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

# **Donor Information**

Found in collection.

# **Citation Note**

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

#### Administrative Information

Reproduction Restrictions: Unrestricted. Access Restrictions: Unrestricted.

#### Historical Sketch

Merritt 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 Merritt 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

6<sup>th</sup> St. Trafficway & Grand Avenue 420 East 8<sup>th</sup> St. 1520 East 8<sup>th</sup> St. 1906 E. 8<sup>th</sup> St. 10<sup>th</sup> Street & Troost Ave. 12<sup>th</sup> St. & Park Ave. 15<sup>th</sup> St. & Holmes St. 31<sup>st</sup> St. & Walnut Benton Blvd. & Swope Parkway 2034 Broadway 2448 Broadway Broadway & 35<sup>th</sup> St. 1900 Grand Ave. 2408 Grand Ave. Independence Ave. & Maple Blvd. 1609 Main St. McGee Trafficway & 24<sup>th</sup> St. 2600 McGee Trafficway Paseo & 45<sup>th</sup> St. Troost Ave. & 18<sup>th</sup> St. 4025 Troost Ave. 4225 Troost Ave.

# Series 2: Photographs by Photograph Number

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

# **Series 3: Reprints**

- f. 3 Reprints, ca. 1926 15<sup>th</sup> Street & Garfield Avenue 18<sup>th</sup> Street & Paseo Brooklyn Avenue & 16<sup>th</sup> Street Prospect Avenue & 17<sup>th</sup> Street
  f. 4 Duplicate reprints, ca. 1926
- f. 4 Duplicate reprints, ca. 1926 15<sup>th</sup> St. & Holmes St.

# Processed by Michael Sweeney, Collection Librarian, April 2014.