Organizational records including by-laws, minutes, correspondence, clippings, scrapbooks, programs, pamphlets, rosters, field notes and bird censuses, photographs, and glass lantern slides. Also research materials, slides, and papers belonging to A.E. Shirling (1875-1947), noted Kansas City naturalist and author.

HISTORY:

The Burroughs Nature Club was started by an enterprising book agent, a woman representative of Houghton Mifflin Co. She promoted the organization of Nature clubs and took orders for sets of books by John Burroughs, she canvassed the schools, seeking subscriptions and memberships.

The climax of her efforts in Kansas City was a highly advertised lecture on John Burroughs, given in the lecture room of the public library on April 15, 1919. Lula Van Nemen, biology teacher at Westport High School, was elected the first president. The early meetings had evening lectures on nature, astronomy, or other natural science topics.

After several years, membership dwindled. The club became affiliated with the National Audubon Society, following the reorganization of the Missouri State Audubon Society. More attention was given to field work and first hand observations, in addition to lectures. The group became a national chapter of the National Audubon Society in 1971, changing its name to the Burroughs Audubon Society.

PROVENANCE:

The Records of the Burroughs Audubon Society of Greater Kansas City were received as accession 0551kc from Mary Conrad and as KA0553 from Paul
Williams on March 22, 1990; as accession KA0563 on March 27, 1990; as accession KA0691 from Ruth Gieschen on June 23, 1992; and KA0715 from Mary Conrad on August 19, 1992.

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PREFERRED CITATION:

Specific item; folder number: *Burroughs Audubon Society of Greater Kansas City Records (K0665)*; The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

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DESCRIPTION:

The collection includes correspondence, clippings pamphlets, rosters, scrapbooks, field trip records, glass lantern slides, photographs, by-laws, and programs.

INVENTORY:

**BOX 001**

Vertical File A-C.

**BOX 002**

Vertical File D-Q.

**BOX 003**

Vertical File R-Z.

A.E. Shirling papers

Membership lists
BOX 004

The society's Library files
Catalogs.

BOX 005

Scrapbooks
1961 Scrapbook
Clippings, 1973-1979
1950 by Henry Harford in the KC Star
Scrapbook, 1972-1973
Photograph album - Audubon Urban Renewal, 1975-1978
Historian's Scrapbook, 1981-

BOX 006

Paul Williams' Files.
Field Trip books
Photographs
Rosters
Stamps
Photos, ca. 1940's, 1960's (KA0691)
Correspondence, 1975; Invitation, 1984; By-Laws, 1963
Bird Census book (three sightings noted)

BOX 007 (KA0715)

Correspondence 1972; Minutes October 1972-January 1973; Financial report, 1971; Reports, 1972
Correspondence, Information, 1971-1972
Club History, 1948, 1956, 1969
Bird Census Reports, 1941-1945
"Nature Book"--Clippings about birds, John J. Audubon, Parks 1931, 1935, Undated
Burroughs Nature Club Clipping Book 1959-1960 by Ethel Mac Elree, Historian
Burroughs Club Data, September 1935-1945
Burroughs Club Minutes, 1935-1946
Burroughs Club Data, ca. 1945-1946, 1949-1955; Membership, 1944
Burroughs Club Members, ca. 1960's (mostly obits)
Correspondence-Shirling Sanctuary, 1953-1954 (info collected by Esther O'Connor)
Committees, ca. 1952-1963; Treasurer's Reports 1954-1957 (info collected by Esther O'Connor)
Audubon Screen Tours, ca. 1940's-1960's (info collected by Esther O'Connor)
1952 Christmas Bird Census (info collected by Esther O'Connor)
Conservation, 1954-1960 (info collected by Esther O'Connor)
Newspaper Clippings, 1957, 1962, 1967
Photos of Birds
"A Nature Guide for the Rocky Mountains" Albert E. Shirling (2 f.)
1975 Cunningham Material
"Birds in the Kansas City Area", 1978
Guides by Richard Dawson-"Ecology of the Prairie," "Life Along the Ozark Waterways," "Field Guide (Swope Park)" Undated
"Birds of Swope Park Fifty-Seven Years Later...", 1974
Burroughs Club Rosters, 1953, 1961, 1964

BOX 008

Club History
Flowers and Plants, 1984, 1985
Board Minutes, 1947-1972
Esther O'Connor - Correspondence and Advertisements, ca. 1970's, 1980's
Photos-Members, ca. 1970's, 1980's
Photo Album - members photos and information, 1978-1981
Photo Album - birds and outdoors, 1982
Photo Album - members photos and information, 1981, 1985
Photo Album - members and birds, 1985, 1987
Photos - Audubon Society, 1986
Check Stubs, 1985-1986
Booklets - "Development of Parks and Recreation Dept." of Kansas City, 1967;
"Nature Interests About KC", 1935; Bargain Books 1936
Correspondence, 1947, 1948, 1957, 1969
Burroughs Audubon Society Minutes, 1972-1976

BOX 009
Scrapbook, 1978-1980
Scrapbook, 1982-1983
Scrapbook, 1960's (2 of them)
Photo Album – Birds, ca. 1970's
Slides of Wildflowers

BOX 010
Scrapbook of Animal Stories, 1950's
Scrapbook - Burroughs Audubon Society, 1973-1977
Scrapbook Pages - Burroughs Bird Club, 1964 and 1965
outside of book)

BOX 011
Burroughs Club/Nature News, 1921, 1925-1926
Burroughs Audubon News of KC, ca. 1970-1986 (4 f.)
The Garden Forum, 1980
Garden Center Association Bulletin, ca. 1960's-1980's
Bird Poems by A.E. Shirling, Undated
"Trees of Forest Hill" Undated, ca. 1940's
Burroughs Club/Audubon Society Activities, ca. 1940-1986
Correspondence of Mrs. Robert Isenberger, 1968, 1969, 1985, Undated [includes
 correspondence to President-Elect Nixon]
BOX 012

"Guidelines for Chapter Education Committee", 1975
Library Notebook, 1979-1980 (activities
Correspondence of Esther O'Connor, ca. 1940's-1989, Undated
Spring Meeting Missouri Audubon Society at Kansas City, 1947
Correspondence, 1943, 1944, 1950, 1952-1954
The Bluebird newsletter (Audubon Society of Mo.), 1944, 1947, 1948
Photos-American Ornithologists' Union, 1946; Kansas Ornithological Society, Undated, ca. 1940's
Bird Censuses, 1927-1936, 1941, 1948-1951
Petition for Swope Park Naturalist, 1950
Newspaper Clippings, ca. 1940's-1960's, Undated [birds, Burroughs Club]
Burroughs Club History, Minutes, 1967-1968
"John Burroughs In Remembrance"
Burroughs Schedule, Maps, Miscellaneous, 1932-1970 [Clarence Shutty]
Bird Artwork
KC Museum Lectures, 1951-1952
Burroughs Club Historical Items, ca. 1940's-1960's
Conservation Federation of Mo., 1973
Lake-of-the-Woods - Swope Park - Ecological Analysis Susan Morten and Lorri Sipes, 1966

*Literary America* 1952 [used in literary discussions by members]
Screen Tours, 1967-1969

BOX 013

Burroughs Club Info/Field Trips, 1940-1949 (2 f.)
Bird and Nature Reports - Pauline Campbell, Undated, ca. 1930's
Calendars, 1974-1979, 1981-1984
Bird Photographs of Dr. A. H. Cordier from the library of James Walter Cunningham, ca. 1920's (4 f.)
Trimble and Jackass Bend CBC Areas and Maps
Spring Birds at Trimble Wildlife Management Area, Sebastian Patti, 1971
Certificate of Membership in Burroughs Nature Club-Pauline Campbell, 1919
Ledger - A.E. Shirling Memorial Donations, 1947-1952
"Burroughs Nature Club of KC Celebrates Golden Anniversary" Mary Louise Myers, 1969
Audubon Audio-Visual Catalog, 1952; Mo. Town Festival, 1984

BOX 014

General Fund Ledger, 1952-1974
National Cash Received, 1973
Cash Received Ledger, 1951-1973
Check Register, 1952-1962
Treasurer's Reports, 1951-1957
Wildlife Film Ledgers, 1951-1975
Copies of Records Sent I.R.S. to Apply for Non-Profit Status, 1969-1972
Check Stubs, 1951-1961
Cancelled Checks and Receipts, 1961-1974

BOX 015

Negatives--birds, nature scenes, ca. 1940's. Large, some glass.
Slides of Nature-trees, flowers, outdoor scenes. 35mm, glass.
Slides of flowers, nature, ca.1970's
Slides-Burrough Members, pictures of library
Audio tape--Caruso, Jeritza, Bori, Elman; Birds; Wolves, Pete Seeger; Sounds of Insects; Voices of the Night
Cassette Tapes--Birds
Film--8 mm. Treetop's Safari

OVERSIZE:

Two A.E. Shirling Scrapbooks, ca. 1905-1940's (3/D/13)
Food of Bird Chart (Location 110927)
Glass lantern slides (115) of various subjects. Taken by A.E. Shirling. Stored in a wooden case of 4” x 16”.
Glass slides (27) on the Congo - commercial, Keystone Company.