

Overview

Resources for A Place Called Home

The primary sources, document analysis tools, and lesson plans located in this resource list were found at the following websites:

Library of Congress – this site has a wide variety of tools and resource for educators. The primary source sets provide collections of themed sources already collected for you. Click on Analysis Tool and Guides for graphic organizers for analyzing primary sources.

<http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/primarysourcesets/>

- **Colton's Kansas Nebraska map** - Detailed map showing cities and towns, county boundaries, roads, and the railroad network in 1855. <http://www.loc.gov/item/2003627015/>
- **Ho for the Kansas Plains** –antislavery sheet music from 1856 - <http://www.loc.gov/item/sm1856.601960/>

Kansas Memory – a searchable database of primary sources in the collection of KSHS.

<http://www.kansasmemory.org/>

- **Hickock family letters** - transcription of letters from the family of “Wild Bill” Hickock, includes references to Olathe and Kansas <http://www.kansasmemory.org/item/219335/text>

Read Kansas! – lesson plans created by the Kansas State Historical Society. Here are some that deal with this time period:

- **Popular Sovereignty Under the Kansas-Nebraska Act** - <http://kshs.org/p/read-kansas-middle-school-m-10-popular-sovereignty-under-the-kansas-nebraska-act/14899>
- **Dispute Over Slavery in Kansas Territory** - <http://kshs.org/p/read-kansas-middle-school-m-11-dispute-over-slavery-in-kansas-territory/14900>
- **All Eyes on Kansas Territory** - <http://kshs.org/p/read-kansas-middle-school-m-13-all-eyes-on-kansas-territory/14901>

Territorial Kansas Online – a virtual repository of everything Territorial Kansas. The site also includes several lesson plans. <http://www.territorialkansasonline.org/~imlskto/cgi-bin/index.php>

- **The People of Kansas – Where did they come from and why did they come?** – a lesson plan to understand the multiple emigration forces involved in the settlement of Kansas Territory, including economic, political, social, and geographic http://www.territorialkansasonline.org/~imlskto/cgi-bin/index.php?SCREEN=lesson_plans_people_1
- **Town Development** - a lesson plan to understand the elements of town development and how it was affected by the conflict over the extension of slavery into the territory http://www.territorialkansasonline.org/~imlskto/cgi-bin/index.php?SCREEN=lesson_plans_town_development
- **Charles Mayo letters** - Charles Mayo, writing from Olathe, Kansas Territory, described to George Collamore the budding township and his experiences there. Mayo had invested shares in the town and hoped it would become the county seat. He encouraged Collamore to influence free state men to go to Olathe and settle there, in order to out populate the proslavery majority already established - <http://www.territorialkansasonline.org/~imlskto/cgi->

[bin/index.php?SCREEN=show_document&document_id=101747&SCREEN_FROM=show_location&county_id=19](http://www.territorialkansasonline.org/~imlskto/cgi-bin/index.php?SCREEN=show_document&document_id=101747&SCREEN_FROM=show_location&county_id=19)

- Charles Mayo wrote from Olathe, Kansas Territory, to George Collamore, seeking his advice. Mayo told Collamore that the proslavery citizens of Olathe were urging him to accept the appointment of Magistrate in the county, though Mayo worried how that might affect his standing with the free state party. http://www.territorialkansasonline.org/~imlskto/cgi-bin/index.php?SCREEN=show_document&document_id=101753&SCREEN_FROM=show_location&county_id=19

Lesson Plan Ideas

Have students use the primary sources of the sheet music, maps, and letters to examine how different types of primary sources all help to provide information on how the nation and individuals felt about moving west into Kansas much as the Mahaffies did in *A Place Called Home*. Be sure to have them examine the sources closely by using the document analysis tools. Some questions students might want to consider include:

- How are the sources similar to and different from what was expressed in the film?
- What push and pull factors were involved in decisions to move to Kansas?
- What geographic factors were involved in decisions on where to settle in Kansas?
- How do choices involving moving to Kansas impact others?
- What does Kansas territory look like?
- What is the perspective or bias of each source?
- What sort of people were deciding to move to Kansas?