

South Milwaukee Public Library Archival Finding Aid

Scope: The SMPL Archives contain materials mostly related to the history of South Milwaukee, Wisconsin and the South Milwaukee Public Library. The bulk of the original materials are related to the library's history. The materials in the City of South Milwaukee files are mostly items published by the city that were once part of the library's general reference collection or materials from the library's old local history 'vertical file.' The archive also includes the unprocessed papers of the South Milwaukee Women's Club, and smaller unprocessed boxes of items from the South Milwaukee Association of Commerce and VFW Post 3742.

Access Restrictions: There are no access restrictions on these materials, and the collection is open to all members of the public in accordance with state law. All materials must be viewed at the library, with the exception of the microfilm. As SMPL does not have a microfilm reader, arrangements will be made for anyone wishing to view microfilm reels to do so at the Cudahy Family Library.

Use Restrictions: The researcher assumes full responsibility for conforming with the laws of libel, privacy, and copyright which may be involved in the use of this collection (Wisconsin Statutes 19.21-19.39).

List of Files from South Milwaukee Public Library Archive:

AFSCME

Building 20th Anniversary

Building Evaluation, 1992

Building Lease (SMPL), 1946, 1955

Card Design Contest, 2021

Carnegie Foundation, 1916-1917

Carnegie Library, Financial

Carnegie Library, Renovation Plans, 1945

Children's Room Photos, undated

Clippings, SMPL

Newspaper clippings mentioning SMPL. See the library clipping scrapbooks located in the computer lab for a more complete clipping collection.

Display Case, Original Building

Donor Information, SMPL

Floor Plans, 1994 Remodel

Also see the "Building/Renovation" boxes located in the computer lab for more materials related to the 1994 remodel.

Flyers, Promotional Materials

Franklin Public Library

Friends of the Library

Interlibrary Loan Cooperation, Milwaukee County, 1960

Lange Board Room Dedication, 1977

MCFLS (Milwaukee County Federated Library System)

MCFLS, Coordination Study

MCFLS, Sample Items

Metro Milwaukee Library Council Planning Committee, 1976

Milwaukee Area Library Boards Association, 1960-1970

Milwaukee Area Library Boards Association, 1972 A

Milwaukee Area Library Boards Association, 1972 B

Milwaukee Area Library Boards Association, Meeting Minutes

Milwaukee County Library Planning Committee

National Library Symbol

New Library Dedication, 1967

Operations Review, 1983

Pamphlets, South Milwaukee Library

Photo Negatives

Photos

Public Relations

Reconsideration Forms

Resolutions, City of South Milwaukee – Library

Signage, Library

SMPL 100th Anniversary

SMPL Chronology: 1899-1967

SMPL Financial Reports, 1957-1967

SMPL Foundation

SMPL Foundation, Minutes

SMPL Newsletter

SMPL Policies

SMPL Surveys, Etc.

Space Needs Assessment, 1993

Staffing/Hours, 1951-1985 SMPL

Suggestions, 1993

Summer Branch Library Program

Survey of SMPL, 1952

Temporary Library, 1965

Wisconsin Libraries

Wisconsin Library Stats, 1977-1982

Additional Materials, found in labeled file drawers:

South Milwaukee Public Library, Additions and Withdrawals, 1930-1984

South Milwaukee Public Library, Annual Reports 1903-2013

South Milwaukee Public Library, Board Meeting Minutes, 1965-Present

South Milwaukee Public Library, Circulation Records, 1915-1985

Additional Materials, found on Computer Lab shelving:

South Milwaukee Public Library Board Meeting Minutes, 1899-1909, 1915-1982

South Milwaukee Public Library Board Meeting Minutes, Abridged Index, 1899-1909, 1915-1953

South Milwaukee Public Library Building/Renovation Documents
Two Boxes

South Milwaukee Public Library, Financial Reports, 1933-Present

South Milwaukee Public Library Scrapbooks, 1930-1936, 1951-1965, 1971-1992
The scrapbooks contain newspaper clippings mentioning the library, these books have also been digitized and are available online

List of Files from City of South Milwaukee Archive:

150th Settlement Celebration

“After Thirty Years: South Milwaukee 1892-1922”

Anniversary Newspapers

Annual Reports, South Milwaukee, 1956-1964

BE Plaque Ceremony

Bicentennial

Materials related to South Milwaukee's Celebration of the National Bicentennial, 1976

Bonds – South Milwaukee, 1965

Bucyrus-Erie Scoop

Small number of print copies of Scoop Magazine. For nearly complete collection of Scoop Magazine, see the library's digital archive

Churches, South Milwaukee

Church Histories, South Milwaukee

Citizens' Government Responsibility Board Bulletin

Includes issues with mentions of South Milwaukee

“City Government: South Milwaukee, a Study”

“City of Homes, Industry, and Parks”

Dorrance, Donald – Poetry

Dorrance was the director of the South Milwaukee Public Library and published several poetry collections

Fire Department, South Milwaukee

Grant Park

Histories of South Milwaukee

Hoar, Roger Sherman

Kozlowski, Caroline – Poetry

Lawson, Alfred

Maps of South Milwaukee

Methodist Church, South Milwaukee

Old Fashioned Christmas Committee, 1998

Old Fashioned Christmas Committee, 1999

Old Fashioned Christmas Committee, 2000

Old Fashioned Christmas Committee, 2001

Old Fashioned Christmas Committee, 2002

Old Fashioned Christmas Committee, 2003

Old Fashioned Christmas Committee, 2004

Old Fashioned Christmas Committee, 2005

Old Fashioned Christmas Committee, 2006

Old Fashioned Christmas Committee, 2007

Old Fashioned Christmas Committee, 2008

Open Doors, 2022

Pamphlets Published by City of South Milwaukee

People – Mentions of South Milwaukee People in Newspapers

Photos, via City Hall

Postcards

Rawson Farms

“Services for Children & Youth, South Milwaukee”

School, South Milwaukee

SMART Newsletter

South Milwaukee Association of Commerce

South Milwaukee Census Information

South Milwaukee City Financial Report, 1977-78

South Milwaukee City Financial Report, 19886

South Milwaukee City Financial Report, 1987

South Milwaukee City Financial Report, 1992

South Milwaukee City Financial Report, 1993

South Milwaukee City Financial Report, 1995

South Milwaukee Community Information

South Milwaukee Comprehensive Plan Report, 1957

South Milwaukee High School

South Milwaukee High School, Class of 1929

South Milwaukee Historical Society

South Milwaukee History, Newspaper Clippings

South Milwaukee Maps

“South Milwaukee On-The-Lake”

South Milwaukee Police Department

South Milwaukee Political Cartoons

South Milwaukee Social Welfare Report, 1938-39

South Milwaukee – Written Histories

Spectacle of Music

“Teen Talk,” South Milwaukee High School

Traffic, South Milwaukee, 1958

“Through the Years”

Play about the founding of South Milwaukee

TIME Magazine, November 9, 1970

Includes short article on South Milwaukee

Trinity Memorial Hospital

Voice-Journal

Voice Underground / South Milwaukee Times

Water/Sewer, South Milwaukee

Women’s Heritage Luncheon

World War II Honor Roll, South Milwaukee

Yellowstone Trail

Zoning, South Milwaukee, 1994

Archival Materials from SMPL Reference Collection:

Milwaukee City and County Directories, 1959-2009

Includes Polk and Wright’s directories, some years include suburban listings. Located in basement storage.

South Milwaukee Census Rolls, 1880/ 1900/ 1910

Archived on microfilm, also includes the 1890 Schedule of Union Veterans of Civil War for Wisconsin. Located in computer lab room.

South Milwaukee High School Bay Mist yearbooks, 1926-present

A portion of these (1926-2010) have been digitized and are available online. Please note that no yearbooks were issued 1933-1935. Located on main floor.

South Milwaukee newspapers, bound editions, 1965-1995

Includes the Voice-Journal, Pictorial, News-Graphic, and Voice-Graphic. These newspapers are also available online. Located in reference area of main floor.

South Milwaukee newspaper, microfilm, 1893, 1899-2006

Includes the Journal, Voice-Journal, Pictorial, News-Graphic, and Voice-Graphic. These newspapers are also available online. Issues of the South Milwaukee Journal, 1894-1898, are not included on these reels and are presumed lost. Located in computer lab room.

Unprocessed Collections, found in basement storage:

South Milwaukee Association of Commerce Papers

One Box.

South Milwaukee Library Blueprints

Blueprints and other oversized materials from both the original Carnegie Building and the present library building.

South Milwaukee Women's Club

Extensive collection of club documents, photos, and other materials.

Stereoscope Collection

Two boxes of stereoscope cards, mostly produced by the Keystone View Company, and two non-functioning stereoscope viewers.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3742

Includes photo albums and various plaques once belonging to Cleverdon Croeker, post 3742 member.