

Present Use/Future Plans

The upper level is used for exhibitions and displays as well as an area for seminars and workshops.

The lower level will house the collection that is open for public viewing as well as storage for archival materials, listening areas, research computers, and office space.



Partnerships

The Ozarks Heritage Research Center partners with:

- Missouri State University-West Plains
- Ozarks Studies Symposium
- West Plains Council on the Arts

Administration

Dr. Dennis Lancaster, Chancellor, Missouri State University-West Plains

Advisory Board

Leigh Adams, Assistant Professor of English

Dr. Craig Albin, Professor of English

Chuck Kimberlin, Community Member

Dr. Jason McCollom, Professor of History

Rebekah McKinney, Director of Library Services

Kathleen Morrissey, Community Member

Crockett Oaks, Associate Vice-Chancellor, Business and Support Services

Neva Parrott, Assistant Librarian

Frank Priest, Professor of English

Carol Silvey, Board of Governors

Lou Wehmer, Community Member

Ozarks Heritage Research Center
Missouri State University-West Plains
304 W. Trish Knight
West Plains, MO 65775

Phone: 417-255-7945
Email: ohrc@missouristate.edu

<https://wp.missouristate.edu/Ozarks>



Ozarks Heritage Research Center

Established 2021





The Mission

The mission of the Missouri State University -West Plains Ozarks Heritage Research Center is to acquire and make accessible a variety of materials to promote critical study of the Ozarks.

The Center

- Sponsors speakers, professional conferences, and workshops.
- Promotes educational resources, particularly for the region's communities.
- Collaborates with partners from outside the university including other institutions focusing on the Ozarks.
- Serves as a repository for Ozarks scholars and authors, especially those who focus on the eastern Ozarks.

Scope

The Ozarks Heritage Research Center is committed to preserving the work of Ozarks scholars and authors. Materials preserved in the collection are meant to serve scholarly researchers, regional history enthusiasts, and students. To this end, the Research Center seeks to collect and make available documents and visual sources that represent the history and cultural heritage of the southern Missouri Ozarks more specifically, the south-central and southeast Missouri Ozarks. The Ozarks Heritage Research Center seeks to play a role in the broader research community by building collections in historical and cultural collections not available anywhere else.

The ultimate goal of the Ozarks Heritage Research Center is to create an archival presence in the southern Missouri Ozarks, one that fills a much-needed niche in professional historical and cultural services and promotes a critical study of the region by students at all education levels, professional scholars from both inside and outside the Ozarks region, and regional history enthusiasts.

Donors

The Ozarks Heritage Research Center accepts donations of materials that pertain to the history and culture of the Ozarks. This list, which is subjective and not definitive, illustrates the wide range of materials accepted by the center and those materials most useful for researchers and history enthusiasts:

- Books
- Diaries
- Digital materials
- Manuscripts
- Maps
- Music
- Newspaper clippings
- Oral history tapes/CDs (include identifying information)
- Personal/professional papers and/or correspondence
- Photographs (with subjects/locations identified)
- Public records
- Prints
- Sound recordings

Preserving and conserving materials for research and archival purposes is the most expensive operation of a depository. Donors who are able to assist us by making grants or establishing endowments toward the arrangement, cataloging, digitization (for online access), and/or conservation of materials are encouraged to speak with a member of the Research Center Advisory Board.