



Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad Company Records (R0088)

Collection Number: R0088

Collection Title: Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad Company Records

Dates: 1869-1895

Creator: Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad Company

Abstract: The Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad Company Records contains a microfilm copy of the company's financial records and its corporate predecessors. The line became part of the St. Louis and San Francisco Railway Company in 1901.

Collection Size: (2 rolls of microfilm)

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-Rolla](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at rolla@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad Company Records* (R0088); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The records were loaned for photocopying to the University of Missouri by the Museum of the Ozarks, Inc. on July 29, 1981 (Accession No. RA0075).

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad Company Records can be found in the following collections:

Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad Company Collection (R1071)
Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad Company Records (R1425)
C.C. Roberts Railroad Collection (C4212)

Processed by: Processed by John F. Bradbury, March 3, 1982. Revised by Kathleen Seale, April 6, 2020.

Historical Note:

The Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad was the result of twenty years of railroad construction in southern Missouri and Arkansas, beginning with the organization of the Kansas and Neosho Railroad by local investors in 1865. This road was reorganized in 1868 as the Missouri River, Fort Scott, and Gulf Railroad Company and was again reorganized in 1879. The resulting corporate combination included several branch lines and was styled the Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Gulf Railroad Company. The line reached Springfield, Missouri, from Fort Scott, Kansas, via leased lines. The Kansas City, Springfield, and Memphis Railroad built the line from Springfield to Memphis, completed in 1883. The entire system, known as the “Memphis Route,” was consolidated by agreement in 1888, as the Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad Company.

The Memphis Route competed with the St. Louis and San Francisco Railway Company (Frisco) for control of some of the same territory and branch lines. The Frisco expanded rapidly during the 1890s, and in 1901 gained control of the Fort Scott system. Formal ownership was assumed in 1928.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged in its original order.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection contains financial records of the Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad. The records span nearly the entire life of the system, and represent three earlier corporations which were consolidated to create a through line to Memphis, Tennessee. The records include figures for various operating expenses and revenues, and contain individual accounts for construction contractors, depots and stations, and traffic interchanges with other railroads. Interest and mortgage payments are also listed. Volumes one and three are indexed.

Container List:

Roll 1	v. 1	Missouri River, Fort Scott, and Gulf Railroad Company ledger, 1869-1873
	v. 2	Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Gulf Railroad Company ledger, 1879-1888
	v. 3	Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad Company ledger, 1881-1883
Roll 2	v. 4	Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad Company journal, 1895

Index:

Index Term	Folder
Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Gulf Railroad Company	v. 2

Index Term	Folder
Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad Company	v. 1-4
Kansas City, Springfield, and Memphis Railroad Company	v. 3
Missouri River, Fort Scott, and Gulf Railroad Company	v. 1
Railroads--Missouri	v. 1-4
St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company	v. 1-4