



## Missouri Lives Oral History Project Records (C4249)

**Collection Number:** C4249

**Collection Title:** Missouri Lives Oral History Project Records

**Dates:** 2014-

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

**Abstract:** The collection consists of interviews with a wide array of Missourians who have had an interesting personal history and life. The collection consists of digitally recorded interviews, transcripts, and ephemera.

**Collection Size:** 0.1 cubic feet

(21 CDs, 1 DVD, 1 folder)

**Language:** Collection materials are in English

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

**Restrictions on Access:** Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at [columbia@shsmo.org](mailto:columbia@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Missouri Lives Oral History Project Records* (C4249); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

**Donor Information:** The State Historical Society of Missouri

**Processed by:** Sean Rost

### Historical Note:

The project began with a need to create an oral history collection that would encompass a wide array of Missourians who have a unique and interesting life history. The interviews in this

collection do not necessarily relate to each other, but their commonality relates to being or having been a Missourian.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into the following two series:

Audio Files  
Transcripts

**Scope and Content Note:**

**Audio Files**

This series consists of CDs of the interviews.

**Transcripts**

The Transcript series contains typed accounts of the interview and in some instances, interviewees have donated supporting biographical information such as photographs, written recollections, and other miscellanea. These materials are filed after the corresponding transcripts.

Because this is an ongoing project the attached list of CDs and transcripts might not be up-to-date. Consult the research center staff for more information.

**Container List:**

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| CD 1-4;<br>DVD 1 | John Dillingham, Kansas City, 15 May 2014<br>Dillingham talks about his family's long history in Kansas City, his connections to the American Royal, Kansas City Livestock Exchange, the Golden Ox Restaurant, and his military service among other topics. Mr. Dillingham also submitted a video memoir for inclusion. (transcripts available) |
| CD 5-6           | Inez Johnson and Kaye Malins, Marceline, 26 January 2016<br>Inez and Kaye personally knew Walt Disney and his family and are founding members of the Walt Disney Hometown Museum in Marceline.  |
| CD 7-9           | Pat Hiatte, 27 April 2016<br>Born in Jefferson City, MO in 1951, Hiatte grew up in Columbia, Bretwood, Ballwin, and then returned to Jefferson City where he graduated high school. Hiatte talks about his long career (1974-2009) with the Frisco, BN, and BNSF Railroad companies.  |
| CD 10-11         | Brian Mahieu, 22 June 2016<br>Born in Ohio, Mahieu grew up and went to school in Missouri. He is an artist with a BFA degree from Columbia College is an artist. He discusses his fondness for the outdoors, his art, several businesses he was involved in, including art  |

- galleries and a successful daylily hybridization operation. Brian discusses his sexuality, being part of a cult-like fundamentalist group, depression, losing everything, and finding his husband. Brian was interviewed his last week living in Missouri before moving to the Pacific Northwest with his partner to start a new chapter in their lives. Mahieu donated several paintings to the historical society before leaving Missouri.
- CD 12, 13      Bob Nichols, 7 July 2016  
Originally born in Cowell, AR in 1942, Nichols moved to Cabool, MO in 1945. Nichols is a Navy veteran. He talks about his military service along with his long railroad career with the Frisco and BN Railroad companies where he primarily dealt with the railroad's real estate divisions.
- CD 14, 15      Norbert Shacklette, 8 September 2016  
Born in Bunker, MO in 1942, Schacklette grew up in Reynolds County. After graduating high school, he moved to St. Louis for work. In 1960, Schacklette took a job with the Missouri Pacific Railroad as a telegraph operator station agent. In this interview, Shacklette talks about his 40 year career with the Missouri Pacific Railroad.
- CD 16          Charles Digges, 6 June 2018  
Born in Columbia, MO in 1919, Digges grew up in close proximity to the University of Missouri campus. After graduating from Hickman High School, he enrolled at the University of Missouri. Upon completing his degree, Digges served in the United States Air Force during World War II and the Korean War. Following his military service, Digges joined Columbia's esteemed "Round Table," and engaged in the insurance and investment business with Rollins-Vandiver (eventually named Rollins, Vandiver, and Digges) and later The Insurance Group. Though he retired in the early 1990s, Digges remained a fixture in Columbia, particularly at University of Missouri events which he attended from the 1920s until his death in 2019.
- CD 17-19      John Viessman, 12 September 2018  
Born in Waynesville, MO in 1947, Viessman spent much of his early life in nearby Rolla. After graduating from Rolla High School, he enrolled at the University of Missouri-Rolla before completing his undergraduate degree at Southwest Missouri State University. He taught briefly in Maries County before accepting a position as tour guide and curator with Missouri State Parks in Jefferson City. In this role, he traveled extensively throughout the state working on projects related to Missouri history, particularly oral history interviews. Since 1970, Viessman has also operated Americana Antiques in Vienna, MO. CD 19 in this collection features Viessman explaining the history of Vienna during a walking tour of the Old Jail Museum Complex and the Maries County Courthouse Square.

CD 20, 21

Russ Zguta, 25 April 2020

Born in Volia Yakubova, Ukraine in 1941, Zguta spent part of his youth in a displaced persons camp at the conclusion of World War II. In 1949, his family immigrated to the United States and settled in Pennsylvania. He earned a bachelor's degree from Saint Francis University, and a master's degree and PhD from Pennsylvania State University. From 1967-2017, he served as a professor of history at the University of Missouri-Columbia, including brief periods as the chair of the Department of History, Department of Economics, and the Department of Romance Languages.

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John Dillingham transcript

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