OF NOTE

Donation adds many valuable sources to History and Genealogy Department holdings

Lewis Bunker Rohrbach, owner of Picton Press genealogical publishing company, has donated his private library of more than 11,000 books and journals to St. Louis County Library. Mr. Rohrbach, who collected the items over a 40-year period at his home in Worb, Switzerland, shipped the collection by sea, with the container arriving in St. Louis on Oct. 31. The items will be added to the more than 85,000 print items already held by the History and Genealogy Department.

The Lewis Bunker Rohrbach Collection will enrich the library’s research offerings for eastern states. Maine, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania are prominently featured. The collection also brings sources for English, Welsh, and Scots research rarely found in the U.S., as well as unique materials relating to the history and culture of Canton Bern, Switzerland. The donation also adds a significant number of published family histories.

Evaluation and sorting of the collection began in December, and the first items—some family histories—were cataloged and made available to researchers by early January. The rest of the collection will be processed as quickly as possible.

FOR THE RECORDS

Using Ante-Bellum Southern Plantation records

Dee Woodtor writes,

There are many records that contain names of slaves and their owners for the duration of slavery. There are records that show the transfer of slaves from one party to another by sale, by gift, by mortgage or some other mechanism. There are records listing the name of every slave owned by a planter. There are even records that show slaves inventing a new device or being used for medical experiments or being inoculated against yellow fever.

Some estimates suggest the names of as many as 80% of the enslaved ancestors of many African Americans are in fact recorded somewhere. These are often found in documents pertaining to the life and activities of the slave owners, who often created records about the enslaved African Americans under their control. As a result, finding information on enslaved ancestors almost always involves finding the records of the families who enslaved them.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3
NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
2015 FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE

CROSSROADS OF AMERICA
St. Charles, Missouri
13–16 May 2015

Visit www.ngsgenealogy.org for more information.

Presented by:
National Genealogical Society
3108 Columbia Pike, Suite 300
Arlington, VA 22204-4370
Phone: 703-525-0050 or 800-473-0060
Fax: 703-525-0052
E-mail: conference@ngsgenealogy.org
Website: www.ngsgenealogy.org

Local Host Society:
St. Louis Genealogical Society
4 Sunnen Drive, Suite 140
St. Louis, MO 63143
Phone: 314-647-8547
Fax: 314-647-8548
E-mail: office@stlgs.org
Website: www.stlgs.org
Many researchers are unaware of “Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations.” St. Louis County Library holdings include 52 printed indexes and 42 microfilm reels. Additional index volumes are available online, including three not in the library’s collection. An additional 1551 microfilm rolls not in the library’s collection can be ordered from the Family History Library through FamilySearch.org <http://familysearch.org>.

The records are divided into fourteen series, each of which pertaining to the repository that holds the originals, as shown in Figure 1, page 4. The location of the collection may not reflect the geographic location of the original plantation. In addition, many series are further divided into parts. Figure 1, provides a complete listing of the fourteen series with their parts, index volumes, and the number of microfilm rolls.

**Examples from the records**

The types of records available can vary. The following examples do not represent everything available but are intended only to alert the reader to the possibilities.

Robert J. Turnbull owned a number of cotton plantations in Mississippi and in Louisiana. The 1860 U.S. Census Slave Schedule lists him as the owner of hundreds of enslaved African Americans. Typical of slave schedules, the listing is by age and gender without names of the individuals. His estate papers, however, list the individuals by name and place them in family groupings. Figure 2 shows a portion of the list.

A similar example is a post-emancipation list of laborers working on the Manchac Plantation in Iberville Parish, Louisiana from the estate papers of James N. Brown, a wealthy sugar planter (Figure 3 shows a page from the list). The listing includes first and last names, many of which can be found living in Iberville parish in the 1870 census.

Another type of record features letters written from a formerly enslaved African American to former slave owners. These generally seem to take a friendly, familiar tone, asking after the health and well being of the former slave owning family. It is very likely that this was not out of genuine fondness for the family so much as to generate sympathy.
Figure 1 | List of Southern Plantation Records with availability of guides and microfilm rolls

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Series</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Guide availability</th>
<th>Number of film rolls</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SLCL Online</td>
<td>FamilySearch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Selections from the South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina</td>
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<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Part 1 The Papers of James Henry Hammond 1795 - 1865</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Part 2 Miscellaneous Papers</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Selections from the South Carolina Historical Society</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Selections from the Library of Congress</td>
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<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Part 1 Virginia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Part 2 Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Selections from the Maryland Historical Society</td>
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<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Selections from the University of Virginia Library, University of Virginia</td>
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<td>224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Part 1 Virginia Plantations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Part 2 Virginia Plantations Family Papers</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Part 3 Virginia Plantations Family Papers</td>
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<td>Part 4 Cocke Family Papers</td>
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<td>Part 5 Ambler Family Papers</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Part 6 Virginia Plantations</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>Selections from Duke University Library</td>
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<td>129</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Part 1 Deep South</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Part 2 South Carolina and Georgia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Part 3 North Carolina, Maryland, and Virginia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Part 4 North Carolina and Virginia Plantations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Part 5 William Patterson Smith Collection</td>
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<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Selections from the Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin</td>
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<td>177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Part 1 Texas and Louisiana Collections</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Part 2 William Massie Collection</td>
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<td>Part 3 Natchez Trace Collection - Bank of the State of Mississippi Records</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Part 4 Natchez Trace Collection - Winchester Family Papers 1783-1906</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Part 5 Natchez Trace Collection - Other Plantation Collections (Louisiana &amp; Mississippi)</td>
<td></td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Selections from the Howard-Tilton Library, Tulane University and the Louisiana State Museum Archives</td>
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<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Selections from Louisiana State University</td>
<td></td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Part 1 Louisiana Sugar Plantations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Part 2 Louisiana and Other Southern Cotton Plantations</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Part 3 The Natchez Area</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Part 4 Barrow, Bisland, Bowman, and Other Collections</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5
and help (often financial) for the letter writer. A good example of this is a letter from Lucy Marks to Stephen Duncan, shown in Figure 4.

Figure 5 is an example of a record in which a slave owner, Harriet Davison, sells an enslaved woman named Katty. The record gives no hint at what hardships this sale imposed upon Katty and her family. Still, it shows an event in her life and identifies two other people whose may hold keys to learning more about Katty and her fate.

There are also examples documenting emancipations. Although the records themselves are legal documents, we can imagine the joy of the newly-freed individual. Figure 6 provides an example in which a woman named Grace receives her freedom.

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**Figure 1 | List of Southern Plantation Records with availability of guides and microfilm rolls (cont.)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Series</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Guide availability</th>
<th>Number of film rolls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td></td>
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<td>SLCL FamilySearch</td>
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<td>Part 5</td>
<td>Butler Family Collections</td>
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<td>☐ ☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part 6</td>
<td>David Weeks and Family Collection</td>
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<td>J</td>
<td>Selections from the Southern Historical Collection</td>
<td>455</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part 1</td>
<td>The Cameron Family Papers</td>
<td>☐ ☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part 2</td>
<td>The Pettigrew Family Papers</td>
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<td>☐ ☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part 3</td>
<td>South Carolina</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Part 4</td>
<td>Georgia and Florida</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part 5</td>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part 6</td>
<td>Mississippi and Arkansas</td>
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<td>Part 7</td>
<td>Alabama</td>
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<td>Part 8</td>
<td>Tennessee and Kentucky</td>
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<td>Part 9</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part 10</td>
<td>Hubbard Family Papers, 1741-1865</td>
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<td>Part 11</td>
<td>Hairston and Wilson Families</td>
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<td>Part 12</td>
<td>Tidewater and Coastal Plains North Carolina</td>
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<td>Part 14</td>
<td>Western North Carolina</td>
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<td>Selections from the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Library, The Shirley Plantation Collection</td>
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<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>Selections from the Earl Gregg Swem Library, The College of William and Mary in Virginia</td>
<td>80</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Carter Papers, 1667-1882</td>
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<td>☐ ☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part 2</td>
<td>Jerdone Family Papers, 1736-1918</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part 3</td>
<td>Skipwith Family Papers, 1760-1977</td>
<td>☐ ☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part 4</td>
<td>Austin-Twyman Papers, 1765-1862 and Charles Brown Papers, 1792-1888</td>
<td>☐ ☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Selections from the Virginia Historical Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part 1</td>
<td>Tayloe Family, 1650-1970</td>
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<td>☐ ☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part 2</td>
<td>Northern Neck of Virginia, also Maryland</td>
<td>☐ ☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part 3</td>
<td>Other Tidewater Virginia</td>
<td>☐ ☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part 4</td>
<td>Central Piedmont Virginia</td>
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<td>Part 5</td>
<td>Southside Virginia</td>
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<td>☐ ☐</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Using the Records

Plantation records can be challenging to use but might yield rewards for anyone willing to put in the time and effort to work with them.

Step 1 | Discover the name of the final owner of an enslaved ancestor. This first step, though often difficult, is essential in order to use the records. The records were created by slave-owning families, and that forms the basis of their arrangement.

Figure 3 | A list of emancipated slaves working as laborers on the Manchac Plantation in Iberville Parish, Louisiana.

Figure 4 | Letter of former slave, Lucy Marks, to former owner, Stephen Duncan

There is no uniform approach to this step. A researcher will need to do solid genealogical research on his or her family to find an ancestor who was living at the time of emancipation. The History and Genealogy Department has a number of excellent resources for this, including the following:


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**Step 2** Once the name and location of the final slave owner is known, consult the table in Figure 1 to determine which volumes of the finding aid to search.

**Step 3** Study the finding aid. The finding aids in the History and Genealogy Department’s collection are shelved at call no. R 975 S336G. Versions are also online <http://tinyurl.com/lvf5wn7> on the University of Virginia Library website.

**Step 4** Determine which roll of microfilm to search. The History and Genealogy Department has Series G, Part 5 (42 rolls): “Natchez Trace Collection–Other Plantation Records”. Other rolls can be ordered from the Family History Library <http://www.familysearch.org>. You may request that the microfilms be sent to the History and Genealogy Department or to another Family History Center of your choice.

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**Figure 5** Record of sale of a slave named Katty

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**Figure 6** Record of a slave owner James Gage freeing a slave named Grace.
Although requiring a solid foundation of genealogical research use them effectively, diligent researchers will find many rewards while searching the Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations.

Notes


3. List of slaves from inventory (grouped by family), Robert J Tumble Papers, 1801-ca. 1860, Issaquena County Mississippi, also Louisiana, Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution Through the Civil War, Series G, Selections from the Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin, Part 5: Natchez Trace Collection–Other Plantation Collections, Roll 36 frame 665. (The list continues on subsequent frames.)


5. Lucy Marks letter to Mr Stephen Duncan, Duncan Family Papers, 1826–1888, Natchez, Mississippi; also Louisiana, Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution Through the Civil War, Series G, Selections from the Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin, Part 5: Natchez Trace Collection–Other Plantation Collections, Roll 21 frame 640.

6. Mrs Harriet Davison sells a woman slave named Katty age about 28, Natchez Trace Slaves and Slavery Collection, 1793-1864, Natchez, Mississippi; also Louisiana, Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution Through the Civil War, Series G, Selections from the Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin, Part 5: Natchez Trace Collection–Other Plantation Collections, Film 31 frame 786.

7. James Cage gives negro woman Grace her freedom, Natchez Trace Slaves and Slavery Collection, 1793-1864, Natchez, Mississippi; also Louisiana, Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution Through the Civil War, Series G, Selections from the Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin, Part 5: Natchez Trace Collection–Other Plantation Collections, Roll 31 Frame 604.
Genealogy
PROGRAMS

St. Louis Genealogical Society General Meeting
Saturday, February 14, 10:00 a.m.
Headquarters–Auditorium

Preparing for Heritage Travel
Speaker: Kathy Wurth
Ready to travel to an ancestral town? You will want to prepare for a heritage tour to visit your ancestors’ hometowns in Europe, whether on your own or with a group. Begin with U.S. records to find your places of origin, then move to pre-trip preparation and what you can expect from a heritage tour.

St. Louis Genealogical Society General Meeting
Saturday, March 14, 10:00 a.m.
Headquarters–Auditorium

The “Talking” Family Photo Album
Speaker: Steven Cranford
Today’s self-publishing technology has provided us with an affordable and creative way to preserve our family history for future generations. This presentation offers a wealth of inspiring information to start you down the path of publishing the photos and stories of your life.

St. Louis Genealogical Society Jewish Special Interest Group
Wednesday, February 18, 7:00 p.m.
Headquarters–Auditorium

St. Louis Genealogical Society German Special Interest Group
Wednesday, March 18, 7:00 p.m.
Headquarters–Auditorium

European Migration Patterns
Follow your ancestors as they left Europe and made their way across the Atlantic to the U.S. See the possible paths they took and the ways in which they may have traveled.
Speaker: Ilene Murray

Program sites are accessible. Upon two weeks’ notice, accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities. Call 314-994-3300 or visit www.scl.org

Programs are free and open to the public.
Registration is not required.
Call 314-994-3300 for more information.

St. Louis County Library
1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63131
LOCAL HISTORY

University City

University City, incorporated in 1903, was the brain-child of Edward Garner Lewis, who was also the city’s first mayor. Lewis purchased 85 acres northwest of the 1904 World’s Fair site in 1902, where he rented out white tents with electricity for fair visitors. He called the endeavor "Camp Lewis." The octagonal building used today as city hall was originally built to house the headquarters for Lewis’s Woman’s Magazine.

Early neighborhoods included University Heights One (designed by Lewis), and Parkview (designed by Julius Pitzman), a third of which is located within the St. Louis city limits. University City saw rapid growth during the 1910s and 1920s, extending its city limits in 1918 and again in 1923. Its current boundaries date from 1960.

The History and Genealogy Department has a wide array of resources for research on University City. On microfilm are the University City Building Permit Index Cards, organized alphabetically by street. Also on microfilm are cemetery records for: B’ni Amoona, Chevra Kadisha Adas B’ni Israel, Mount Olive, Ohave Sholom (AKA Chevra Kadisha Ohave Sholom), United Hebrew (remains moved to B’nai El [New Mt. Sinai]), and Wickermans Cemeteries. Our print collection includes yearbooks from University City High School and Mercy High School and various articles in our local history file. A few of the books in our stacks on institutions in University City have been indexed and can be found on the SLCL website.

Local history vertical file
McCune, Gill. “University City.” Title Insurance Corporation of St. Louis.
“Facts About the City of University City, Missouri.” Watchman-Advocate (19 Jan. 1923).

An example of a record from the University City Building Permit Index, available on microfilm in the History and Genealogy Department

“This Is University City: A Community of Diversity, Culture, and Education.” City of University City.

Yearbooks
University City High School, Reunion Booklet: Class of 1952.

Books
AUTHOR EVENTS

Events are free and open to the public.

■ Wednesday, Feb. 4, 7:00 pm
Headquarters Auditorium

John Hooper, “The Italians”

John Hooper’s entertaining and perceptive new book is the ideal companion for anyone seeking to understand contemporary Italy and the unique character of the Italians. Digging deep into their history, culture, and religion, Hooper offers keys to understanding everything from Italian politics to their love of life and beauty. Even readers who think they know Italy well will be surprised, challenged, and delighted by “The Italians.”

■ Monday, Feb. 9, 7:00 pm
Headquarters Auditorium

Vida “Sister” Goldman Prince, “That’s the Way it Was: Stories of Struggle, Survival, and Self-Respect in Twentieth Century Black St. Louis”

Presented by the 2015 Black History Celebration

Segregation was a way of life in 20th century St. Louis, aptly called “the most southern city in the North.” These thirteen oral histories describe the daily struggle that pervasive racism demanded but also share the tradition of self-respect that the African American community of St. Louis sought to build on its own terms. As the chairman of the Oral History Project at the Holocaust Museum and Learning Center in St. Louis, Vida "Sister" Goldman Prince has been researching and recording oral history Interviews for the past 30 years.


Harris, NiNi. Legacy of Lions. University City: Historical Society of University City, 1981. R 977.865 H313L.

Morse, Sidney Levi. The Siege of University City, the Dreyfus Case of America. University City: University City, 1912. R 977.866 M886

Indexed Resources on Website


St. James Ev. Lutheran Church, 1932-1957. University City, Mo.: St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1957. R 977.865 S143


Microfilm Resources

University City, St. Louis County, Missouri: Building Permit Index Cards (7 rolls)

Cemetery records: B’nai Amoona, Chevra Kadisha Adas B’nai Israel, Mount Olive, Ohave Sholom (AKA Chevra Kadisha Ohave Sholom), United Hebrew (remains moved to B’nai El, now known as New Mt. Sinai), Wickersham.
View the list of new books on the web

A list of new books received during the previous month appears on the library’s website. View the list by clicking on the graphic, left, or by typing the URL into your browser: <http://tinyurl.com/ktha6fr>.

Looking for a specific state, or county?
Books pertaining to specific states (and counties within states) begin with the same call number. A chart of Dewey Decimal numbers for states and counties is posted on the library website <http://tinyurl.com/oqy8xp8>. Other subjects are also grouped by call number. For example, family histories begin with 929.2. Materials for Scotland begin with 941 and those for Germany begin with 943.

To find new titles on the book list, note the Dewey Decimal Number for the state / county or subject you are interested in. Scroll through the book list until you find items beginning with that call number.

Books with call numbers not beginning with “R” are listed in Dewey Decimal order first, followed by those beginning with “R” (denoting “Reference” books that may be used only in the library). Book titles can be selected from the online list and emailed, printed, or saved to a file. An additional feature for library card holders is the ability to login to their library accounts and save titles to a customized list. You can also download the list as a PDF from the library’s website <http://tinyurl.com/okz4vvs>.

For more information about viewing the new book list online, exporting records, and saving items to a customized list, call (314) 994-3300 or ask a librarian when visiting any St. Louis County Library branch.

NEW IN THE HISTORY AND GENEALOGY DEPARTMENT

328 NEW VOLUMES ADDED IN January

The Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the Making of American Capitalism
By Edward E. Baptist
Basic Books, 2014
R 306.362 B222H

As historian Edward Baptist reveals in The Half Has Never Been Told, the expansion of slavery in the first eight decades after American independence drove the evolution and modernization of the United States. In the span of a single lifetime, the South grew from a narrow coastal strip of worn-out tobacco plantations to a continental cotton empire, and the United States grew into a modern, industrial, and capitalist economy. Until the Civil War, Baptist explains, the most important American economic innovations were ways to make slavery ever more profitable. Through forced migration and torture, slave owners extracted continual increases in efficiency from enslaved African Americans. Thus the United States seized control of the world market for cotton, the key raw material of the Industrial Revolution, and became a wealthy nation with global influence.—Publisher

German-Speaking Officers in the United States Colored Troops, 1863–1867
By Martin Öfele
University Press of Florida, 2004
R 973.741 O31G

While the experiences of ethnic minorities in the Civil War have received increased attention in recent decades, the varied and not always easy relations between immigrants and African-Americans participating in the struggle have attracted scant notice. This study explores the motivations

NEWS AND TIPS | ST. LOUIS COUNTY LIBRARY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY DEPARTMENT
of German-speaking immigrants in the U.S. Colored Troops (USCT) and the sometimes hostile, sometimes sympathetic reactions of their American comrades and enemies in the conflict. Some immigrants were ardent abolitionists, others just color-blind enough to accept African-Americans as their new fellow countrymen, and still others adopted racist views. The story of German officers in the USCT is an important facet of the history of race relations between immigrants and African-Americans in the 19th century. Apart from explaining how many German-Americans reflected on issues such as emancipation or the Union, Öfele also raises contemporary questions about national and ethnic identity and assimilation of minorities in white societies. The USCT substantially contributed to many Union victories and helped shape relationships between whites and blacks in the army for many decades to come. It also offered new possibilities for advancement for foreigners who, owing to nativist tensions, were often barred from promotion in the volunteer forces. Drawing mainly on primary sources and personal documents including letters, diaries, memoirs, and military service and pension records, Öfele provides a new perspective on the role of German-Americans in the Civil War and the reasons for and consequences of their decision to join the minority corps of the Union Army.—Publisher

Guide to Genealogical Writing: How to Write and Publish Your Family History
By Penelope L. Stratton and Henry B. Hoff
New England Historical Genealogical Society, 2014
R 929.1 S911G

Using examples from NEHGS's publications, this writing guide outlines how to write your family history clearly and accurately -- from building a genealogical sketch to adding images to indexing. An appendix on genealogical style covers alternate spellings of names, when and how to use lineage lines, how to include adopted children and stepchildren, aspects of double dating, and other issues faced by genealogical writers.

Tomlinson Hill: The Remarkable Story of Two Families Who Share the Tomlinson Name—One White, One Black
By Chris Tomlinson
Thomas Dunne Books, 2014
R 305.896 T659T

Tomlinson Hill is the stunning story of two families—one white, one black—who trace their roots to a slave plantation that bears their name. Internationally recognized for his work as a fearless war correspondent, award-winning journalist Chris Tomlinson grew up hearing stories about his family’s abandoned cotton plantation in Falls County, Texas. Most of the tales lionized his white ancestors for pioneering along the Brazos River. His grandfather often said the family’s slaves loved them so much that they also took

PastPorts is published by the St. Louis County Library History and Genealogy Department, located on Tier 5 of the library headquarters.
Current and past issues can be downloaded from the web <http://www.slcl.org/pastports>.

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Tours
Tours of the department are conducted on the first Wednesday and third Saturday of the month at 10:30 a.m. No registration is required. Group tours are gladly arranged with advance notice by calling 314-994-3300, ext. 2070.
Tomlinson as their last name. LaDainian Tomlinson, football great and former running back for the San Diego Chargers, spent part of his childhood playing on the same land that his black ancestors had worked as slaves. As a child, LaDainian believed the Hill was named after his family. Not until he was old enough to read an historical plaque did he realize that the Hill was named for his ancestor’s slaveholders. A masterpiece of authentic American history, Tomlinson Hill traces the true and very revealing story of these two families. From the beginning in 1854—when the first Tomlinson, a white woman, arrived—to 2007, when the last Tomlinson, LaDainian’s father, left, the book unflinchingly explores the history of race and bigotry in Texas. Along the way it also manages to disclose a great many untruths that are latent in the unsettling and complex story of America.—Publisher

Abandoning America: Life Stories from Early New England
By Susan Hardman Moore
Boydell Press, 2013
R 974 H264A

Abandoning America brings together the biographies of hundreds of people who crossed over to New England in the 1630s but later braved the Atlantic again to return home. Some went back quickly, disenchanted or discouraged. Many invested everything to make New England a success, yet after ten or twenty years resolved to leave America - against a backdrop of civil war and Cromwell's commonwealth in England, and personal dilemmas about family ties, health and prospects. The book retrieves their forgotten life-stories from thousands of scattered fragments of evidence in early New England records and British archives, often starting from some incidental, passing, reference. The result of this scholarly detective work is a remarkable and evocative collection of personal histories, of people overlooked in the onward march of American history. Their anxieties and aspirations speak eloquently about the experience of being a New Englander, for those who stayed on as well as for those who left. The book traces settlers' lives with an eye to the information historians look for. It is a rich original resource for scholars of early America and the English Revolution - for research on religion in England and New England, Atlantic migration, and much more.—Publisher

Guide New microfilm

Niles’ National Register, | Sept. 7, 1822 – Feb. 28, 1824; Sept. 1, 1827 – Aug. 22, 1829; Sept. 1, 1832 – Aug. 29, 1846; July 5, 1848 – Sept. 28, 1849 (final issue)

The Virginia Gazette | 1736 – 1780

GENEALOGY AT CLIFF CAVE

The following events take place at the Cliff Cave Branch of St. Louis County Library, 5430 Telegraph Road. Events are free and open to the public.

FEBRUARY / MARCH

Top Genealogy Websites
Monday, Feb. 9 | 6:30 p.m.
A review of the most popular pay and free websites for genealogical research.
Ken Webb, speaker

Genealogy and the Julian and Gregorian calendars
Monday, Jan. 12 | 6:30 p.m.
Learn about changes that took place affecting the calendar and how the one we use today is different that the one used before the 1750s.
Ken Webb, speaker

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