

6-27-2016

The Ethnic Studies Collection

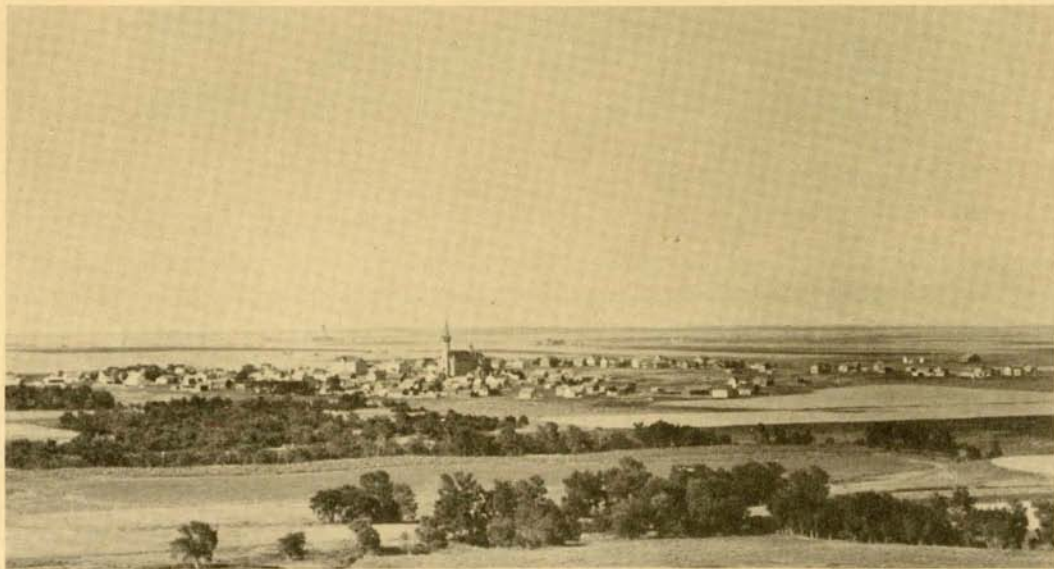
Forsyth Library, Fort Hays State University

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**The
Ethnic
Studies
Collection**

**Fort Hays State University
Hays, Kansas**

The ETHNIC STUDIES COLLECTION may be used by any interested person. Materials must be used on the premises. The regular hours for the ETHNIC STUDIES COLLECTION are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. With prior arrangement additional hours may be possible. Mail and telephone inquiries regarding the collection are welcome.

PLEASE CONTACT: Esta Lou Riley
 Special Collections Librarian
 Forsyth Library
 Fort Hays State University
 Hays, Kansas 67601
 phone: (913) 628-4433

THE ETHNIC STUDIES COLLECTION

The ETHNIC STUDIES COLLECTION was established in 1980 and represents a special effort to collect, preserve, and provide access to materials relating to the various ethnic groups that settled in Kansas. This effort is supported by Fort Hays State University, Forsyth Library, the Department of History and several interested groups and individuals. The Volga German Society is playing a vital role in developing the collection and has provided funds for the newly redecorated facilities. Lawrence Weigel, noted folklorist, has donated a substantial portion of his personal collection of Volga German materials. While the collection is particularly rich in documents and published works relating to the history of the Germans from Russia, other immigrant groups such as the Czechs, Germans, Scandinavians, French, English, Mexicans, and Dutch are also represented. Gifts are welcome and every effort is made to provide careful handling and to assure security for the materials in this collection.



Ethnic Studies Room

THE COLLECTION

The ETHNIC STUDIES COLLECTION contains a variety of pertinent reference works, bibliographies, and specialized studies, as well as pamphlets, journals, newspapers, and dissertations published in the United States, in Germany, and in Russia. Histories, obituaries of ethnic groups, church histories, parish registers, family histories and genealogies, works on folklore, folk music and art make up a sizeable part of the collection. The collection contains a complete set of the annual *Heimatbuch der Deutschen aus Russland* (in German) and of the *Journal* of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, both rich sources of historical information. The *Bratsky-Vestnik/Fraternal Herald* offers valuable insights into the life of the Czech and Bohemian communities. German folk songs, including numerous folk songs of the Germans from Russia are available in a number of song books as well as on cassettes and records. The manuscript collection contains memoirs and diaries including those by Joseph Linenberger, Athanasius Karlin, Frank Pechanec, and Nicholas Gassman. The photograph section of the collection contains numerous wedding pictures, family portraits (including obituaries) and other pictures showing every-day activities of early immigrants. An important part of the collection is a set of detailed maps produced by Dr. Karl Stumpp, showing the German home lands, the mother colonies in Russia, and the later settlements of the colonists in the United States, Canada, and South America. A number of video-cassettes, including *From the Volga to the High Plains: Germans from Russia in Western Kansas*, produced at Fort Hays State University and a number of audio cassettes featuring interviews with Volga German pioneers are also part of the collection.

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