

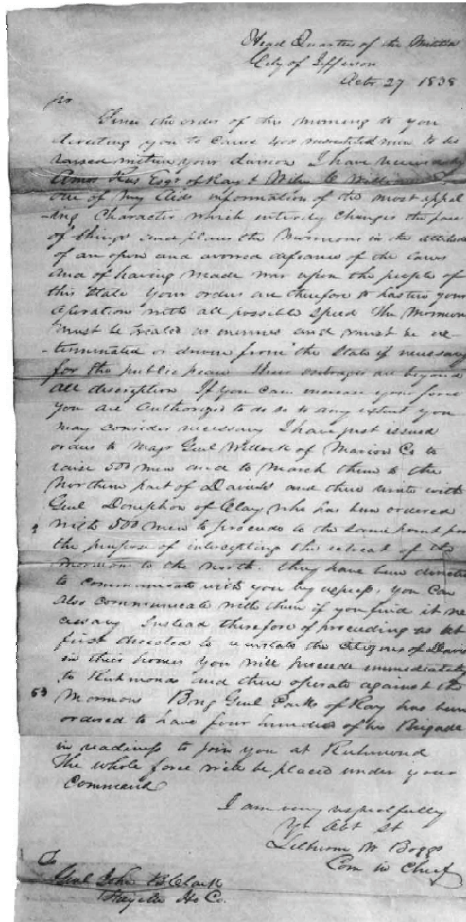
Latter-Day Saints in St. Louis

Places such as Palmyra, N.Y.; Kirtland, Ohio; Far West, Mo.; Nauvoo, Ill. and Salt Lake City loom large in the history of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, commonly known as the Mormons. Unknown to many, St. Louis also played a significant role in that history.

St. Louis' role is all the more surprising in light of Governor Lilbrun Boggs's infamous Executive Order 44 of 1838, which read in part "... The Mormons must be treated as enemies, and must be exterminated or driven from the state if necessary for the public peace--their outrages are beyond all description..."¹ Yet, St. Louis appears to have played two roles in Mormon history. It served as a city of refuge and an emigrant center.

When the Mormons were driven from Western Missouri many came to St. Louis. When they were driven out of Nauvoo, many more came to St. Louis. Did the number of people, with all sorts of beliefs and customs, coming to the city from all over the world explain St. Louis' tolerance and open-mindedness toward the Mormons? Was it because there was money to be made selling them supplies for their westward trek? Or was it some combination of the two? We will probably never know for sure but whatever the reason, St. Louis was a safe place.

St. Louis also became an emigrant center. Newly arriving Mormons from Europe and the eastern states could



Extermination order signed by Missouri Governor Lilbrun Boggs in 1838. Source: Wikimedia Commons

gather here and work to earn enough to pay for the rest of their journey to Salt Lake City. Estimates suggest that during the years 1847- 1857 more emigrants arrived in St. Louis than left for the Great Salt Lake Valley. By 1855 enough Saints lived in St. Louis to organize a stake, one of the earliest created in the church.

In 1855, the St. Louis Luminary, a Latter Day Saints newspaper, reported "St. Louis is a fine, large, and flourishing city, and has furnished employment to many hundreds and thousands of our brethren, who have been here [and] in a short time made a good outfit for the gathering places of the Saints. This city has been an asylum for our people from fifteen to twenty years. ... there is probably no city in the world where the Latter-day Saints are more respected, and where they may sooner obtain an outfit for Utah than in this city"²

With the threat of the Utah War in 1857, Brigham Young called for all Mormons to come west to help fortify the defenses. The growing railroads across the Eastern U.S. further reduced the role of St. Louis as a gathering and outfitting place. By the late 1860s the completion of the transcontinental railroad diverted the flow of emigrants completely away from St. Louis. These facts combined to greatly reduce the Mormon presence in St. Louis. The St. Louis stake went out of existence in 1857 and would not be revived until 1958.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Genealogy PROGRAMS

**OCT
2014**

Programs are free
and open to the public.

Registration is not required.

Call 314-994-3300
for more information.

Programs take place at:

**St. Louis County Library
Headquarters**

1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, Missouri, 63131.

St. Louis Genealogical Society General Meeting Saturday, Oct. 11, 10:00 a.m.

Headquarters Auditorium



New Scottish Records at St. Louis County Library Featured speaker: Larry Franke

Exciting new sources for Scottish genealogical research are now available at the St. Louis County Library in the History and Genealogy Department. Reference librarian, Larry Franke, will give an overview of these recent acquisitions and offer tips for their use.

St. Louis Genealogical Society Italian Special Interest Group Monday, October 20, 7:00 p.m.

Headquarters East Room

Planning and Organizing a Family Reunion

Family Reunions can be delightful opportunities for renewing friendships and discovering new insights for genealogical research. Learn what to do, what not to do, and what works best during in the planning stage.

Featured Speaker: **Scott Biondo**

St. Louis Genealogical Society Irish Special Interest Group Tuesday, October 28, 7:00 p.m.

Headquarters Auditorium

St. Louis Archdiocese Church Records

Our two presenters are extremely knowledgeable about the history and demographics of the Catholic Church in St. Louis.

Featured Speakers: **Rena Schergen, archivist, Archdiocese of St. Louis**
John Schwob, Director of Pastoral Planning,
Archdiocese of St. Louis

Two factors make tracing a Mormon Ancestor in St. Louis difficult. First, they tended to be here for a relatively short time. Consequently often the only place they show up is in city directories. Secondly, they were here during the cholera epidemics. During that chaotic time record keeping was often an additional casualty.

There are, however, a number of resources in the History and Genealogy Department that can help. The department has copies of the 1845, 1847, 1848, 1850, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854-55, 1857, 1858, and 1859 St. Louis City directories on microfiche. Even if an ancestor were only here for a year or two, his name might appear in one.

If one's Mormon ancestor died in St. Louis, and unfortunately many did, a search of the city's Register of Death is definitely in order. Although recordkeeping in the 1850s was not up to 21st century standards, many deaths were recorded. The History and Genealogy Department has micro-

film copies of these records along with a CD index created by the St. Louis Genealogical Society.

When the Saints Came Marching In: A History of the Latter-Day Saints in St. Louis,³ describes the history of Mormons in St. Louis from the earliest days to the present. Additionally, in Appendix B, it contains an index of Early Latter Day Saints associated with St. Louis and has a list of reference codes so that a researcher knows where to find additional information about the individual.

The St. Louis Luminary was a weekly newspaper published by the LDS Church in St. Louis from November 1854 through December 1855. The paper listed a number of names in each edition. The History and Genealogy Department has a copy of *The Best of the St. Louis Luminary*,⁴ which features extracts of articles from the Luminary on various subjects. The accompanying CD includes copies of all the editions of the paper and with a searchable index.

In most cases, the early Mormons of St. Louis started somewhere else and ended up in Utah. Because of this, researchers may find it beneficial to consult other references about Latter Day Saints Church and its pioneers. The following bibliography lists some of the resources available in the History and Genealogy Department.

Notes

1. Missouri Executive Order 44 Issued by Boggs, Lilbrun Williams, Governor of Missouri at Jefferson City, 27 October 1838.
2. St. Louis Luminary, Feb. 3, 1855, p. 2, col. A.
3. Woods, Fred E., and Thomas L. Farmer. *When the Saints Came Marching In: A History of the Latter-day Saints in St. Louis*. Orem, Utah: Millennial Press & Distribution, 2009. R 977.865 W894W and 977.865 W894W
3. Black, Susan Easton, ed. *The best of the St. Louis Luminary*. Provo, Utah: BYU Studies, 2011. R 977.866 B561

PastPorts is published monthly 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>](http://www.slcl.org/pastports).

Contact us:

History and Genealogy Department
St. Louis County Library
1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63131

Phone: 314-994-3300, ext. 2070

Email: genealogy@slcl.org

Website: <http://www.slcl.org>

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.

Sources in the St. Louis County Library History and Genealogy Department for Latter-Day Saints reserach

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Roberts, David. *Devil's Gate: Brigham Young and the Great Mormon Handcart Tragedy*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2008. R 978.02 R643D and 978.02 R643D

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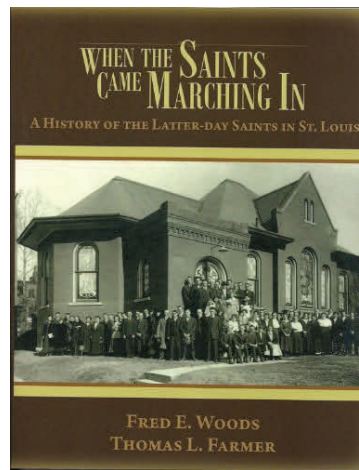
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R 289.3778 M678 and 289.3778 M678



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LIBRARY CLOSING

Monday, Oct. 13

All library locations will be closed so staff can attend an in-service day.

STILL 250

CELEBRATION AT THORNHILL

Come join us for an entire day of programs and activities celebrating St. Louis' 250th birthday.

Highlighted events will include a display of the Missouri History Museum's 250 in 250 Traveling Banner Show, a screening of "Meet Me in St. Louis" and story collecting by the CityArchRiver organization. In addition there will be snacks and activities for patrons of all ages. Don't miss any of the excitement!

Pick up a schedule of the day's events at our circulation desk.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8

Visit www.stl250.org



St. Louis County Library



Thornhill Branch
12863 Willowyck Drive
St. Louis, MO 63148
314-994-3300

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



THIS MONTH IN SAINT LOUIS HISTORY

October

Historical tidbits

October 1837 | Abigail Cranch Eliot arrived in St. Louis with Unitarian minister husband, William Greenleaf Eliot. The Eliots founded the St. Louis Provident Association to aid the poor and other charitable institutions. Dr. Eliot played a key role in the founding of Washington University and the St. Louis Art Museum.

October 15, 1849 | The National Railroad Convention met in St. Louis to discuss plans for a transcontinental railroad to the Pacific.

October 22, 1854 | Washington University opened to students. The institution was conceived by 17 St. Louis business, political, and religious leaders led by state senator Wayman Crow and Dr. William Greenleaf Eliot.

October 4, 1906 | The statue of St. Louis the King (Louis IX of France) was unveiled in Forest Park to a cheering crowd of 25,000 people. It was originally commissioned for the St. Louis World's Fair, and was stationed at the entrance of the Concourse. Originally named "Apotheosis of St. Louis," it was cast in bronze after the close of the fair.

October 1929 | The Arena, built by the owner of Forest Park Highlands amusement park, hosted its first event. In its day, the Arena hosted rodeos, circuses, and a national horse school. An ice rink was added in 1931. It served as the home of the St. Louis Blues hockey team, 1967–1994. When Ralston-Purina purchased the Blues in 1977, it was renamed the Checkerdome. Purina forfeited the team in 1983 to the hockey league, sold the building, and it reverted to its original name. The Arena ended its life as a vacant tax-burden when Kiel Center (now the Scottrade Center), became took over as an event venue. The Arena was razed in 1999 despite public protest.



October 28, 1965 | St. Louis gave a collective sigh of relief when the last section of the Gateway Arch was put into place. The Gateway Expansion Memorial, as it is officially known, was designed by Eero Saarinen, and built by MacDonald Construction Company. The project encountered many construction delays and engineering challenges leading up to its completion. A time capsule with the signatures of 762,000 students and many others

was welded into the keystone before the final piece was set in place. The Arch stands twice as tall as the Statue of Liberty and 150 feet taller than the Great Pyramids.

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320 NEW VOLUMES ADDED IN SEPT.

NEW IN THE HISTORY AND GENEALOGY DEPARTMENT



View the list of new books on the web

A list of new books received during the previous month now 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>>.

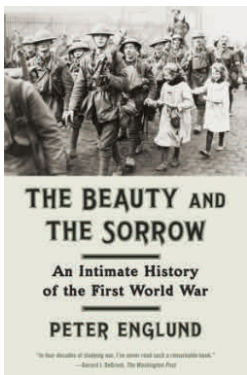
Looking for a specific state, or county ?

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.



The Beauty and the Sorrow: An Intimate History of the First World War

By Peter England

Alfred A. Knopf, 2011
R 940.3092 E58B

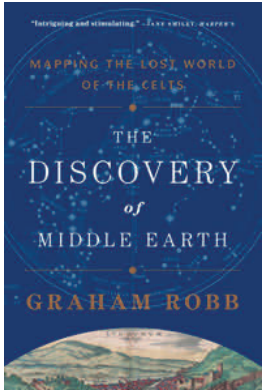
Peter England takes a revelatory new approach to the history of World War

I, magnifying its least examined, most stirring component: the experiences of the average man and woman—not only the tragedy and horror but also the absurdity and even, at times, the beauty.

The twenty people from whose journals and letters England draws are from Belgium, Denmark, and France; Great Britain, Germany, and the Austro-Hungarian Empire; Italy, Australia, and New Zealand; Russia, Venezuela, and the

United States. There is a young man in the British army infantry who had been considering emigrating until the war offered him its “grand promise of change” and a middle-aged French civil servant, a socialist and writer whose “faith simply crumbled” at the outbreak of war. There is a twelve-year-old German girl thrilled with the news of the army’s victories because it means that she and her classmates are allowed to shout and scream at school. There is an American woman married to a Polish aristocrat, living a life of quiet luxury when the war begins but who will be moved, ultimately, to declare: Looking Death in the eyes, one loses the fear of Him. From field surgeon to nurse to fighter pilot, some are on the Western Front, others in the Balkans, East Africa, Mesopotamia. Two will die, one will never hear a shot fired; some will become prisoners of war, others will be celebrated as heroes. But despite their various war-time occupations and fates, genders and nationalities, they will be united by their involvement—witting or otherwise—in The Great, and terrible, War.

A brilliant mosaic of perspectives that moves between the home front and the front lines, *The Beauty and the Sorrow* reconstructs the feelings, impressions, experiences, and shifting spirits of these twenty particular people, allowing them to speak not only for themselves but also for all those who were in some way shaped by the war, but whose voices have been forgotten, rejected, or simply remained unheard.—*Publisher*



The Discovery of Middle Earth: Mapping the Lost World of the Celts

By Graham Robb

W.W. Norton & Co., 2013
R 940.0491 R631D

A treasure hunt that uncovers the secrets of one of the world’s great civilizations, revealing dramatic

proof of the extreme sophistication of the Celts, and their creation of the earliest accurate map of the world.

CLASSES

Classes are free and open to the public, but registration is required. ☎ Call (314) 994-3300 to register. Space is limited.

OCTOBER

☎ Introduction to Ancestry Library Edition

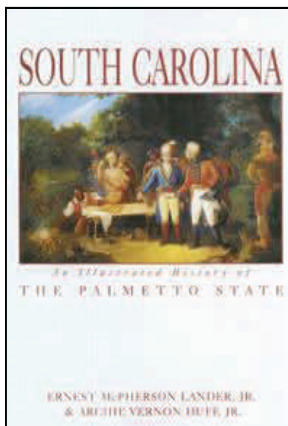
Thursday, Oct. 2, 2 p.m.
Headquarters Computer Lab
Larry Franke, instructor
Registration is now open.

☎ Genealogical research: getting the most out of the History & Genealogy Department

Monday, Oct. 6, 2 p.m.
Headquarters East Room
Larry Franke, instructor
Registration is now open.

Fifty generations ago the cultural empire of the Celts stretched from the Black Sea to Ireland and the Highlands of Scotland. In six hundred years, the Celts had produced some of the finest artistic and scientific masterpieces of the ancient world. In 58 BC, Julius Caesar marched over the Alps, bringing slavery and genocide to western Europe. Within eight years the Celts of what is now France were utterly annihilated, and in another hundred years the Romans had overrun Britain. It is astonishing how little remains of this great civilization.

While planning a bicycling trip along the Heraklean Way, the ancient route from Portugal to the Alps, Graham Robb discovered a door to that forgotten world—a beautiful and precise pattern of towns and holy places based on astronomical and geometrical measurements: this was the three-dimensional “Middle Earth” of the Celts. As coordinates and coincidences revealed themselves across the continent, a map of the Celtic world emerged as a miraculously preserved archival document.—*Publisher*



South Carolina: An Illustrated History of the Palmetto State

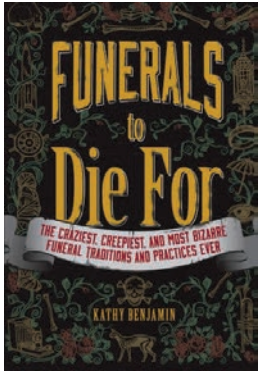
By Ernest McPherson Lander, Jr. and Archie Vernon Huff, Jr.

American Historical Press, 2007
R 975.7 L255S

The authors pilot the course of the Palmetto State’s history with assured hands and clear eyes.

From languorous sub-tropical islands to lushly forested mountains, the landscape is enlivened with memorable people and events.

Gracing the text are over 300 portraits, maps, drawings, and photos which reveal South Carolina’s substantial presence on the nation’s historical scene. These illustrations, in both vintage black and white and vibrant color, represent the full range of her spirited development. Finally, an illustrated chronology of significant events in South Carolina history puts it all in perspective.—*From the book jacket*



Funerals to Die For:
The Craziest, Creepiest, and
Most Bizarre Funeral Tradi-
tions and Practices Ever

Kathy Benjamin

Adams Media, 2013
R 393.93 B468F

The hereafter may still be part of the great unknown, but with *Funerals to Die For*, you can unearth the rich—and often, dark—history of funeral rites. From getting a portrait painted with a loved one’s ashes to purchasing a safety coffin complete with bells and breathing tubes, this book takes you on a whirlwind tour of funeral customs and trivia from all over the globe. Inside, you’ll find more than 100 unbelievable traditions, practices, and facts.—*from the book jacket*

Other acquisition highlights

- Scottish genealogy: 33 titles added
- Kentucky genealogy: 76 titles added
- Many new titles in the Image of America Series (Arcadia Publishing) for Illinois, Ohio, and South Carolina.

View all new titles on the [online new book list](http://webpac.slcl.org/search~$32?/ftlist^bib30,1,0,34/mode=2) <[http://webpac.slcl.org/search~\\$32?/ftlist^bib30,1,0,34/mode=2](http://webpac.slcl.org/search~$32?/ftlist^bib30,1,0,34/mode=2)>.

New at Ancestry Library Edition database

- Alaska, Passenger and Crew Manifests, 1906-1981
- Delaware, Craftperson Files, 1600-1995
- Edgefield, South Carolina, Slave Records, 1774-1866
- Georgia, Passenger and Crew Lists, 1928-1964
- Illinois, Passenger and Crew List 1918-1963
- Maine, Passenger Lists, 1894-1960
- UK, Naval Officer and Rating Service Records, 1802-1919
- U.S., Identification Card Files of Prohibition Agents, 1920-1925
- U.S., Tennessee Valley Cemetery Relocation Files, 1933-1990

AUTHOR EVENTS

Programs are free and open to the public.

No registration is required. Doors open at 6 p.m.

Seating is limited; early arrival is recommended.

Nancy Carver | “Making Tracks: The Untold Story of Horse Racing in St. Louis”

Monday, Oct. 27, 7 p.m.

Headquarters Auditorium

Did you know that horse racing was once a more popular sport than baseball for many St. Louisans? During the period from 1767 – 1905, throngs of excited residents rooted for their horses at almost 20 different racing venues in the area. In addition to relaying little known facts about horse racing, local historian Nancy Carver captures the thrill of the sport and the flavor of the times.

Julius Hunter | “From Slavery’s Shackles to Millionaire Bordello Madam in Victorian St. Louis”

Wednesday, Oct. 29, 7 p.m.

Headquarters Auditorium

Veteran St. Louis newsman Julius Hunter discusses the untold story of two unrelated African-American slave girls born on Old South plantations who made their way up the Mississippi after emancipation and became two of the wealthiest bordello madams in Victorian St. Louis. Presenting this true story in novel form, Hunter relates both the hardships and opulence of these remarkable lives.