

Kansas City, Missouri

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[Here is a brief history from the Wiki ~ And This from the old KC Files](#)

[Note: Transcription below from old KC File, No Source is quoted]

Kansas City History

The beginning...

Kansas City, Missouri, was incorporated as a town on June 1, 1850, and as a city on March 28, 1853. The territory, straddling the border between Missouri and Kansas at the confluence of the Kansas and Missouri rivers, was considered a good place to build settlements.

After the 1804 Louisiana Purchase, Lewis and Clark visited the confluence of the Kansas and Missouri rivers, noting it was a good place to build a fort. In 1831, a group of Mormons from New York settled in what would become the city. They built the first school within Kansas City's current boundaries, but were forced out by mob violence in 1833, and their settlement remained vacant.

In 1833 John McCoy, son of Baptist missionary Isaac McCoy, established West Port along the Santa Fe Trail, 3 miles away from the river. In 1834 McCoy established Westport Landing on a bend in the Missouri to serve as a landing point for West Port. Soon after, the Kansas Town Company, a group of investors, began to settle the area, taking their name from an English spelling of "Cansez." The 1837 Great Plains smallpox epidemic, which began when a ship carrying an infected person landed at Fort Leavenworth, a short distance to the north, devastated Plains Indian villages along the Missouri River, while white settlements were still sparse.

In 1850, the landing area was incorporated as the Town of Kansas. By that time, the Town of Kansas, Westport, and nearby Independence, had become critical points in the westward expansion of the United States. Three major trails – the Santa Fe, California, and Oregon – all passed through Jackson County.

On February 22, 1853, the City of Kansas was created with a newly elected mayor. It had an area of 0.70 square miles and a population of 2,500. The boundary lines at that time extended from the middle of the Missouri River south to what is now Ninth Street, and from Bluff Street on the west to a point between Holmes Road and Charlotte Street on the east.

Civil War and after

During the Civil War, the city and its immediate surroundings were the focus of intense military activity. Although the First Battle of Independence in August 1862 resulted in a Confederate States Army victory, the Confederates were unable to leverage their win in any significant fashion, as Kansas City was occupied by Union troops and proved too heavily fortified to assault. The Second Battle of Independence, which occurred on October 21–22, 1864, as part of Sterling Price's Missouri expedition of 1864, also resulted in a Confederate triumph. Once again their victory proved hollow, as Price was decisively defeated in the pivotal Battle of Westport the next day, effectively ending Confederate efforts to regain Missouri.

General Thomas Ewing, in response to a successful raid on nearby Lawrence, Kansas, led by

William Quantrill, issued General Order No. 11, forcing the eviction of residents in four western Missouri counties – including Jackson – except those living in the city and nearby communities and those whose allegiance to the Union was certified by Ewing.

Kansas City, guided by architect George Kessler, became a forefront example of the City Beautiful movement, offering a network of boulevards and parks. New neighborhoods, like Southmoreland and the Rockhill District were conceived to accommodate the city's largest residencies of palatial proportions.

Kansas City's suburban development began with a streetcar system in the early decades of the 20th century. The city's first suburbs were in the neighborhoods of Pendleton Heights and Quality Hill. After World War II, many relatively affluent residents left for suburbs in Johnson County, Kansas, and eastern Jackson County, Missouri. Many also went north of the Missouri River, where Kansas City had incorporated areas between the 1940s and 1970s.

From 2007 to 2017, downtown residential population in Kansas City quadrupled and continues to grow. The area has grown from almost 4,000 residents in the early 2000s to nearly 30,000 as of 2017. Kansas City's downtown ranks as the 6th-fastest-growing downtown in America with the population expected to grow by more than 40% by 2022. Conversions of office buildings such as the Power & Light Building and the Commerce Bank Tower into residential and hotel space has helped to fulfill the demand. New apartment complexes like One, Two, and Three Lights, River Market West, and 503 Main have begun to reshape Kansas City's skyline. Strong demand has led to occupancy rates in the upper 90%.

Source Unknown - Former CC Transcribed it, but did not include the source.



Books: Biographies

Kansas City, Missouri
Its History and Its People: 1800=1908
By Carrie Westlake Whitney
Illustrated Vol. II
Chicago
THE S. J. Clarke Publishing Co.
1908

[Vol 1 - Every Name Index](#)

Vol's 2 & 3 have Biographies and Indexes

[Volume II Index](#)~ [Volume III Index](#)

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Missouri Centennial
Kansas City, October 3, 1921
[Biographical Sketch: William Patterson Borland, Pgs 47-50](#)

Published under auspices of
Missouri Valley Historical Society
Kansas City, MO.

Missouri Day, October Third
Price \$1.00

Here is a collection of Books and Indexes for Missouri. [\[Google Drive\]](#)

The History of Jackson County, Missouri
Containing
A History of the County, its Cities, Towns, Etc.,
Biographical Sketches....
Illustrated
Kansas City, MO.:
Union Historical Company,
Birdsall, Williams & Co: 1881
There is no Index
Chapter VI "Old Settlers" Pg 131
Chapters on Kansas City Ch's V, Pg 395 - Ch XVIII, Pg 612

Biographical: Kansas City Pgs 734 - 807
A - C: Pgs 734 - 792 ~ D - F: Pgs 792 - 805
G - J: Pgs 805 - 836 ~ K - M: Pgs 837 - 866
N - R: Pgs 867 - 883 ~ S - Z: Pgs 883 - 917
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[The American Civil War in Missouri](#)
[Digitized Newspapers from the Civil War Era](#)
[Plat Maps](#) ~ [Digital Library of Missouri](#)
[Interactive Atlas](#) ~ [David Rumsey Collection](#)
Note: The Rumsey Collection now has a 'Text Search for Maps
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[Here is a link for Missouri Pioneers](#)