

Sources for family history information in Douglas County, Kansas. This list was compiled in 2006 but is not necessarily complete.

Abbreviations in Location column: BCPL = Baldwin City Public Library; EPL = Eudora Public Library; KU An = Kansas University Anschutz Library; KU Sp = Kansas University Spencer Library; LPL = Lawrence Public Library (call numbers given for books, DCGS numbers may be changed to regular call numbers in near future); RD = Register of Deeds, Douglas County; WCM = Watkins Community Museum of History

Description	Time period	Index	Location	Notes
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Biographies, Family Histories, Histories including family information, Photos

(Many family books are available in LPL and WCM, not itemized here)

Book, "Douglas County, Kansas Family Histories" pub. by Douglas County Genealogical Society	Published in 1994	Every name, at back of book	WCM, LPL (KC 929.2 DOU)	
Book, "Portrait and Biographical Record of Leavenworth, Douglas, and Franklin Counties, Kansas," pub. by Chapman Pub. Co.	Published in 1899	At back of book	LPL (KC 978.1 PORTRAIT)	Title on spine and cover is "Genealogy and Biography"
Two loose-leaf notebooks with Douglas County pages from the book listed above		Names are in alphabetical order	WCM	
Book, "History of Kansas" with chapter on Douglas County, pub. by Andreas Pub. Co.	Published in 1883	In volume 2, identifies county of residence. Separate "Index to the Surnames of Douglas County" by Loraine Howard, 1984.	WCM, LPL (KC 978.1 ANDREAS)	
Book, "Illustriana Kansas" pub. by Illustriana Inc.	Published in 1933	Included	LPL (KC920.781 ILLUSTR)	
Book, "A History of Lawrence, Kansas: From the First Settlement to the Close of the Rebellion" by Richard Cordley	1854-1865?	Index in LPL's KC 978.1 CORDLEY	LPL (978.1 COR and KC 987.1 CORDLEY and DCGS no. 204.2)	
Book, "Eudora Community Heritage of our USA Bicentennial"	1976	no index	WCM, LPL (DCGS no. 212.5)	
28 file drawers labeled "Subject File." Some contain biographical information.		In alphabetical order	WCM	

12 file drawers labeled "Kansas Vertical File." Some contain biographical information.		Alphabetical order by subject	LPL	
Book, "Soil of Our Souls: Histories of the Clinton Lake Area Community" by Martha Parker and Betty Laird	Published in 1980	no index	LPL (DCGS no. 217.56)	
Description	Time period	Index	Location	Notes
Two loose-leaf notebooks, "Biographies of 20th Century Women of Douglas County, Kansas"		In alphabetical order	WCM	
Loose-leaf notebook labeled "Biographies of Women." Sheets inside labeled "Biographical Information Sheet"		Alphabetic, by married name if married	WCM	
Two loose-leaf notebooks labeled "Biographical Dictionary (1879), containing pages for people of Douglas County from "The United States Biographical Dictionary, Kansas Volume" S.Lewis & Co., Publishers	Original published in 1879	In alphabetical order	WCM	
Nine loose-leaf notebooks labeled "Biographical Sheets"		In alphabetical order	WCM	
"Family Group Sheets"			WCM	
"Pedigree Charts"		Included	LPL (DCGS nos. 209.22, 209.23)	
Family records of Vitt, Bohnsack, Deay, Klein, Gottstein, Mock, Pinger-Kummer, Brecheisen		no index	BCPL	
Photographs		Indexes available	WCM, KU Sp	
Birth, adoption (see also Death, etc.: death information often also includes birth information)				
Notices in newspapers	1864-1872	See Newspaper Indexes	LPL	
Notices in newspapers	1873-1881	See Newspaper Indexes	LPL	
Notebook pages, "Birth Record Baldwin City Douglas Co. Dist. No 23B August 1911 to December 1916" by Vivian Clough	Aug 1911-Dec 1916	listed alphabetically	WCM	

Some Probate records contain information about adoption			KU Sp	
Description	Time period	Index	Location	Notes
Census				
Census microfilm	1855	no	KU An	
Book, "The census of the Territory of Kansas, February 1855, with index and map of Kansas election districts in 1854"	1855	included	LPL (KC 929.3781 HEISS W)	
Census microfilm	1856	no	KU An	
Census microfilm	1857, 1858, 1859	no	KU An	3 years on one spool
Census microfilm	1860	see next line for index	LPL, KU An	
Census index	1860	book, "Kansas 1860 Territorial Census Index"	WCM	
Census, Lawrence Wards 1, 2, 3 transcribed	1860	in alphabetical order	WCM	
Census microfilm	1865	Every-name index, available only at Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka, dozens of spools of microfilm	LPL, KU An	
Census microfilm	1870		LPL, KU An	
Census transcribed	1875	included	WCM, LPL (DCGS no. 204.61)	
Census microfilm	1875	no	LPL, KU An	
Census microfilm	1880	Searchable transcript on Internet, FamilySearch.org	LPL, KU An	
Census microfilm	1885	no	LPL, KU An	
Census microfilm	1895	no	LPL, KU An	
Census transcribed, Lawrence Wards 1, 2, 3 on 5x8 cards giving Name, Age, Sex, Race, Birthplace, Occupation	1895	in alphabetical order	WCM	
Census microfilm	1900	Soundex index at KU An	LPL, KU An	
Census microfilm	1905	The only index is for Lawrence, at Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka, on microfilm	LPL, KU An	
Census microfilm	1910	no index in Douglas County	LPL, KU An	
Census microfilm	1915	no	LPL, KU An	

Census microfilm	1920	no index in Douglas County	LPL, KU An	
Description	Time period	Index	Location	Notes
Census microfilm	1925	no	LPL, KU An	
Census microfilm	1930	no	LPL, KU An	
Churches				
Church history, Eudora area: Catholic, Hesper Friends (Quaker), Methodist, St. Paul's United Church of Christ			EPL	In unlabeled file cabinet along with other topics
Several church histories are in LPL and WCM, not itemized here. Church records held by the churches are not listed here.				
Death Dates, Obituaries, Interment, Mortuary, Probate, Wills				
Cemetery maps, Baldwin City area		no	BCPL	
"Funk Mortuary Books" (7)	25 Aug 1913 - 15 Nov 1927	included	WCM, LPL (DCGS no. 213.55-213.591)	
"Shubert Mortuary Books" (2)	1904-1924	included	WCM, LPL (DCGS no. 213.60-213.61)	
"C.W. Smith, Lawrence, Kansas, Undertaker and Embalmer"	1890-1907	book entries are alphabetical	WCM	
Clippings of newspaper obituaries - 32 file boxes	Fairly complete from Lawrence Journal-World 1979-99, some earlier and later and some from other newspapers	Filed alphabetically	WCM	
Obituary index - one file drawer	1972-93 from Lawrence Journal-World, not complete	Filed alphabetically within years	LPL	
Obituary index - one file box labeled "Obituary File"	1994-2000 from Lawrence Journal-World	Filed alphabetically within years	LPL	
Journal-World archives on-line	1989 to current	Computer search	ljworld.com	Computer; headlines free, \$1.00 for whole article
Obituary clippings - two file drawers	1969?-84	Filed alphabetically	LPL	
Books, "Complete Tombstone Census of Douglas County Kansas" volumes 1 and 2	1854-1986	Index in each volume	WCM, LPL (KC 929.3781 COMPLETE)	
Abstracts of obituaries and death notices from newspapers; Complete Tombstone Census, Vol. 1, starting on p. 254	Nov. 1854 - Dec. 1860	Listed alphabetically	WCM, LPL (KC 929.3781 COMPLETE)	
Description	Time period	Index	Location	Notes

Abstracts of obituaries and death notices from newspapers; Complete Tombstone Census, Vol. 2, starting on p. 420	Jan. 1861 - Dec. 1863	Listed alphabetically	WCM, LPL (KC 929.3781 COMPLETE)	
All obituaries that were printed in the Lecompton Sun	1885-1934	?	Iona Spencer, telephone 785-887-6637	
Obituaries of Baldwin people and Baldwin-related people	1939-1997 or later	?	BCPL	
Obituaries on file cards (Baldwin City area)	1886-2002 (incomplete)	Alphabetical order	BCPL	
Funeral leaflets	recent	Alphabetical order	BCPL	
Death dates of Masonic Lodge members	1863-1938	?	LPL	
Death dates of AOUW and KP Lodge members	1879-1908	Listed alphabetically	LPL, WCM	
Death dates of Rebekah Lodge members	1894-1953	Listed alphabetically	LPL, WCM	
Death dates of IOOF Lodge members	1897-1969	?	LPL? WCM?	
"Scrapbook No. 3"	1938-1994	Book is an index to obituaries in Baldwin City newspapers	BCPL	Index is somewhat by decades, then alphabetical within the time periods
Book, "Interment Record No. 1" (for City of Lawrence cemeteries)	1866? - 7 June 1900	WCM has index for 1866?-1875	WCM has original, Lawrence City Clerk has microfilm	
Book, "Interment Record No. 2" (for City of Lawrence cemeteries)	19 Jun 1900 - 10 Nov 1923	No index?	WCM has original, Lawrence City Clerk has microfilm	
Untitled interment book for City of Lawrence cemeteries	1924-1970	Alphabetical index by first letter only (of surname)	WCM has original, Lawrence City Clerk has microfilm	
The three above have the following column headings and others: Name, Place of birth (usually blank), Late residence, Age, Sex, Color, Date of death, Cause of death				
Interment dates for Oak Hill and Maple Grove cemeteries	all	Computer search	Oak Hill Cemetery office	
List of current cemetery sextons, Douglas County and nearby	current	Cemeteries listed in alphabetical order	Warren-McElwain mortuary	
Description	Time period	Index	Location	Notes
Notices in newspapers	1864-1872	See "Newspaper Indexes"	WCM, LPL	
Notices in newspapers	1873-1881	See "Newspaper Indexes"	WCM, LPL	

Notebook pages, "Vol. I & II Death Records Baldwin, KS Dg. Co. 1917-1928 Vivian S. Clough" and "Vol. III 1929-1936" and Vol. IV 1936-1946" and "Vol. V Mar. 1946-1958"	1917-1927, 1929-1936, 1936-1946, 1946-1958	Listed alphabetically	WCM in 3-ring binder	
Scrapbook of Eudora obituaries, Vol. 1	1891-1979	No	EPL	
Scrapbook of Eudora obituaries, Vol. 2	1959-1989	No	EPL	
Scrapbook of Eudora obituaries, Vol. 4 (Vol. 3 is missing)	1884-1996	No	EPL	
Probate files from Douglas County District Court	1857 - 1955	Spencer Library has "Index to Estates 1857 to 1965." In this index, the Page Number is the same number Spencer Library used for their File Number. After finding the File Number, use the library's notebook containing list of File Numbers, showing location and Box Number of File. They have other indexes, but this one is comprehensive.	KU Sp	WCM has an Index to Estates for 1857 - 1921.
Abstracts of Title	Some cover ownership from about 1855 to 1980s		WCM	Some abstracts have death information, extracts from wills and probate
Directories				
Lawrence city directory	1860-1861	Names listed alphabetically	LPL, WCM	
Lawrence city directory	1863	"	LPL	
Lawrence city directory	1866	"	LPL, WCM	
Lawrence city directory	1868-1869	"	"	
Lawrence city directory	1871	"	LPL, WCM	
Lawrence city directory	1872	"	KU Sp	
Lawrence city directory	1873-1874	"	LPL, WCM	
Lawrence city directory	1875-1876	"	"	
Lawrence city directory	1879	"	"	
Lawrence city directory	1883	"	"	
Lawrence city directory	1886	"	"	
Lawrence city directory	1888	"	"	
Lawrence directory with directory of rural residents	1890-1891	"	"	
Lawrence directory with directory of rural residents	1893-1894	"	"	
Description	Time period	Index	Location	Notes
Lawrence city directory	1896	"	"	
Lawrence city directory	1898	"	"	
Lawrence directory with directory of rural residents	1900-1901	"	"	

Lawrence city directory	1905	"	"	
Lawrence city directory	1907	"	"	
Lawrence city directory	1908	"	LPL	
Lawrence city directory	1909	"	WCM	
Lawrence city directory	1911	"	LPL, WCM	
Kansas State Gazetteer and Business Directory (Lawrence, Baldwin, Clinton, Eudora, and Lecompton pages)	1911-1912	Names listed alphabetically	WCM	
Lawrence city directory	1913-1914	"	LPL, WCM	
Lawrence city directory	1915	"	"	
Lawrence directory with directory of rural residents	1916	"	"	
Lawrence city directory	1917	"	"	
Lawrence city directory	1919	"	"	
Book, "Farmers and Breeders of Franklin and Douglas Counties"	1920	"	"	
Lawrence city directory	1923	"	"	
Lawrence city directory	1925-1926	"	"	
Lawrence city directory	1927-1928	"	"	
Directory of Colored People, including outside Lawrence	1927	"	WCM	
Douglas County Farm Directory	1929	"	WCM	
Lawrence city directory	1929-1930	"	LPL, WCM	
Telephone directory including outside Lawrence	1930	"	WCM	
Directory of Colored People, including outside Lawrence	1930	"	WCM	
Telephone directory including outside Lawrence	1931 (November)	"	WCM	
"	1932 (May)	"	WCM	
"	1933 (January)	"	LPL	
"	1933 (November)	"	WCM	
"	1934 (May and November)	"	WCM	
"	1936 (November)	"	LPL	
"	1939 (May)	"	WCM	
"	1940 (May)	"	WCM	
"	1941 (May)	"	LPL, WCM	
"	1942 (May, November)	"	LPL, WCM	
"	1943 (May, November)	"	LPL, WCM	
"	1944 (May)	"	LPL, WCM	
"	1945 (May)	"	LPL, WCM	
"	1945 (January)	"	LPL, WCM	
Description	Time period	Index	Location	Notes
Telephone directory including outside Lawrence	1946 (January)	"	LPL, WCM	
"	1947 (June, November)	"	LPL, WCM	
"	1948 (May, November)	"	LPL, WCM	
"	1949 (May, November)	"	LPL, WCM	
"	1950 (May, November)	"	LPL, WCM	
"	1951 (November)	"	LPL, WCM	
"	1952 (November)	"	LPL, WCM	
"	1953 (November)	"	LPL, WCM	

"	1954 (November)	"	LPL, WCM	
Telephone directory Lawrence, Lecompton	1955 (August)	"	LPL, WCM	
Douglas County Farm Directory	1955-1957	"	WCM	
Telephone directory Lawrence, Lecompton	1957 (November)	"	LPL, WCM	
Telephone directory Lawrence, Lecompton	1958-97 (some missing)	"	LPL	
Polk's Lawrence City Directory including Douglas County	1961, 1963, 1964, 1966, 1969, 1970, 1972 through 1985	"	LPL, WCM	
Douglas County Farm Directory	1963	"	WCM	
Douglas County Farm Directory	1965	"	WCM	
Douglas County Farm and Ranch Directory	1969	"	WCM	
Douglas County Directory	1972	"	WCM	
Douglas County Rural Directory	1973	"	WCM	
Douglas County Rural Directory	1974	"	WCM	
Douglas County Rural Directory	1980	"	WCM	
Douglas County Rural Directory	1984	"	WCM	
Polk's Lawrence City Directory	1986 through 1993, 1996, 1997, 2001	"	LPL, WCM	
Douglas County Rural Directory	1990	"	WCM	
Douglas County Rural Directory	1992	"	WCM	
Polk's Lawrence City Directory	1994, 1995, 1998-2000	"	LPL	
Marriage, Divorce				
Book, "Douglas County, Kansas Marriages 1854-1884" publ. By Douglas County Genealogical Society, 1989	1854-1884	included	LPL (DCGS no. 217.5)	1854-1863 data from newspapers, 1863-1884 from County records
Notebook similar to above book	1885-1897	no	WCM	
Description	Time period	Index	Location	Notes
Original Douglas County marriage record books numbers 12-39	May 1917 - June 1992	Index books 5-9, Dec. 20, 1920 - June 30, 1992	LPL	
Shawnee County marriages of Douglas County residents - part of a box of file cards	Oct 1887 - Apr 1913	Arranged alphabetically by groom's surname	WCM	
Extracts of divorce information from five sources	1857-1860	indexed in booklet, "Douglas County Divorce Petitions"	WCM	Plaintiff, Defendant, Date filed, Case number.
Divorce petitions abstracted in The Pioneer, includes identification of some relatives of plaintiff or defendant.	1864-1884	booklet, "Douglas County Divorce Petitions"	WCM	Plaintiff, Defendant, Date filed, Case number.
Notebook, "Kansas Territory Divorces 1857-1861 and Douglas County Divorce Petitions 1864-1884"	1857-1861 and 1864-1884	Every-name index included	WCM	Includes much information of people other than plaintiff and defendant

Miscellaneous				
Loose-leaf notebook labeled "Biographical Indexes for Douglas County including Biographical Sketches, Divorce, Pensioners, Kansas Claims, Quantrill Index, etc."		Alphabetical within sections	WCM	
Contents of The Pioneer, Douglas County Genealogical Society's quarterly	Articles published in 1977-2003	Subject index in The Pioneer, Volume 28, no. 1, January 2005	KU Sp, LPL, WCM	Subject index also lists prior, surname indexes to The Pioneer
Naturalization				
Naturalization records and collateral information from District Court	1867-1955 with gaps	Index in KU Sp; same index published in The Pioneer Vol. 27, no. 1&2, Jan-Apr 2004, p. 1 ff.	KU Sp	
Naturalization certificate stubs Volume 3815	1907-1921		Stubs in custody of Court Clerk, Judicial Building, Lawrence phone 785-832-5356	May be stored off-site
Loose-leaf notebook labeled "Naturalizations 1855-1928"	1855-58, 1868-1903, 1903-1928	Alphabetical order	WCM	
Description	Time period	Index	Location	Notes
Newspaper indexes				
Book, "Index of deaths and births in daily newspapers of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas 1864-1872"	29 Nov 1863 - 4 Mar 1873		WCM, LPL (DCGS no. 200.56)	
Book, "Genealogical information in newspapers of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas: index for 1873-1881"	March 1873 - December 1877 and July 1878 - August 1881 (newspapers not available for January - June 1878)		WCM, LPL (DCGS no. 200.57)	
Book, "Lawrence Daily World Indexes"	March 1892 - August 1894		LPL (DCGS no. 216.2)	Includes abstracts of articles
Book, "An index to the Lawrence Daily Journal in five volumes" by Robert A. Hodge	March 1892 - August 1894		WCM	Same book as above. Title says Journal but actually is World.
Newspapers, Baldwin City (Microfilm)				

Baldwin Criterion and Baldwin Ledger (weekly)	1884 - 1996 with gaps	No	BCPL	
Baldwin Criterion (weekly)	Nov. 1883 - Apr. 1885	No	LPL	
Baldwin Ledger (weekly)	May 1885 - Dec. 1921	No	LPL	
Newspapers, Eudora				
Eudora News (weekly, on paper)	January 1935 to current	No	EPL	
Eudora News (weekly, microfilm)	Sept. 1887 - June 1923	No	LPL	
Newspapers, Lawrence, microfilm, listed in chronological order as much as possible				
Herald of Freedom	October 24, 1854 - December 17, 1859	No	LPL	
Kansas Tribune (weekly and daily)	January 10 - October 24, 1855 and November 29, 1863 - May 4, 1869	See "Newspaper indexes"	LPL	
Lawrence Republican (weekly)	May 28, 1857 - November 13, 1862	No	LPL	
Description	Time period	Index	Location	Notes
Republican Daily Journal	March 4, 1869 - March 3, 1874	See "Newspaper indexes"	LPL	
Western Home Journal (weekly)	March 11, 1869 - March 25, 1885	No	LPL	
Daily Kansas Tribune	January 9 - June 30, 1872	See "Newspaper indexes"	LPL	
Daily Kansas Tribune	August 1, 1872 - August 19, 1873	See "Newspaper indexes"	LPL	
Daily Kansas Tribune	January 1 - December 6, 1874	See "Newspaper indexes"	LPL	
Republican Daily Journal	March 4, 1875 - December 1877	See "Newspaper indexes"	LPL	
Daily Kansas Tribune	February 1, 1878 - January 9, 1879	See "Newspaper indexes"	LPL	
Republican Daily Journal	July 1878 - June 18, 1879	See "Newspaper indexes"	LPL	
Lawrence Daily Journal	June 19, 1879 - February 7, 1911	See "Newspaper indexes"	LPL	
Lawrence Daily World	March 1892 - February 1911	See "Newspaper indexes"	LPL	
Lawrence Daily Journal-World	February 20, 1911 - near current date	1989 to current is on-line, search by computer	All newspapers, LPL. On-line, ljworld.com	
Douglas County Republican (weekly)	March 4, 1926 - January 2, 1941	No	LPL	
The Outlook, Lawrence Outlook (weekly)	January 6, 1941 - September 22, 1969	No	LPL	
Newspapers, Lecompton				

Lecompton Union and Kansas National Democrat (weekly)	April 1856 - March 1861		LPL	
Kansas New Era (weekly)	Aug. 1867 - Sept. 1874		LPL	
Lecompton Monitor (weekly)	June 1885 - June 1886		LPL	
Lecompton Ledger (weekly)	Dec. 1889 - Dec. 1890		LPL	
Lecompton Sun (weekly)	April 1891 - Sept. 1934		LPL	
Real Property - see also Tax rolls, Death (Probate)				
Douglas County map showing land owners	1857	"Land Owners of Record on 4 July 1857 with Legal Description of Parcel Owned"	WCM (LPL Osma Room has poor copy of map)	
Douglas County owners plat map in several parts (Townships, Lawrence)	1873	"Index to 1873 Douglas County Plat Map"	WCM, KU Sp	
"Plat Book and Complete Survey of Douglas County, Kansas"	1909	no	KU Sp (RH Atlas G32)	
Book, "List of Original owners in the City of Lawrence"	1854-63	included	LPL (DCGS no. 217.7), WCM?	
Description	Time period	Index	Location	Notes
Book, "List of Preemptions in Douglas County, Kansas"	1855-63?	included	LPL (DCGS no.217.4), WCM?	
Deed Books on microfilm	1855?-1960	Grantor and Grantee indexes	RD	
Deed Books	1961-89	Book and card file	RD	
Deeds in computer file	1990-current	Grantor and Grantee indexes	RD	
Cemetery maps, Baldwin City area		no	BCPL	
Maps of Baldwin City business section	1893, 1899, 1905, 1912	no	BCPL	
Baldwin City area historic houses and other buildings: original owner names and other information		yes	BCPL	
Abstracts of Title for many properties in Douglas County except the Baldwin City area	Some have information from 1855 to 1980s	Filed by legal description of location;no name index	WCM	Many Abstracts include copies or extracts from records including wills, probate, marriage, divorce, other legal matters
Abstracts of Title for properties in the Baldwin City area	Some have information from 1855 to 1980s	Name index available	BCPL	
School Data				
"Complete Census of School Population ... Between the Ages of 5 and 21 Years Residing in District". Name, age or birth date, name of parent or guardian.	1898-1957	No index. Arranged by District (about 87 of them in the County). Some District lists are in alphabetical order	RD	12 microfilm boxes marked SCHOOL RECORDS

One drawer of file cards labeled "Lawrence Teachers 1868-1885, High School Students 1872-1885" from "Annual Report of Board of Education" 1868-1885 "Indexed by Vivian Clough, 1989"	1868-1885	Alphabetical order	WCM	
Four drawers of file cards labeled "Lawrence High School Graduates 1886-1942"	1886-1942	Alphabetical order	WCM	
Book, "Rural Schools and Schoolhouses of Douglas County, Kansas"	1850s-1960s. Most detail is for 1898 to the 1950s	See below	LPL (370.978 DANIELS and KC 370.978 DANIELS)	Includes names of some of the teachers and students
Pamphlet, "Index to Rural Schools and Schoolhouses..."			LPL (DCGS 212.6)	
Description	Time period	Index	Location	Notes
Tax Rolls				
Books of Tax Rolls: Douglas County townships and cities	1863-1919 in open room; 1920-1967 in stacks	Some volumes have names in alphabetical order within each governmental unit (Township, City or Town). Some volumes have name index for each governmental unit. Personal Property lists are alphabetical by name within governmental unit.	KU Sp	Some books contain more than title indicates. Starting with 1867, Personal Property lists follow the real estate section in most of the books and include nearly every household