



## Second Presbyterian Church Records (K1467)

**Collection Number:** K1467

**Collection Title:** Second Presbyterian Church Records

**Dates:** 1905-2017

**Creator:** Second Presbyterian Church

**Abstract:** This collection consists of materials relating to the background and history of the Second Presbyterian Church in Kansas City, Missouri. This includes materials written by the Church's first pastor Timothy Hill covering churches within the presbytery across Missouri. There are also materials from a scrapbook belonging to Margaret Young, a member of the church, many of which relate to World War I. Architectural drawings included in the collection range from 1914 to 2024 and represent the architectural history of the church's building, including original drawings as well as additions. Finally, materials on microfilm include church records, registers, and minutes.

**Collection Size:** 7 cubic feet  
(14 folders, 1 oversize folder, 28 architectural drawings, 7 microfilm reels, 1 photograph)

**Language:** Collection materials are in English.

**Repository:** The State Historical Society of Missouri

**Restrictions on Access:** Collection is open for research but may be stored offsite. 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](mailto:kansascity@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

**Restrictions on Use:** The Donor retains all rights but gives permission for the Society to provide access to the materials according to Society policy and allows the Society to reproduce the materials for use by the Society. (If this option is selected, the Donor agrees to allow the Society to provide contact information to researchers seeking permission to publish, broadcast, or exhibit materials for which the Donor owns copyright.)

**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Second Presbyterian Church Papers* (K1467); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

**Donor Information:** The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Leslie G. Anderson on May 5, 2025 (Accession No. KA2673).

**Processed by:** Processed by Sarah Herndon, February 2026

**Historical Note:**

The Second Presbytery Church was established in 1865, having its first meeting on July 16<sup>th</sup> with Timothy Hill as pastor. As Kansas City began to grow in size and population, Dr. A.T. Norton sought Hill out in St. Louis and asked him to help establish the church. Including Hill and Dr. Norton, only 12 people were present at the church's first meeting. At this meeting, the Church's name was established as well as its care under the Presbytery of Lexington.

The Church relied on donations from other churches in the Eastern United States, which Hill traveled to collect, and chair rents from its patronage for financial support. In 1866-1867, Hill became ill and had to step back from the church. Hill officially gave up his charge in 1868, having brought 66 more people to the church during his time. In the following years, church attendance continued to grow and the need for more space became apparent. The Church's first building was located at 908-11 Wyandotte. In 1882, a new building was constructed at 13<sup>th</sup> Street and Central. Membership peaked at 760 members in 1889 and later averaged out to about 500 following a break in the Church that led to the creation of Westminster Congregational Church.

The new building was destroyed by a fire that broke out at the neighboring convention hall in 1900. For a period, the congregation met in a theater which led to another drop in attendance, bringing the total down to around 300. The next building was constructed on the southeast corner of 15<sup>th</sup> and Broadway, being officially dedicated in 1903. At first, this was a positive move for the Church as many members lived within walking distance. However, as people moved away from the city, the number of families within walking distance dropped to just five.

At first, women were not able to be involved in the Church's government. However, women became more involved in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. One prominent woman was Margaret Young, whose scrapbook has been preserved as part of this collection. In 1874, the Women's Missionary Society was established. This group collected money for the church's funds as well as their own mission group. Their money likely went to groups such as Home Emergency Fund, Slavic Mission, Freedman, Home Mission General Fund, and Foreign Mission Fund. The women of the Church were also involved with the Red Cross during World War I and World War II, using their sewing abilities to make items for local hospitals. Throughout its existence, the Church's women's societies supported several charitable organizations. Additionally, the women raised money to pay for one-half of the cost of the Church's current building.

The Church's current location at 55<sup>th</sup> and Oak Street was chosen in the 1970s. Since then, the Church has seen several renovations, including one in 1977 and in 1998 following floods that caused damage to the Church. Additions were also made in 1991, adding an elevator to serve the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> floors. The courtyard was reconstructed in 2003, the stained glass was restored in 2005, and Westminster Hall was remodeled in 2009.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into the following 3 series with 1 subseries:

Background and History  
 Architecture  
     Oversize Materials  
 Microfilm

### **Scope and Content Note:**

#### **Background and History**

This series contains materials related to the history of the Second Presbyterian Church. This includes writings by Timothy Hill, the congregation's first pastor, on churches within the presbytery across the state of Missouri from around 1905. Also included is Margaret Young's scrapbook containing items from 1918-1945. There are also pamphlets on the church and its history and beliefs from 1950-2015. This series is organized chronologically and according to original order.

#### **Architecture**

This series consists of architectural drawings relating to the Second Presbyterian Church's building. This includes original drawings from 1914, 1915, and 1916 as well as additions, remodels, HVAC plans, and more ranging from 1944 to 2024. Included within this series is the subseries Oversize Materials. This series is organized chronologically.

#### **Oversize Materials**

This subseries of Architecture consists of one oversize folder containing the architectural drawings for the East Tower rehabilitation from 2016-2017.

#### **Microfilm**

This series contains church records and registers on microfilm. These range from 1865 to 1970. This series is arranged according to original order.

### **Container List:**

#### **Background and History**

Box 001	f. 1	Churches in the Presbytery by Timothy Hill, Appelton City to Drexel, circa 1905
	f. 2	Churches in the Presbytery by Timothy Hill, El Dorado to Holden, circa 1905
	f. 3	Churches in the Presbytery by Timothy Hill, Nevada to Windsor, circa 1908
	f. 4	Churches in the Presbytery by Timothy Hill, Map of the Kansas City Presbytery, 1901
	f. 5-8	Margaret Young Scrapbook, 1918-1945
	f. 9	"The First One Hundred Years" Pamphlet, 1965
	f. 10	"The Sanctuary of the Second Presbyterian Church" Pamphlet, 1950

- f. 11 "God's Gift: Expressions of Faith in Art at Second Presbyterian Church," 1989
- f. 12 "Our First 150 Years," 2015

### Architecture

- f. 13 Flat File, #38 Advertisement for Bids for Elevator Addition, Jan, 1991
- f. 14 #43 East Tower Rehabilitation Construction Documents, Strata, 2017
- Box 002 Roll 1 Second Presbyterian Church, Original Church Drawings, 1914
- Roll 2 Second Presbyterian Church, Original Church Drawings, 1915
- Roll 3 Second Presbyterian Church, Original Church Drawings, 1916
- Roll 4 Second Presbyterian Church, The Brookside Hotel, 1917-1918
- Roll 5 Second Presbyterian Church, Sanctuary and S.E. Wing Remodel, 1944
- Roll 6 Second Presbyterian Church, Addition, 1954, 1964
- Roll 7 Second Presbyterian Church, Floor Plans, C. 1960
- Roll 8 Second Presbyterian Church, HVAC Floor/Basement, C. 1965
- Roll 9 Second Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Hall Remodel, 1978
- Roll 10 Second Presbyterian Church, Preliminary Basement Floor Plans, 1978
- Roll 11 Second Presbyterian Church. Interior Chapel Remodel, 1984
- Roll 12 Second Presbyterian Church, Elevator Demolition and Additon, 1990-1991
- Roll 13 Second Presbyterian Church, HVAC, Chilled Water Pump, Boiler Repair/Replacement, 1995
- Roll 14 Second Presbyterian Church, AHU's, Condensing Units, Heating, Trunk Layouts, 1996
- Box 003 Roll 15 Second Presbyterian Church, Trolley Track Contacts, 1998
- Roll 16 Second Presbyterian Church, Courtyard Renovation and Irrigation System, 2003
- Roll 17 Second Presbyterian Church, Courtyard Renovation and Irrigation System, 2003
- Roll 18 Second Presbyterian Church, Storm/Sanitary Sewer, 2004, 2006
- Roll 19 Second Presbyterian Church, Westminster and Northex Kitchen and Bath, 2008, 2024
- Roll 20 Second Presbyterian Church, Brookside Water Shed Area Storm and Sanitary Sewer, 2009
- Roll 21 Second Presbyterian Church, East Tower Rehabilitation, 2017
- Roll 22 Second Presbyterian Church, Community Room and West Entrance Remodel, 2019
- Roll 23 Second Presbyterian Church, Supplemental Elevator Exterior Elevations, 2019
- Roll 24 Second Presbyterian Church, Front Porch Renovation, 2019
- Roll 25 Second Presbyterian Church, Elevator Addition, 2018

### Oversize Materials

Box 004 f. 15 #4513 East Tower Rehabilitation, Strata, June 2016-July 2017

**Microfilm**

Box 5 Reel 1 Kansas City, MO Second Presbyterian Church Records, 1865-1961  
 Reel 1.5 Copy of Kansas City, MO Second Presbyterian Church Records, 1865-1961  
 Reel 2 Kansas City, MO Second Presbyterian Church Records, 1865-1961  
 Reel 2.5 Copy of Kansas City, MO Second Presbyterian Church Records, 1865-1961  
 Reel 3 Second Presbyterian Church Register, 1913-1960  
 Reel 4 Kansas City, MO Second Presbyterian Church Register, 1960-1990  
 Reel 5 Kansas City, MO Second Presbyterian Church Session Minutes, 1949-1970

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Bates County (Mo.)—Maps	f. 4		
Cass County (Mo.)--History	f. 1-3		
Cedar County (Mo.)--History	f. 2		
Clinton (Mo.)—History	f. 1		
Hill, Timothy, 1819-1887	f. 1-4, 9-12		
Jefferson City (Mo.)	f. 2, 3		
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<b>Index Terms</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Mediums</b>	<b>Image</b>
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