



John F. Bradbury, Jr. Postcard Collection (R1551)

Collection Number: R1551

Collection Title: John F. Bradbury, Jr. Postcard Collection

Dates: 1889-2022

Creator: Bradbury, John F., Jr., 1952-2023

Abstract: The John F. Bradbury, Jr. Postcard Collection contains postcards collected by Bradbury, containing images from the Ozarks and Southern Missouri. The postcards consist of real photograph, commercially printed, and illustrated postcards. The images mainly feature Missouri towns, railroads, Route 66, resorts, and rivers.

Collection Size: 4 cubic feet
(122 folders, 4,432 postcards)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at rolla@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given, assigned, and transferred to the Society all copyrights, and associated rights the Donor may possess in the materials.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *John F. Bradbury, Jr. Postcard Collection* (R1551); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The collection was donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Ryan Haas on August 5, 2023 (Accession No. RA1740).

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the John F. Bradbury, Jr. Postcard Collection can be found in the following collections:

[Lynn Morrow Collection](#) (R1000)
John F. Bradbury, Jr. Collection (R1552)

Processed by: Processed by Kathleen Seale, December 8, 2023

Historical Note:

John F. Bradbury, Jr. was born October 24, 1952, in Heidelberg, Germany, to John F. Bradbury, Sr. and Jeanne Bradbury. His father was a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army stationed in Germany during the Allied occupation. The family soon relocated to Rolla, Missouri, and his father was stationed out of Fort Leonard Wood and worked as an ROTC instructor at the Missouri School of Mines (now Missouri University of Science and Technology).

John graduated from the University of Missouri – Rolla (now Missouri University of Science and Technology) with a bachelor’s degree in history in 1974. After a year of graduate study at the University of Wyoming – Laramie, he went to work for the Union Pacific Railroad. In 1980, John took the job as manuscript specialist with the Western Historical Manuscripts Collection at the newly created Rolla Research Center. He became the associate director in 2011 and maintained the position until his retirement in 2015. After his retirement the State Historical Society of Missouri appointed him a Senior Fellow and he continued his work on various research projects.

Throughout his career, John authored and coauthored numerous books and articles on a variety of topics including the history of Rolla, the Civil War in the Ozarks, Route 66 through Missouri, and Missouri’s railroad history. He wrote several articles for area newsletters including the *Phelps County Historical Society Newsletter* and the *Old Settlers Gazette*. Also of note are his books, *A History of Southern Missouri and Northern Arkansas: Being An Account of the Early Settlements, the Civil War, the Ku-Klux, and Tims of Peace* edited with Lou Wehmer and “*My Own Commander*”: *The Civil War Journal of J.J. Sitton, 1863-1865*, the latter of which was published posthumously.

John passed away at his home in Rolla, Missouri, on June 11, 2023.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following 6 series:

Missouri Counties
Missouri
Railroads
Military
States
Miscellaneous

Scope and Content Note:

Missouri Counties

This series contains postcards from various Missouri counties. The postcards feature images of main streets, resorts, railroads, highways, rivers, businesses, hotels, municipal buildings, greetings/tourism advertisements, boating, fishing, nature scenes, and individuals. These postcards were organized by John Bradbury by their location, first by county and then by city

and/or specific location. For example, folder 54 contains images from Rolla, Phelps County, Missouri, specifically images from Pine Street in downtown Rolla. Materials in this series date from 1907 to 2022.

Missouri

The Missouri series contains images that feature multiple counties or are identified as Missouri with no exact location noted. Also included are miscellaneous town, railroad, and tourist destination scenes. The series is arranged alphabetically by location or subject.

Railroads

This series consists of railroad postcards. Companies and railroad lines include: St. Louis Midland Railroad, Missouri Southern; Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad; Missouri, Oklahoma and Gulf; Iowa and Southwestern Railway; Union Pacific; Burlington Northern; Chicago and Alton Railroad; Missouri, Kansas, Texas Railroad Company; Chicago and North Western Railroad; Kansas City Southern; Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway; Missouri Pacific Railroad; Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Sault Ste. Maire Railroad; St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railway; and Mississippi River and Bonne Terre Railway. The postcards include images of train wrecks, depots, railroad workers, transport cars, engines, rail construction, and bridges. Most the images are from Missouri with a few miscellaneous images from Colorado, Wyoming, Iowa, and Illinois, among other locations.

This series was kept in its original order as organized by John Bradbury who grouped images by location, subject, and railroad company depending upon his interest.

Military

This series contains postcards with historical reproductions, images from battlefields and historic sites, and soldiers. The images mostly deal with the American Civil War, but images from World War I and World War II are also included. This series is arranged by war. Folder 103 contains images from around the United States.

States

This series consists of postcards obtain by Bradbury during his travels around the United States. The postcards feature images of tourist locations, motels, railroads, and nature scenes. This series is organized by location.

Miscellaneous

This series contains loose postcards that were not organized by Bradbury and did not fit with any of the categories he had already established. Nearly all lack descriptions and location information.

Container List:

f. 1-81		Missouri Counties
Box 001	f. 1	Benton County, 1910
	f. 2	Carter County, 1915-1943

- f. 3 Christian County, 1903-1917
- f. 4 Cole County, Jefferson City, 1911-1955
- f. 5 Crawford County, 1908-1953
- f. 6 Crawford County, Bourbon, 1898-1947
- f. 7 Crawford County, Cuba, 1908-1959
- f. 8 Crawford County, Steelville, 1889, 1908-1954
- f. 9 Dent County, 1908-1913, no date
- f. 10 Douglas County, 1909-1939
- f. 11 Franklin County, 1908-1958
- f. 12 Franklin County, Moselle, 1908-1913
- f. 13 Franklin County, Pacific, 1907-1950
- f. 14 Franklin County, St. Clair, 1907-1946
- f. 15 Franklin County, Stanton, 1906-1987
- f. 16 Franklin County, Sullivan, 1909-1964
- Box 002 f. 17 Gasconade County, 1907-1942
- f. 18 Greene County, 1921
- f. 19 Greene County, Springfield, 1908-1953
- f. 20 Howell County, 1908-1939
- f. 21 Iron County, 1909
- f. 22 Jackson County, 1923-1958, 1994
- f. 23 Jasper County, 1908-1950s
- f. 24 Jasper County, Joplin, 1908-1950
- f. 25 Jefferson County, 1908-1925
- f. 26 Laclede County, 1908-1910
- f. 27 Laclede County, Brice-Bennett Springs, 1909-1950
- f. 28 Laclede County, Hazelgreen, 1912-1951
- f. 29 Laclede County, Lebanon, 1907-1958
- Box 003 f. 30 Marshfield, 1905-1949
- f. 31 Laclede County, Stoutland, 1908-1950
- f. 32 Lawrence County, 1919-1926
- f. 33 Madison County, 1908-1950
- f. 34 Maries County, no date
- f. 35 McDonald County, 1909-1922
- f. 36 Moniteau County, no date
- f. 37 Morgan County, no date
- f. 38 Newton County, no date
- f. 39 Oregon County, 1907-1957
- f. 40 Osage County, no date
- f. 41 Osage County, Gascondy, 1908-1913
- f. 42 Ozark County, 1920s, 1963, no date
- f. 43 Pettis County, no date
- f. 44 Phelps County, 1906-1951
- f. 45 Phelps County, Arlington, 1907-1950s
- f. 46 Phelps County, Doolittle, 1933, no date
- f. 47 Phelps County, Jerome, 1908-1934
- f. 48 Phelps County, Knobview-Rosati, 1915-1917
- Box 004 f. 49 Phelps County, Maramec Spring and Iron Works, 1908-1965
- f. 50 Phelps County, Newburg, 1908-1950
- f. 51 Phelps County, Powellville, no date
- f. 52 Phelps County, Rolla, 1908-2000

- f. 53 Phelps County, Rolla, Missouri School of Mines, 1908-1970
- f. 54 Phelps County, Rolla, Pine Street, 1909-1944
- f. 55 Phelps County, Rolla, Route 66, 1941-1968
- f. 56 Phelps County, St. James, 1909-1989
- Box 005 f. 57 Phelps County, St. James, Federal Soldiers' Home, 1908, no date
- f. 58 Polk County, 1907, 1953, no date
- f. 59 Pulaski County, 1908-1938, no date
- f. 60 Pulaski County, Crocker, 1909-1939
- f. 61 Pulaski County, Devil's Elbow, 1904-1944
- f. 62 Pulaski County, Dixon, 1907-1942
- f. 63 Pulaski County, Fort Leonard Wood, 1941-1960s
- f. 64 Pulaski County, Hooker, 1933-1967
- f. 65 Pulaski County, Ozark Springs, 1924-1929
- f. 66 Pulaski County, Piney River, 1915-1929
- f. 67 Pulaski County, Pippin Place, 1937-1955
- f. 68 Pulaski County, Richland, 1909-1947
- Box 006 f. 69 Pulaski County, Waynesville, 1909-1970
- f. 70 Reynolds County, 1909-1957
- f. 71 St. Clair County, 1907-1914
- f. 72 St. Francois County, 1960-1909, 1982
- f. 73 St. Louis County and St. Louis, 1908-1913, 1950s
- f. 74 Shannon County, no date
- f. 75 Stoddard County, 1908-1910, no date
- f. 76 Stone County, 1908-1972
- f. 77 Taney County, 1907-1960
- f. 78 Texas County, 1909-1961, 2022
- f. 79 Washington County, 1908-1966
- f. 80 Wayne County, 1917-1942
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- f. 82-88 Missouri
- f. 82 Missouri, 1912-1994
- f. 83 Gasconade River, 1914-1949
- f. 84 Lake of the Ozarks, 1910-1965, 1900s
- Box 007 f. 85 Ozarks, 1949-1956, no date
- f. 86 Route 66, 1950s, no date
- f. 87 Southeast Missouri, 1908-1958, 1992
- f. 88 Southwest Missouri, 1908-1912, no date
- f. 89-101 Railroads
- f. 89 Railroads, 1909-1950, no date
- f. 90 Gasconade County, no date
- f. 91 Iron County, 1900s
- f. 92 Jefferson County, 1908-1930
- f. 93 St. Francois County, 1907-1910
- f. 94 Washington County, 1907, 1979
- f. 95 Southeast Missouri, 1908-1911
- f. 96 Lumber, no date
- f. 97 Missouri Pacific Railway, no date
- f. 98-100 St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company, 1907-1990
- Box 008 f. 101 White River, no date
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f. 106	Miscellaneous, 1908-1952, no date
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f. 118	Wyoming, 1939, no date
f. 119-122	Miscellaneous
f. 119	Miscellaneous, 1907-1939
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Index Term	Folder	Image
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