

**SEVIER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM  
COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY  
GENEALOGY/HISTORY CENTER**

Located on the third floor of the King Family Library branch of the Sevier County Public Library System, this department is a center for historical and genealogical research concentrating on the preservation of Sevier County, Tennessee heritage. This department is recognized as one of the most valuable collections of early Sevier County, Tennessee materials in the state.

The holdings in this department are for reference use only; the materials do not circulate and are not available for interlibrary loan.

In addition to books the collection includes maps, microfilm, photographs and negatives, church and community records, periodicals, and vertical files. Our collections include the Scott Ellis Civil War Collection, the Bob Hogan Civil War Collection, the Beulah Lynn Collection, and the Great Britton Public Record Office Calendar of State Papers-Colonial Series Volumes 1-40. We specialize in Sevier County, Tennessee history and genealogy.

Acquisition and preservation of materials are the most important concern of this department. Our interest lies in collecting church records, school records, old diaries, correspondence, journals, early business records, family histories, photographs, and maps which can be used to document local and regional history and genealogy. This repository can assure a prolonged life expectancy for those historical items through special preservation procedures, a climate-controlled environment, and fire/theft proof storage. Arrangements can be made to scan some valuable materials, such as old church records and pictures, when the originals must remain with the owners.

General Scope: This department seeks to provide researchers with an outstanding collection of local and regional historical and genealogical materials. All levels of research for general reference to advance work are supported.

Language: English is preferred, but materials in any language which are important to Sevier County, Tennessee history are accepted. To benefit researchers, an English interpretation would be appreciated.

Geographical Areas: Material on Sevier County, East Tennessee, Tennessee, Western North Carolina, Southwestern Virginia, the remainder of the last three states, and other areas which have had an influence in local and regional history and genealogy are sought in that order for acquisition. General historical/genealogical material is collected for the thirteen original colonies, the eleven states of the Old South, Missouri, Arkansas, and West Virginia. Books and reference materials which pertain to the Appalachian Region, all histories and genealogy records of all American wars involving Sevier County and Tennessee citizens are desired. Census indexes and up-to-date reference works on how to do historical/genealogy research in all previously mentioned states is desired.

Chronological limitations: Selections are made from the earliest materials that can be obtained to the present for most areas of the collection.

Priority Items

- ~Sevier County, Tennessee materials
- ~Genealogy material from Blount, Knox, Jefferson, Cocke Counties, Tennessee
- ~Genealogy material from Haywood, Old Buncombe County, North Carolina
- ~Appalachian materials and books written by local authors
- ~East Tennessee materials, pre-1930

- ~Family genealogy books
- ~Local and regional materials from any time period that are of historical significance
- ~Local history and genealogy for the states mentioned above
- ~Genealogical works of a reference nature

Types of Material Collected: Books (from old rare ones to new publications about the past), manuscripts, documents, autographs, broadsides, newspapers, maps, architectural records, photographs, letters, diaries and other personal papers, family records (including Bible records), church records, community histories, public records, and business records. Subscriptions are maintained to a number of national and regional historical and genealogical periodicals.

Types of Material Excluded: Family histories (except for certain exceptional genealogies of Sevier County, Tennessee families) are not purchased, since too many of these are published for purchase to be financially feasible; the Collection, however, is happy to accept donations of these family histories. Law books and materials are generally not selected. We accept material in electronic form.

Format: Manuscripts, newspapers, and other material not available as a gift or purchased in hard copy for the department, may be bought on microfilm instead.

Guidelines for acceptance of all donated materials: Clean and absolute title should be obtained to all materials accepted by this department. All materials donated to this department become property of the Sevier County Public Library System and will not be returned. No restrictions can be placed on public access to any materials accepted for this department, which reserves the right to restrict access.

Guidelines for Acceptance of Papers of Public Figures: Selected personal and professional papers of leading public officials, civic leaders, and public figures at the end of a distinguished career in business, civic, or public life are appropriate for this department's collection. These papers should shed light on the career of the person and/or the activities of his/her life or profession. Such collections should be relatively small in size, preferably not more than three linear feet of files in most cases. Clear and absolute title should be obtained to all materials accepted for this department, with the understanding that the said materials will not be returned to the contributor or other persons. No restrictions can be placed on public access of materials from public figures except from this department. Processing for public use will be done in as timely a fashion as possible.