Merritt Outdoor Advertising Company Collection (AC15)

Introduction

The Merritt Outdoor Advertising Company Collection contains photographs of Kansas City, Missouri, street scenes ca. 1926.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Merritt Outdoor Advertising Company
Title: Merrill Outdoor Advertising Company Collection
Dates: ca. 1926
Size: 0.08 linear feet, 1 box
Collection Number: AC15

Donor Information

Found in collection.

Citation Note

Merrill Outdoor Advertising Company Collection (AC15), Black Archives of Mid-America, Kansas City, Missouri.

Administrative Information

Reproduction Restrictions: Unrestricted.
Access Restrictions: Unrestricted.

Historical Sketch

Merrill Outdoor Advertising Company, originally operated by John H. Merritt and William S. Merritt, conducted business in Kansas City, Missouri, between 1917 and 1952. Its office was located at 2320 Gillham Road.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of original photographic prints and reprints showing Kansas City, Missouri, street scenes featuring Merrill Outdoor Advertising Company billboards ca. 1926. Original prints note the geographic location of the scene and describe the traffic flow in the area, e.g. whether the billboard is on a streetcar line or in a residential or business area. The photographs are arranged in three series.

Series 1: Photographs by Geography
This series consists of twenty-two original photographic prints arranged numerically and alphabetically by street name.

**Series 2: Photographs by Photograph Number**

This series consists of nine original photographic prints arranged numerically by photograph number. The individual prints are numbered, but the collection does not include a complete numbered set.

**Series 3: Reprints**

This series consists of nine reprints of original photographic prints ca. 1926. The dates of reprints are unknown. The photographs are arranged in two sets. The first set includes reprints for which there are no original prints in the collection. The majority of the reprints do not identify the geographic location. The second set consists of one reprint for which an original print is also available in the collection.

**Collection Inventory**

**Series 1: Photographs by Geography**

f. 1 Photographs by geography, ca. 1926  
6th St. Trafficway & Grand Avenue  
420 East 8th St.  
1520 East 8th St.  
1906 E. 8th St.  
10th Street & Troost Ave.  
12th St. & Park Ave.  
15th St. & Holmes St.  
31st St. & Walnut  
Benton Blvd. & Swope Parkway  
2034 Broadway  
2448 Broadway  
Broadway & 35th St.  
1900 Grand Ave.  
2408 Grand Ave.  
Independence Ave. & Maple Blvd.  
1609 Main St.  
McGee Trafficway & 24th St.  
2600 McGee Trafficway  
Paseo & 45th St.  
Troost Ave. & 18th St.  
4025 Troost Ave.  
4225 Troost Ave.

**Series 2: Photographs by Photograph Number**

f. 2 Photographs by number, ca. 1926  
#7: 1325 East 8th Street
#12: 10th Street & Troost Avenue
#13: 12th Street & Penn
#14: 12th Street & Washington
#25: 15th Street & Poplar
#26: 31st Street between Walnut & Grand
#27: 414 East 31st St. (31st & Gillham)
#28: 39th & Bell Streets
#31: Admiral Blvd. & Harrison St.

Series 3: Reprints

f. 3 Reprints, ca. 1926
   15th Street & Garfield Avenue
   18th Street & Paseo
   Brooklyn Avenue & 16th Street
   Prospect Avenue & 17th Street

f. 4 Duplicate reprints, ca. 1926
   15th St. & Holmes St.

Processed by Michael Sweeney, Collection Librarian, April 2014.