Wichita – The Wichita Genealogical Society (WGS) is pleased to announce a donation to preserve and provide public access to thousands of photographs, documents, and maps held at the Wichita Public Library. In March 2022, the WGS contributed $8,000 to the Wichita Public Library Foundation to begin the process of digitizing these archives, allowing them to be viewable from the library’s website.

This donation continues the WGS’s tradition of funding library equipment and services to ensure the availability of these much-needed resources for family historians. Past donations have included digital microfilm readers, binding of genealogy records and rebinding of old books, book carts, and other essential items needed for a first-class genealogy and research library. Library-access restrictions and health concerns over the last two years have reinforced the desire and need for online availability of historical resources for genealogists and family historians. This latest library project reflects the WGS motto of Preserving the Past for the Future.

The library is developing a Digital Archives section on their website, where newly digitized archives will be added beginning in late 2022. Many of these images will help the researcher include more and interesting detail in their family history stories and writings.

About the Wichita Genealogical Society

The Wichita Genealogical Society is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable corporation registered in the state of Kansas. The WGS is an affiliate of the Wichita Public Library that provides volunteers to help create indexed records and conduct research, and the WGS funds acquisitions to help both the library and family historians. The WGS meets monthly in the Advanced Learning Library conference rooms. For more information, see our website at https://wichitagensoc.org/.

About the Wichita Library Foundation

The mission of the Wichita Public Library Foundation is to fund Library operational needs directly benefiting the public and not covered in the tax supported budget. The mission directs the activities of the Foundation through private fundraising, foundation, individual and corporate grants and annual endowment distributions to the library. Founded in 1987, as a public/private partnership, over $12.2 million in grants, donations and endowment income have been available over the past 30 years. More can be learned about the Wichita Library Foundation at https://supportwichitalibraries.org/.

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