



## *HLC Accreditation Evidence*

- Cohen Center for Kansas History

URL:

<https://www.bartonccc.edu/library/cohencenter>

Office of Origin:

- Vice President of Instruction

Contact(s):

- Director of Library and College Archives



## Cohen Center for Kansas History

The Cohen Center for Kansas History is a special collection and research library dedicated to preserving historic resources in Kansas, and inspiring research, teaching, and creative work on the agricultural, cultural, economic, educational, military, and political histories of Kansas. A result of the generosity of the late Barton P. and Dr. Mary Davidson Cohen of Leawood, Kansas, the Cohen Center is located in the southeast alcove of the Barton Library on the Great Bend campus.



The Cohens donated funds to renovate the portion of the Library that is now the Cohen Center, and contributed more than 8,000 books to establish the collection. Their dream, and that of Barton Community College, was that these donations would be the foundation of an ever-growing special collection within a library that is continually advancing as the information hub for Barton and the communities it serves.

This vision is being realized, as other generous donors have since added materials in many subject areas such as agriculture, the Civil War, pioneer life on the plains, Native American Studies, politics, railroads, and the Santa Fe Trail. Currently the Cohen Center's holdings number over 1,700 titles, many of which are sets comprising multiple volumes. In addition to the Barton P. and Dr. Mary Davidson Cohen History Collection, other donated collections include:

- Barton Community College Foundation Collection
- Angela Bates Collection
- Frederick Cross Collection
- Robert A. Fiala Collection
- Vern Fryberger Collection
- Mary L. Hester Collection
- Becki Libhart Collection
- Linda McCaffrey Collection
- Ray S. Schultz Collection
- Rex Wade Collection
- Mae Weaver Collection

The Cohen Center has holdings of scholarly journals in the fields of Kansas and western history, as well as complete

printed sets of Kansas Historical Collections, Kansas Historical Quarterly, and Kansas History. Ephemera is an emerging portion of our print collection.

Details on the collection and its management can be found in the [Collection Development Plan](#).

The books and other printed material are searchable by subject, title, and/or author through the [Cohen Center Catalog](#). For the benefit of Barton Community College faculty and students, as well as unaffiliated researchers, we offer an [annotated bibliography](#) of monographs and another [bibliography of journal articles](#).

Researchers and other visitors are welcome to visit the Cohen Center. In order to guarantee the maximum benefit, though, we do require the completion of a [Research Appointment Form](#). This will ensure that appropriate staff and resources are available. Details for arranging the visit as well as parameters for use of the Cohen Center are found in the [Guidelines for Access](#).

**The Cohen Center for  
Kansas History CATALOG**

Links



# BARTON

## COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Notice of Non-discrimination  
Policies and Procedures  
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Kansas DegreeStats  
Transparency  
Faculty and Staff

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Barton Online  
Ft. Leavenworth Campus  
Ft. Riley Campus  
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Barton Community College  
245 NE 30 RD  
Great Bend, KS 67530  
(800) 748-7594 | (620) 792-2701

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# College News

## Barton Library to host Cohen Center for Kansas History Grand Reopening celebration

August 16, 2022

Story and photo by Joe Vinduska

The Barton Library's Cohen Center for Kansas History holds a wealth of preserved historical documents, books, as well as other resources and is celebrating a grand reopening ceremony at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 9 in the Barton Library located in the center of campus.

The celebration will feature Metropolitan State University of Denver History Professor Dr. John H. Monnet as the keynote speaker and he will be available for book signings. Light refreshments will be served and tours will be available.

Barton Library Director Darren Ivey said it's a very exciting time.

"The Cohen Center is being rebranded as a 'special collection and research library' that is an accumulation of rare or important primary and secondary sources on Kansas, the Great Plains, and the American West. The collection will focus in part on 'Bleeding Kansas' and Kansas units and soldiers who fought during the Civil War in Missouri, Arkansas, and the Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma), as well as in Georgia and Alabama. We will also touch on northeastern New Mexico and southeastern Colorado due to our emphasis on the Santa Fe Trail. Additionally, we have a collection of ethnographic and ethnohistorical works on the Comanche, Kiowa, Southern Cheyenne, Southern Arapaho, Wichita, Osage, and several other tribes."

Ivey said his goal is to make this resource widely- known and available for all who can benefit from its use.

"First and foremost, we want the collection to be a teaching resource for Barton faculty and students, and to area middle- and high-school educators, tutors, and home school parents," he said. "However, we are also reaching out to university history departments in the state, to county historical societies and to private historical organizations such as the Santa Fe Trail Association and the Westerners International."

The Center is dedicated to preserving resources in Kansas and inspiring research in Kansas history. The original collection was a generous gift from the late Barton P. and Dr. Mary Davidson Cohen to the Barton Community College Foundation. Donations from other individuals and organizations to add to the collection are accepted. For more information, visit [bartonccc.edu/cohencenter](http://bartonccc.edu/cohencenter) or contact Ivey at [iveyd@bartonccc.edu](mailto:iveyd@bartonccc.edu).



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