OF NOTE

Database classes resume in April

The Special Collections Department will again offer genealogical database classes:

- **Introduction to Ancestry Database**
  Wednesday, April 7, 2010
  9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

- **Introduction to Footnote and HeritageQuest**
  Tuesday, April 13, 2010
  6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

- **History and Genealogy in Newspapers**
  Thursday, April 29, 2010
  1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Please register in advance by calling (314) 994-3300, ext. 2070.

Missouri Colored Troop records to be digitized

The Special Collections Department is pleased to announce its partnership with the Missouri State Archives in digitizing the microfilm set, *Descriptive Recruitment Lists of Volunteers for the United States Colored Troops for the State of Missouri, 1863-1865* (National Archives Microfilm Publication M1894). The microfilm itself had been a collaborative effort between the Department and the National Archives in 2000 and subsequently became a major addition to the Julius K. Hunter and Friends African American Research Collection. The records were indexed for the Department by John R. Harris, III, a St. Louis University history major. The Missouri State Archives is digitizing the records using the Department’s copy of the microfilm. The digitized records will be placed online using the Department’s index and will make the records easily accessible. More information about the record set and access to its index is available on the Special Collections Department website [http://www.slcl.org/branches/hq/sc/jkh/m1894.htm](http://www.slcl.org/branches/hq/sc/jkh/m1894.htm).

Missouri online death records now updated

Missouri death certificates for 1959 have recently been added to the Missouri State Archives database. Certificates are available for years beginning with 1910 on the Missouri Digital Heritage website [http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/deathcertificates/>](http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/deathcertificates/).
The ability to read and understand land descriptions is essential for unlocking important information found in deeds, probate files, and court case documents in states using township and range property descriptions. Participants will learn:

- How to plat property on a township grid
- How to write a land description from a plat map image

States using township and range descriptions east of the Mississippi River are Alabama, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Ohio, and Wisconsin. All states west of the Mississippi except Texas and Hawaii use the system.

Besides the presentation and hands-on activities, the class will include a brief tour of the Special Collections Department to familiarize students with specialized resources needed for land research.

This workshop is designed for researchers who would like to advance their research skills. Knowledge of basic research skills and previous experience in doing genealogical or property research is recommended.
With the Civil War sesquicentennial coming in 2011, there has never been a better time to do Civil War research. Many archives, libraries and historical societies are preparing by making their collections more accessible through indexing projects and other means. PastPorts will periodically highlight sources in the Special Collections Department’s extensive Civil War collection throughout the coming year until April 2011, the 150th anniversary of the beginning of hostilities.

St. Louis has its own rich Civil War history. As the home of Dred Scott, the city played a unique role in events leading up to the Civil War. A large pro-Union city population was largely responsible for keeping Missouri in the Union despite strong pro-secessionist sentiment in the state at large. The Union Cause in St. Louis in 1861: An Historical Sketch (St. Louis: Nixon-Jones, 1909; 475 pages; R 977.866 R762U) is a history written by one who lived it. The book’s author, Robert J. Rombauer (1830-1925) was a colonel in the First Missouri Infantry Reserve Corps. That he was a native of Hungary (according to the 1870 federal census) highlights the role that many continental European immigrants played in supporting the Union cause. Part One provides historical context, including the development of slavery and the anti-slave movement, a brief history of the city, and political events leading up to the war. The author’s conclusion briefly sums up his own analysis of the war’s causes. Part Two provides lists of St. Louisans (80% of them German) who joined Union reserve and volunteer regiments.

Louis S. Gerteis in Civil War St. Louis (Lawrence, Kan.: University of Kansas Press, 2001; 410 pages; R 977.866 G384C and circulating copy) covers the subject with scholarly detail and a perspective that the distance of time can bring. In the process, he brings out the important—and often complex—stories that affected St. Louis and its citizens during the era while covering many personalities. The book is notable for including the experiences of women and African Americans.

Seeing where historical events occurred often brings them to life in a way that merely reading about them cannot. William C. Winters’s The Civil War in St. Louis: A Guided Tour (St. Louis: Missouri Historical Society Press, 1994; 179 pages; R 973.7 W787C) tells the history, describes the location, and then tells you how to find the exact spot today. Notable sites described in the book include Jefferson Barracks, the residences of Ulysses S. Grant and William T. Sherman, the Planters’ House Hotel, and many other sites related to Civil War history in St. Louis.

Winters’s inclusion of photographic and cartographic information helps in the understanding of events as they unfolded. For example, he describes the U.S. Army’s march on Camp Jackson in May 1861, a pivotal event that is also described in the other two books mentioned above. The incident centered on the encampment of the Missouri Militia in Lindell’s Grove, near the present-day St. Louis University. The militia was sent to the city by the secessionist Missouri Governor Jackson after he refused Lincoln’s call for troops to support the Union cause. Fearing that the militia was planning to capture the U.S. Arsenal, Army Captain Nathaniel Lyon led his troops to Lindell’s Grove to surround the militia. The militia surrendered peacefully, but the crowd of largely pro-southern civilian onlookers began harassing the army with heckling and rock throwing. Events escalated, resulting in an exchange of gunfire between the army and individuals in the crowd. The event left many casualties. Winters’s account includes maps and diagrams of the encampment at Lindell’s Grove and the army’s movements during the incident, plus a step-by-step guide for finding the locations today. He also includes the names of 28 civilians who were killed in the resulting conflict, many of them women and children.

Later chapters of the book provide a guide to the graves of many Union and Confederate officers and other notable Civil War personalities buried in local cemeteries. The book is filled with photographs, illustrations and maps, providing a wealth of visual information to supplement more text-heavy historical accounts.

Although it remained in the Union, Missouri was home to many citizens who were Confederate sympathizers and served in the Rebel Army. For those who have Missouri Confederate ancestors, the Special Collections Department has Missouri Confederate Pensions and Confederate Home Applications, a microfilm set produced by the Missouri State Archives. A printed index is available at call no. 977.8 F793M. Patrons who are unable to research the film themselves can request a lookup and a copy of the record if found. Email your request to scollections@slcl.org. Copies returned electronically by email are free. Paper copies will be mailed for 25 cents per copy plus a $1 processing fee.
Recent acquisitions to the German collection

Der Schlüssel

The Special Collections Department recently acquired vols. 4-9 of Der Schlüssel, representing all volumes currently in print. The volumes, whose title means “The Key,” is a major research tool providing name, subject and place indexes to selected German genealogical and historical periodicals. Citations cover articles published from as early as 1866 to as late as 1980. Volumes vary in scope:

- **Vol. 4**: Journals published in Germany, 1872-1959
- **Vol. 5**: Journals published in the Federal Republic of Germany, 1945-1960
- **Vol. 6**: Journals published in Austria and German-speaking Czechoslovakia, 1871-1944
- **Vol. 9**: Journals covering portions of Prussia, Magdeburg (Saxony-Anhalt) and northern Bohemia, and two pan-German publications, Heraldische und Genealogische Blätter für adelige und bürgerliche Geschlechter [Heraldic and Genealogical Newsletter for Noble and Middle-Class Lineages] and ADLER Zeitschrift für Genealogie und Heraldik [ADLER Journal for Genealogy and Heraldry], 1866-1975.

Each volume includes introductory material describing the periodicals referred to in the index. A list of individual articles arranged by journal and date follows, with each article having a unique numerical identifier. The article lists are followed by place name, subject, and surname indexes. Index entries include numbers keyed to individual articles.

Searching for names in the indexes can be tricky. The following tips come from an article by Laraine K. Ferguson in the German Genealogical Digest (see below):

- Umlauted vowels are alphabetized as ae (= ä), oe (=ö) and ue (=ü).
- *St.* is alphabetized as Sankt (meaning “Saint”)
- Names in Vol. 6 are treated phonetically rather than strictly alphabetically:
  - B & P are indexed under B
  - D & T are indexed under D
  - F & V are indexed under F
  - I & J are indexed under I
  - K, C, & G are indexed under K
  - W & V are indexed W
  - Z & C are indexed under Z
- In vols. 7-9, names beginning Sch and St are alphabetized separately following Sz.

Helpful guides to Der Schlüssel are Laraine K. Ferguson’s articles, “Locating a Surname, Locality or Topic in German Genealogical Periodicals: Der Schlüssel—The Key” and “German Genealogical Periodicals, Part 2: A List of Foreign Language Titles Keyed to Areas of Interest” in German Genealogical Digest, v. 9, no. 2 (Summer 1993): 38-62. A copy of the articles is available by asking at the Special Collections Department Reference Desk.

The Department holds some periodicals indexed in the set, and the staff can otherwise assist patrons in obtaining a copy of an article from another library if possible.

New Ortssippenbücher


The three Ortssippenbücher (local family genealogical registers) listed above concern villages in the Ortenau area of Baden, just north of Freiburg im Breisgau and near the French border. As is usual with other Ortssippenbücher, all three include local histories (CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)
and genealogical information on local families extracted from church and civil records. They are unusual in that they include emigration lists, with the Ettenheimmünster book providing the emigrants’ destinations. For researchers with Danube-Swabian (Donauschwaben) ancestors in Batschka, Hungary, the Schweighauser book includes a list of residents who emigrated to Hodschag, a village in Batschka, in the 18th century.

LOCAL HISTORY

Researching Overland

Our ancestors, like us, lived in communities. To fully understand their lives, it is also important to develop a sense of where they lived. To accomplish this task, research into the history of their home town can be a valuable undertaking. The Special Collections Department has a wide variety of information concerning the towns and cities in St. Louis County. This article is the third in a series to feature resources available for historical research in these local communities.

For many people, the mention of Overland conjures up images of a nice, suburban bedroom community. Scratch the surface, however, and it immediately becomes clear that there is much more to Overland. Europeans first received land grants in the area when St. Louis County was part of Spanish Louisiana.

After the Louisiana Purchase, Americans from the eastern states began arriving in the area. Growth was steady until the electric trolley lines arrived in the 1890s. Then things began to boom. Finally, on 9 June 1939, the St. Louis County Court ordered the incorporation of the city of Overland. Thus, an historic region has a fairly recent birth date.

The following is a list of books and articles in the local history clipping file about the city of Overland.

Books


Local History File

Baldwin, Charles, “Overland Traces History to Spanish Land Grants.”


Bicentennial Commission of the City of Overland, “The Overland Trail: Lackland Road Survey of 1838.”

Miller, Dorothy L., compiler and editor, “City of Overland Communique Civic Calendar 1972.”


Faga, Maryellen, “Sutter Remembers Overland at the Turn of the Century,” Star (30 Jun 1976) p. 4B.

Gillerman, Margaret, “Young Workers Lend Hands, Enthusiasm to Task of Resurrecting Pioneer Barn,” St. Louis Post-Dispatch (26 Oct 1998).


“Marking Lackland Trail.”


“Overland has kept small-town feel despite size.”

“Overland Residents Display Pollution Evidence to Aldermanic Board.”


“Street Scenes—Woodson Road,” County Star Journal (15 Apr 1987) p H1.

“This Centrally Located Community on Comeback Trail for Past Decade” (24 May 1992).
WEB NEWS

Web finds

- Ulysses S. Grant Digital Collection <http://digital.library.msstate.edu/collections/usgrant/index.html>: This site from the University of Mississippi features the digitized text of 31 volumes published by the Southern Illinois University Press between 1964 and 2009. Includes thousands of letters written by Grant and received by him, plus presidential papers and other documents. The collection can be browsed by format, date, or title, or searched using the site's search engine.

New on Ancestry

- Alsace-Lorraine, France, Citizenship Declarations (Optants), 1872: The treaty of Frankfort ending the Franco-Prussian War required France to cede most of Alsace and part of Lorraine to Germany. Residents could choose to keep French Citizenship by declaring their intention and relocating to an area that remained French. About 500,000 people relocated, affecting most families in the region in some way. This searchable database includes links to images of the records. Possible information includes name, birth place and date, residence, and date of filing.

- Lübeck, Germany, Census, 1807, 1812, and 1815: Databases include images of census records for the city of Lübeck in Schleswig-Holstein. The records, in German, list head of household by name with the number of family members and servants.

- Upper Brittany, France records: Births & Christenings, 1501-1907; Deaths & Burials, 1540-1907; Marriages, 1536-1907: These databases do not offer images of the original records but include full-text transcriptions. Information can include the name(s), date of the event (or in the case of baptisms, sometimes the birth date), and place, including parish, city, and département.

Ancestry and Footnote databases can be used for free in the Special Collections Department and at any St. Louis County Library branch.

TIPS

Searching obits in the Historical Post-Dispatch Database

Thanks to the obituary index <http://www.slpl.org/slpl/gateways/article240117800.asp> created by the St. Louis Public Library it is easy to determine the date a death notice appeared in the Post-Dispatch. However, due to the quality of the original documents in the Historical Post-Dispatch Database, the search engine sometimes does not find an obituary. Here is an easy workaround.

1. On the database search screen, leave the search field blank but enter the date the obituary appeared. Then click on the search button. A list of articles published on that date will result.

2. Click on any of the articles; it doesn’t matter which one.

3. When the article comes up on the screen, click on the “Page Image-PDF” link (on the right side of the screen directly above the article).

4. If the obituary index lists the page number of the obituary, select that page number in the page number box above the page image.

5. If the page number is not known, scroll through the pages until the obituaries appear on the screen.

6. Once the obituary is found, copy it with the camera icon and paste it into a Word document or a blank photo file.

7. Don’t forget to document the source.

The Historical Post-Dispatch Database can be accessed on the “History and Genealogy” database page <http://www.slcl.org/databases/genealogy.htm>. The database is available at all St. Louis County Library branches and can be accessed at home with a valid St. Louis County Library card held by patrons living in the St. Louis metro area.
NEW IN THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT

The following is a selection of new items added to the collection. Additional items may have been received which are not listed here. The Department is grateful to the St. Louis Genealogical Society, the National Genealogical Society, Julius K. Hunter and Friends, and our patrons for their donations. Please note: Due to processing and binding requirements, some donated items may not be available in the library or listed in PastPorts until several months after they are received.

Special Collections Department web pages


- St. Louis County Court Records Index, Part 2 <http://www.slcl.org/sc/pdfs/stl_co_court_1_pt2.pdf> is now available. The index covers 8 Feb 1831 – 1835. The county court was an administrative court and administered county business, such as roads, bridges, and Free Negro Licenses.

Print resources

Call numbers follow each title. Complete bibliographic information for each item is available in St. Louis County Library’s online catalog <http://webpac.slcl.org>. Titles are abbreviated unless italicized.

- Family Maps by Gregory A. Boyd

ALABAMA

Coffee County. 2010. R 976.134 B789F
Crenshaw County. 2008. R 976.136 B789F
Dale County. 2007. R 976.133 B789F
DeKalb County. 2007. R 976.166 B789F
Escambia County. 2006. R 976.1265 B789F
Fayette County. 2007. R 976.187 B789F
Geneva County. 2006. R 976.1292 B789F
Hale County. 2007. R 976.143 B789F
Henry County. 2008. R 976.131 B789F
Jackson County. 2007. R 976.195 B789F
Jefferson County. 2007. R 976.178 B789F
Limestone County. 2007. R 976.198 B789F
Lowndes County. 2007. R 976.1465 B789F
Madison County. 2009. R 976.197 B789F
Marengo County. 2008. R 976.1392 B789F
Marion County. 2006. R 976.189 B789F
Monroe County. 2009. R 976.125 B789F
Perry County. 2009. R 976.144 B789F
Pike County. 2007. R 976.135 B789F
Shelby County. 2007. R 976.179 B789F
Sumter County. 2007. R 976.141 B789F
Tuscaloosa County. 2006. R 976.184 B789F
Walker County. 2007. R 976.176 B789F
Wilcox County. 2007. R 976.138 B789F
Winston County. 2008. R 976.174 B789F

LOUISIANA

Acadia Parish. 2007. R 976.356 B789F
Allen Parish. 2006. R 976.358 B789F
Beauregard Parish. 2006. R 976.359 B789F
Bienville Parish. 2008. R 976.393 B789F
Bossier Parish. 2009. R 976.397 B789F
Caddo Parish. 2009. R 976.399 B789F
Calcasieu Parish. 2007. R 976.354 B789F
Claiborne Parish. 2009. R 976.394 B789F
DeSoto Parish. 2006. R 976.363 B789F
Grant Parish. 2007. R 976.367 B789F
Jackson Parish. 2006. R 976.392 B789F
Lincoln Parish. 2007. R 976.391 B789F
Natchitoches Parish. 2007. R 976.365 B789F
Ouachita Parish. 2007. R 976.387
Red River Parish. 2009. R 976.364 B789F
Tangipahoa Parish. 2008. R 976.313 B789F
Union Parish. 2007. R 976.389 B789F
Vernon Parish. 2007. R 976.361 B789F
Webster Parish. 2008. R 976.393 B789F
Winn Parish. 2008. R 976.366 B789F

A surname index for Arphax Family Maps is available online <http://www.arphax.com>.

- States and counties

ALABAMA

Death and Marriage Notices from Autauga County,
Alabama Newspapers, 1853-1889.
R 976.1463 C381D

Genealogical Abstracts from Cases in the Alabama
Supreme Court, Vol. 1, 1820-1839. R 976.1 C381G
Genealogical Abstracts from Dallas County, Alabama Newspapers (1823-1865). 2009. R 976.145 C381G

ARKANSAS


History & Families, Boone County, Arkansas. 2008. R 976.718 H673

ILLINOIS


White County, Illinois: A Pictorial History. 2007. R 977.396 W582

KENTUCKY

200 Years in Pictures, Estill County, Kentucky, 1808-2008. 2009. R 976.959 T974

Caldwell County, Kentucky. 2009. R 976.9815 C147

Owen County, Kentucky: History and Families. 2009. R 976.9393 O97


Powell County, Kentucky: A Pictorial History. 2007. R 976.9585 P882

MISSISSIPPI

North Sunflower County, Mississippi Cemetery Records. 2009. R 976.247 G869N

South Sunflower County, Mississippi Cemetery Records. 2009. R 976.247 G869N

MISSOURI

Chariton County, Missouri. 2008. R 977.825 W362C

Civil War Records, Missouri Enrolled Militia Infantry Regiments, St. Louis Regiments. 2009. R 973.7478 W362C


Who’s Been Sleeping in My Bed(room): Researching a St. Louis County, Missouri Home. 2009. R 728.0722 W868W

OHIO


VIRGINIA

Norfolk County, Virginia Will Book 5, 1818-1836. 2009. [NGS] R 975.5523 G115N


German genealogy

Deutsches Familienarchiv, Vols. 1 & 4 (compiled genealogies). R 943 D486


Der Schlüßel, Vols. 5-9 (periodical index to German genealogical journals). 1959-1986. R 943 S346

ORTHSSIPPBÜCHER


Heiligenzell (Ortenaukreis, Baden), 2007. R 943.462 G199O

Ettenheimmünster (Ortenaukreis, Baden). 2004. R 943.462 O78

Hajós (Danube Swabian village in Hungary). 2009. R 943.98 S357F


Ehingen im Ries (Swabia, Bavaria), 2005. R 943.37 O78

Tergast (East Frisia, Lower Saxony). 2009. R 943.5917
NEW IN THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT

Rorichum (East Frisia, Lower Saxony). 2009. R 943.5917 H288F
Fessenheim (Swabian Bavaria). 2001. R 943.37 H552U
Kleinjestscha (Danube Swabian village in Banat, Romania). 2001. R 949.84 G454F

EMIGRATION LISTS

District of Minden (Westphalia). 1993. R 943.565 R549V

Family Histories

Albro Family of Rhode Island. 1936. [NGS] 929.2 A344B
Archer and Silvester Families: A History Written in 1870. 1937. [NGS] 929.2 A672A

Belfield Family: A Record of the Descendants of Dr. Joseph Belfield, Immigrant to Virginia about 1700. 1960. [NGS] 929.2 B428L
Butleriana, Genealogica et Biographica...Mary Butler and Her Descendants, as Well as the Bates, Harris, Sigourney and Other Families...1888. [NGS] 929.2 B985B
Daniel Ball and His Descendants.... 1986. [NGS] 929.2 B187M
Genealogical Record of the Chace and Hathaway Families from 1630 to 1900. 1900. [NGS] 929.2 C431C
Genealogical Sketch of the Bird Family, Having Its Origin in Hartford, Conn. 1855. [NGS] 929.2 B618B
Henry Green: Ancestors, Descendants and Related Families. 1963. [NGS] 929.2 G796G
History and Genealogy of the Families of Bulloch and Stobo and of Irvine of Cults. 1911. [NGS] 929.2 B938B
Lest We Forget: A Record of the Carey & Wilson Families in Ireland, America & Australia. 1994. [NGS] 929.2 C275P
My Wyatts. 198?. [NGS] 929.2 W975W
Our Story, with Histories of the Dayton, McDonald, and Winchell Families. 1987. [NGS] 929.2 D276D
Standing on Their Shoulders: My Tyler, Clements, Reynolds, Hiett, and Other Antecedents. 2009. R 929.2 T981T
T’was a Twig. 1990. [NGS] 929.2 A788B
Whiddon Heritage. 2008. [NGS] 929.2 W572W

Other new titles


For your information

- St. Louis County Library homepage
  www.slcl.org

- Special Collections Department homepage
  www.slcl.org/branches/hq/sc/

- St. Louis County Library online catalog
  webpac.slcl.org

- St. Louis County Library event calendar
  host7.evanced.info/stlouis/evanced/eventcalendar.asp

- Special Collections Department direct phone line
  (314) 994-3300, ext. 2070
CALENDAR  GENEALOGICAL EVENTS AT THE ST. LOUIS COUNTY LIBRARY

Note: Dates for Special Collections Department classes are indicated by 📆. Please register for classes in advance by calling 314-994-3300.

All events are free and open to the public.

APRIL

📅 Wednesday, April 7, 9:30 am
Headquarters Computer Lab
Special Collections Class
Topic: "Introduction to Ancestry Database"

📅 Tuesday, April 13, 6:30 pm
Headquarters Computer Lab
Special Collections Class
Topic: "Introduction to Footnote and HeritageQuest"

📆 Wednesday, April 14, 7 pm
Headquarters Auditorium
St. Louis Genealogical Society Meeting
Topic: "Mercantile Treasures"
Speaker: Deborah Cribbs, Special Collections Librarian, Mercantile Library

📆 Tuesday, April 27, 7 pm
Headquarters East Room
STLGS Irish Special Interest Group
Topic: Irish Internet Sites/Message Boards
Speaker: Round Table

📅 Thursday, April 29, 1:30 pm
Headquarters Computer Lab
Special Collections Class
Topic: "History and Genealogy in Newspapers"

MAY

📅 Saturday, May 1, 11 am
African American Special Interest Group
Topic: "Land Records"
Speaker: To be announced

📆 Wednesday, May 5
Jewish Special Interest Group
Topic: "Probate Records"
Speaker: Ted Steele

📅 Saturday, May 8, 9:30 am
Headquarters East Room
Special Collections Workshop
Topic: "For Land's Sake! How to Read and Write Township and Range Land Descriptions"
Registration begins April 10

📆 Wednesday, May 12, 6:30 pm
Headquarters East Room
Special Collections Workshop
Topic: "For Land's Sake! How to Read and Write Township and Range Land Descriptions"
Registration begins April 14

St. Louis County Library

NEWS AND TIPS  FROM THE ST. LOUIS COUNTY LIBRARY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT