



## **“City of Kansas City” Records (K0093)**

**Collection Number:** K0093

**Collection Title:** “City of Kansas City” Records

**Dates:** 1947

**Creator:** Wabash Railroad

**Abstract:** This collection contains a press kit concerning the beginning of service of the Wabash Railroad Company’s streamliner, the “City of Kansas City,” which began service in November 1947. Photographs of the train are also included.

**Collection Size:** 0.04 cubic feet  
(2 folders, 9 photographs)

**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-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 has given and assigned to the University all rights of copyright which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor’s works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] “*City of Kansas City*” Records (K0093); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Kansas City].

**Donor Information:** The records were donated to the University of Missouri by Sherry Piland on November 11, 1982 (Accession No. KA0188).

**Processed by:** Processed by intern Hallie Allan, April 2023

**Historical Note:**

The Wabash Railroad Company was a Class I railroad headquartered in St. Louis. Its routes covered a significant portion of the United States, including many midwestern states. In late 1947, the company put into service the first streamliner train to operate fully within the boundaries of the state of Missouri, the "City of Kansas City." This was a high-speed train designed to reduce air resistance and powered by a compact diesel engine. It consisted of seven cars: baggage, baggage and mail, two coaches, "coffee-shop-club," diner, observation, and parlor lounge. The train provided seats for 205 passengers, and the special amenities provided for them included reclining seats, smoking rooms, a phone, a radio, and air conditioning, among other things. The train and line were inaugurated on a special run from Kansas City to St. Louis on November 24, 1947, and entered daily service between the two cities on November 26. The train provided service through at least July 1965, and served as a companion train to the "City of St. Louis," a streamliner operating between St. Louis and the West Coast.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged by material type.

**Scope and Content Note:**

This collection contains a highly detailed press kit, providing in-depth descriptions of the cars, including capacity and various amenities; safety features and other specs of the locomotive, touting of the train's luxury, and a note of its inexpensive service. Also included are nine photographs, one of the exterior, and eight of various parts of the interior, including the observation lounge, parlor, cocktail lounge, dining car, "coffee-shop-club," and a smoking room.

**Container List:**

Box 001	f. 1	Press kit, 1947
	f. 2	Photographs, 1947

**Index:**

Index Term	Folder	Image
High speed trains--United States	1-2	Yes
Railroads--Missouri--Kansas City	1-2	Yes
Railroads--Missouri--Saint Louis	1-2	Yes
Wabash Railroad	1-2	Yes