Introduction

Papers of a theatre professor at the University of Missouri largely concern his efforts to establish the Rock Bridge Memorial State Park.

Biographical Sketch

Lewis Stoerker was born on April 8, 1921, in Jefferson City, Missouri. He received a BA at Elmhurst College in 1945 and a Master of Fine Arts degree from Yale University in 1947. In 1958, Lew and his wife Dorothy moved to Columbia, Missouri, so he could work in the University of Missouri theater department. Lewis Stoerker was active in the Columbia Optimist Club, elected as 6th Ward City Councilman in 1978, and became state secretary of the Traveler’s Protective Association in 1977. Lewis Stoerker and his wife are largely known for their effort to establish the Rock Bridge Memorial State Park, in honor of their daughter Carol, who died on May 6, 1961. Lew died July 20, 1992, in Columbia.

Box List

Box 1

Biographical Sketch

Rock Bridge Memorial Park (RBMP)

- Fundraising, 1965-1968 (4 folders)
- 25th anniversary, 1992
- Expansion Plan, 1992
- Feasibility Study, 1994
- Discovery Center Plan, 2001 (2 folders)
- Planning documents
- Proposal
- Clippings/articles
- Flyers/brochures
- Meetings, 1998-2007
- Newsletters, 1992-2007 (incomplete)
- Correspondence, 1990s-2000s
- Notes
- Photos

Optimist International, 1970s (4 folders)
MU theater, 1970s (2 folders)
Columbia City Council, 1979
Columbia Redevelopment Plan, 1979
Traveler’s Protective Association, 1970s-1990s
Miscellaneous
Box 2
Correspondence and miscellaneous
Columbia City Council campaign
Certificates and awards

OVERSIZE (Location: SU-5)
Rock Bridge State Memorial State Park resolutions, 1992, 1997 (2)