturdivant's merchandise business for 1856-1857.

Booklet (31p) from the Telephone Pioneers of America, telling about the company and the history of the telephone in Southeast Missouri. Booklet (12p) entitled "The Telephone Comes to St. Louis" which tells of the first 20 years of the telephone in St. Louis, along with a letter from Southwestern Bell gifting the booklet to Kent Library.

Typed manuscript (4p) prepared under supervision of L. A. Perret concerning the history of telephone service in Southeast Missouri; and typed manuscript (1p) with statistics concerning Southwestern Bell Telephone Company employment and service in Cape Girardeau, May 1956.

Financial and legal papers, publications, ephemera, photographs, and ledgers documenting the furniture and undertaking business established by August Walther in Cape Girardeau in 1864, and owned by three generations of Walthers before its sale in 1979 to Tom Boudinot.

Commercial and residential directory (14p) for Cape Girardeau. Households are arranged alphabetically, occupations and residences of householders are provided. Commercial section is arranged by occupational area. Please use photocopy in ready reference area of reading room. Original is fragile.

Menu from popular Cape Girardeau, [Mo] restaurant (1942-1997) showing selections and prices.