

Help! My Q drive disappeared!

Steve Simon

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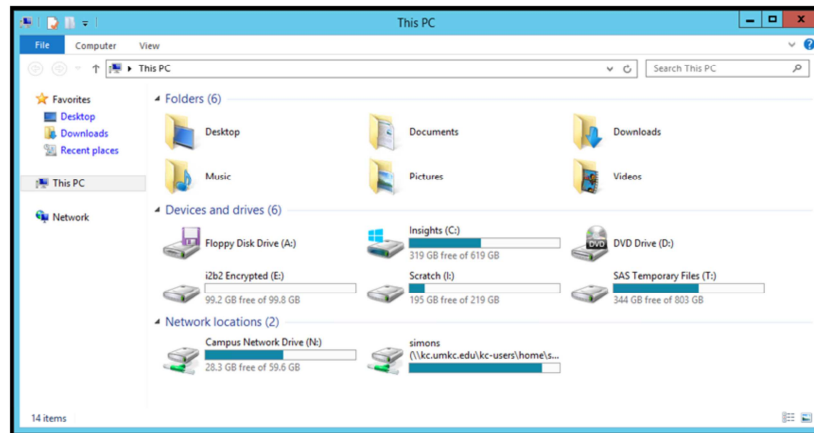
What to do if you can't find your network folder

- Don't panic
- Two backdoor approaches
 - N:/home/s/simons
 - \kc.umkc.edu-users

If you can't find your network folder, don't panic. There are two backdoor approaches that will let you access the files you need.

The first takes a long trip along the N: drive to get to where the Q: drive points to automatically. The second uses the "official" name for your private network folder.

Look on the N: drive



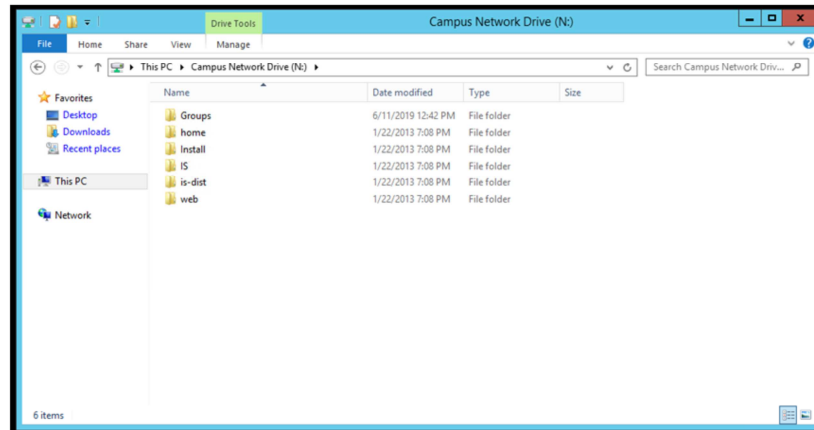
If you are running a program on the UMKC Insights platform, the UMKC remote computer lab, or the UMKC student computer lab, you will need to use files stored on the network. None of these places will recognize locations on your own computer's hard drive or on a USB thumb drive or anything else locally.

Fortunately, UMKC students, faculty, and staff has access to a private set of network folders. These folders are on the Q: drive. Once in a while, you may lose track of your Q: drive. I'm not sure why it happens or how it happens, but there is no need to panic. There are at least two approaches that will work even if the Q: drive has decided to hide from you.

This is a screenshot from my computer system linking to the Insights platform. You will notice that there is not a Q: drive showing anywhere. Actually, the Q: drive right now is masquerading as the "simons" drive, but let's pretend that we can't see that either.

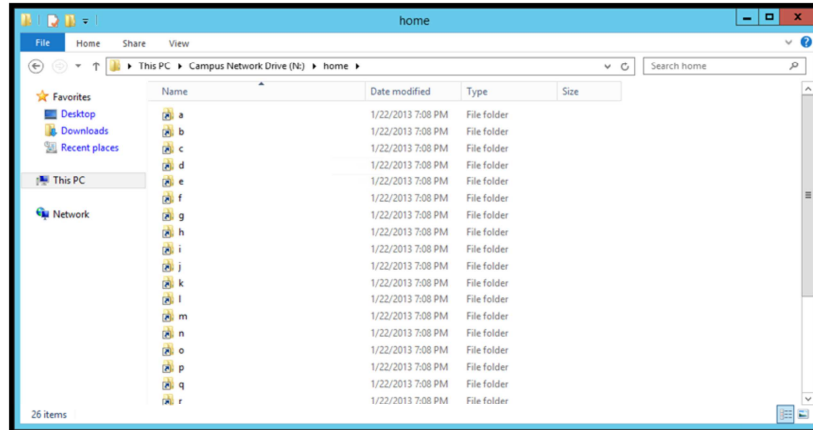
What you do see, and it is almost as good, is the N: drive. Normally, you use the N: drive to access group folders, but you can also navigate to your private network folders from N: as well.

What the N: drive looks like



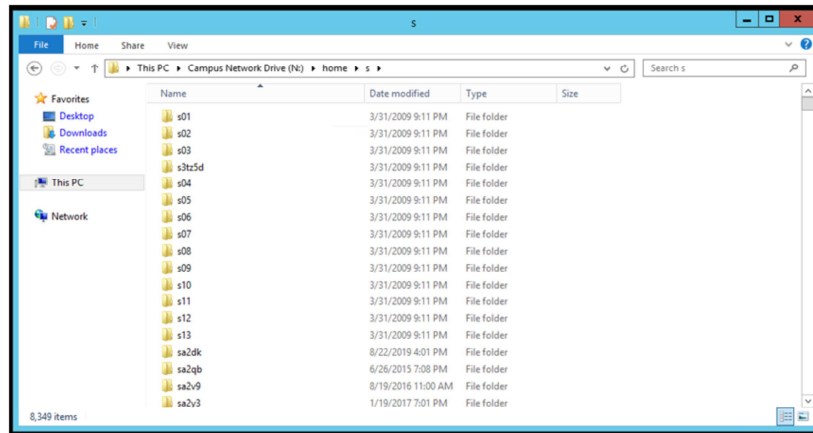
The N: drive has several folders, Groups, home, Install, etc. You want to peelk at the “home” folder.

The home folder on N:, alphabet soup



When you click on the home folder, you will see 26 directories with the single letters a through z.

Choose the right letter



Now I choose the letter s, because my userid is simons. If your userid was lincolna, then you would select the "l" directory. If your userid was washington, then you would select the "w" directory. Notice that there are 8,349 directories here, because so many people at UMKC who have a userid starting with the letter s. Unless you were fortunate enough to be the son or daughter of Xena, Warrior Princess, your letter will have just as many folders.

Scroll, and scroll, and scroll some more

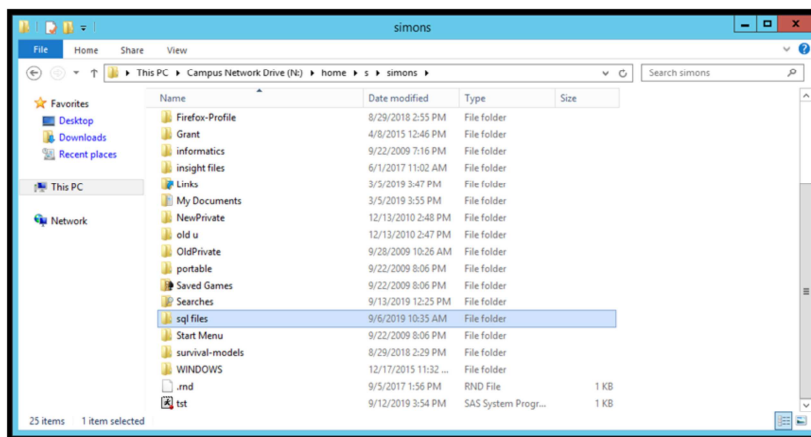
The screenshot shows a Windows File Explorer window titled 'S'. The address bar indicates the current location is 'This PC > Campus Network Drive (R:) > home > s'. The left sidebar shows 'Favorites' (Desktop, Downloads, Recent places) and 'This PC' (Network). The main pane displays a list of folders with columns for Name, Date modified, Type, and Size. The 'simons' folder is highlighted in blue.

Name	Date modified	Type	Size
simondr	1/16/2018 2:24 PM	File folder	
simondscs	7/3/2013 3:29 PM	File folder	
simondss	8/21/2019 3:03 PM	File folder	
simonejn	2/20/2016 7:06 PM	File folder	
simenisc	3/9/2015 7:00 PM	File folder	
simonka	10/23/2017 7:35 AM	File folder	
simonki	3/31/2009 10:14 PM	File folder	
simons	9/13/2019 12:41 PM	File folder	
simpnz	9/4/2018 7:00 PM	File folder	
SimpsonC	3/31/2009 10:14 PM	File folder	
simpsoncs	3/31/2009 10:14 PM	File folder	
simpsonjr	11/1/2017 7:03 PM	File folder	
simpsonjw	4/10/2017 3:09 PM	File folder	
simpsonld	7/22/2016 7:04 PM	File folder	
simpsonp	8/27/2019 3:36 PM	File folder	
SimpsonR	3/12/2018 9:10 AM	File folder	
simpsonrd	7/8/2011 7:30 PM	File folder	
simjsa	4/19/2019 7:01 PM	File folder	

8,349 items 1 item selected

It takes a while to scroll through 8,349 directories. I am looking for the directory corresponding to my userid. Ah! There it is. The simons directory.

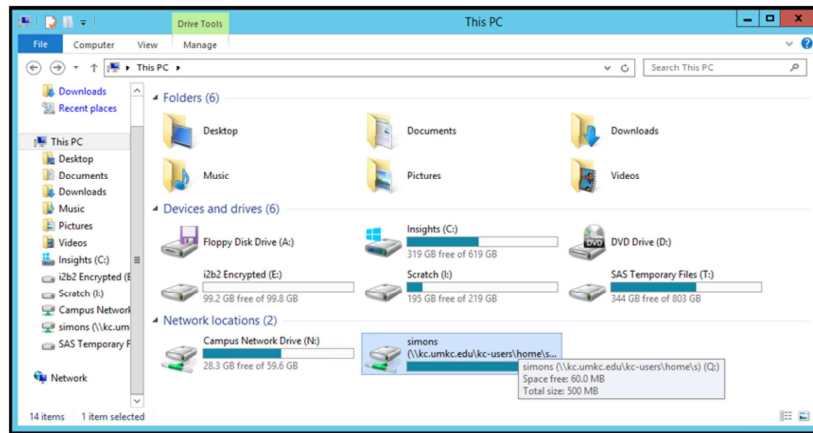
Found it. Hooray!



Once I have opened up the simons folder, I see exactly what I would have seen if I had opened up the Q: drive. Hooray!

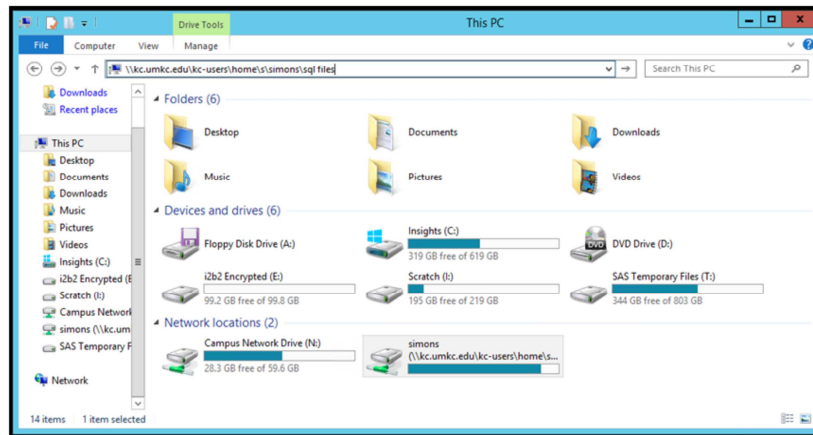
But let me tell you about a second backdoor approach that works.

Full filename for Q: is
\\kc.umkc.edu-users



If you hover over the Q: drive letter in Windows Explorer, you will see the official name of the directory that is associated with the letter Q. It is \\kc.umkc.edu-users for me, but for you that last letter might be "l" or "w" or "x". Tack on the name of your userid and you have the official network name for your folder.

If Q is lost, use the official name
instead



You can type this official name in the address bar, and you will be delivered straight to your own special place on the UMKC network.

Now I'm showing how it works for me, but it will work for you also. You just have to substitute the correct letter and the correct userid.