Slavic Folk Music Collection  
(K1194)

Collection Number: K1194

Collection Title: Slavic Folk Music Collection

Dates: 1973-1979

Creator: Unknown

Abstract: The Slavic Folk Music Collection consists of a summary of an oral history project, a newsletter, and programs for various Slavic folk music events and festivals. Additional materials for this collection include five publications concerning the history and folk arts of Yugoslavia and Bulgaria.

Collection Size: 0.20 cubic foot
(8 folders)

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-Kansas City. If you would like more information, please contact us at kansascity@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] Slavic Folk Music Collection (K1194); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Kansas City].

Donor Information: The collection was donated to the University of Missouri by Miller Nichols Library on May 3, 2000 (Accession No. KA1067).

Processed by: Processed by Rachel Forester, August 2018
Historical Note:

Slavic immigrants came to the United States in the late 1800s and early 1900s, as political and economic tensions in their homelands trigged a wave of immigration. Many such immigrants settled in Sugar Creek, Missouri, and the Strawberry Hill neighborhood of Kansas City, Kansas. Throughout the generations, the Slavic community has striven to maintain its heritage through community events and festivals featuring traditional folk dances and folk songs.

Slavic Folk Music encompasses many different forms of traditional folk music native to the Slavic peoples of Eurasia. This includes the countries of Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Macedonia, Montenegro, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Ukraine, among others.

The Slavic peoples have often been divided along geographical lines into three major subgroups: West Slavs, East Slavs, and South Slavs, each having a different and diverse background based on their region’s unique history, religion, and culture. As such, traditional Slavic Folk Music varies between each subgroup.

Traditionally, groups of women who were accompanied by stringed or woodwind instruments often sang folk songs, at ceremonies and during the harvest season.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into eight folders. Materials within those folders have been arranged chronologically.

Scope and Content:

The Slavic Folk Music Collection consists of a summary of an oral history project concerning the Slavic music cultures in Kansas City, Kansas, and Sugar Creek, Missouri, a newsletter from the BDAA published in Atlanta, Georgia, and programs for the Folkloric Dancers and Singers of the St. John’s C. C. Tamburitzans, the 11th Annual National Tamburitza Extravaganza, and the Thirteenth Annual Tamburitza Festival. These events were held in Kansas City, Kansas, Kansas City, Missouri, and Cleveland, Ohio respectively.

Additional materials for this collection include five publications concerning the history and folk arts of Yugoslavia and Bulgaria. These publications include information on the history of instruments, such as the tambura, idiophones, and the membranophones.

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