

Learning about local history and the Ottawa Library

What were Chatauquas? Can you find the book "Those Miller Girls" by Alberta Wilson Constant in the YA section of the Children's Department? Read this book or "Mrs. Pennington" by Katharine Carson in the adult fiction section to learn more.

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Look at the picture of Forest Park at <http://ottlibstaff.wordpress.com/learning-activities/> to see how it looked in the days when Chatauquas were held. Floods damaged the many buildings that used to be located there. What year was the biggest flood?

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When were Ottawa schools integrated? Read the articles at <http://ottlibstaff.wordpress.com/learning-activities/> to find out. If you wanted to do further research on this subject, would you look under integration or desegregation?

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What was Ottawa named for? What does it mean?
Hint: some information is hard to find! And sometimes it can be found in more than one source. Look in "My Ottawa Book" by Diane Yeamans, local history 978.166. Does this have an index?

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What was Franklin County named for? Check both "Kansas Place-names" by Ryjord 917.81 and "1001 Kansas place Names" by McCoy 917.81003. Which do you think is a better source?

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What is the meaning of the name of the Marias Des Cygnes river?
See the article about county names at <http://ottlibstaff.wordpress.com/learning-activities/>. Can you find it anywhere else?

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Ottawa Annals are abstracts from the Ottawa Herald. Where can they be found? What years do they cover?

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What was Kansas named for? What does it mean?
Find the book "83,000 Square Miles, no lines, no waiting" 978.1 Har. Does this book have an index? Look on page 15!

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In 1993 a 640 page book was published called "The History of Franklin County, KS." Look up the entry about the Ottawa Library. What year was the Ottawa Library Association organized?

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Rosemary Honn has compiled newspaper articles about Ottawa history in a binder that is cataloged. Can you find where it is? What was "Dad" Martin known for?
