

History of Commercial Street: Welcome

Welcome to Historic C-Street's **History** section. In this section, we have provided several pages devoted to different aspects of the beginnings of the **Commercial Street Historic District**. These pages are designed to inform and educate those of you who wish to discover more about our rich and colorful heritage. We present this to help you learn and explore the businesses and people that lived and developed this unique area of our city through these documents. Click on any link to go to that page.

The **Origins** page provides an overview of the way Historic C-Street began and how it shaped further development of the Historic District and the city.

The **Timeline** page provides some important dates and events on Historic C-Street.

The **Sanborn Insurance Map** page provides maps detailing building structures, public utilities, type and size of structure, distances, and construction from 1884 - 1902. They also include street addresses and logistical data for reference. These maps specify accurate, historical, physical data in the development of the Historic District.

The **Building Histories** page is a study conducted by MSU students, outlining the historical ownership information of current buildings in the District. It is presented block-by-block to allow convenient reference to structures.

The **Historic Hotels** page provides a list of hotels and rooming houses that offered accommodations to the rail workers and visitors arriving in our city via the railroad. This list includes dates, names, and addresses for the major hotels on Historic C-Street from its early beginnings through the start of WWII.

The **Letters and Documents** page is a place where important records and correspondence about Historic C-Street may be found, providing insight into the minds of those observing the Historic District grow and evolve. Included are the historical archives detailing the founding families and businesses that shaped the development of the "old" and "new" towns of Springfield.

The **Image Gallery** contains pictures of Historic C-Street, where you can see the transformation of our rich heritage. Many of these are shared from the personal collection of Mary Collette. Visit the History Museum of the Ozarks website for additional images. You are welcome to add yours to our gallery.

We would like to thank the following people and organizations for their assistance in compiling the information for the website:

Joan Hampton-Porter and Jami Lewis at The History Museum of the Ozarks
<http://www.historymuseumonthesquare.org/archives/index.php?Q=commercial+street>

John Rutherford and Bryan Grubbs at The Springfield/Greene County Library Center
<http://thelibrary.org/lochist/history/index.html>

The Library of Congress
<http://www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/sanborn/city.php?stated=32&CITY=Springfield&search=yes>

Jim Coombs and Mike Fisher at Missouri State University Meyer Library
<http://library.missouristate.edu/meyer/index.htm>

The Missouri Historical Society – University of Missouri Libraries
<http://statehistoricalsocietyofmissouri.org/cdm/>
<http://statehistoricalsocietyofmissouri.org/cdm/compoundobject/collection/piat/id/1814/rec/1>

Dan Boyts at Missouri State University - Graduate Program for Professional Writing

We invite you to correct or contribute to this record by emailing the administrator of the website at admin@historicstreet.com.