This guide provides an overview of resources for adoption research resources available in History & Genealogy. Additional items not listed here are available. Please consult the online catalog at www.slcl.org or ask for assistance at the History & Genealogy reference desk.

Call numbers or other location information follow each entry. Items with call numbers beginning with “R” are for use in the library only.

GUIDES AND HANDBOOKS


ADOPTION, HISTORY


ADOPTION INFORMATION REGISTRY (FOR MISSOURI)

Available at the Missouri Department of Social Services website: (dss.mo.gov/cd/adopt/adoir.htm). Available for adult adoptees 18 years or older and adopted in Missouri; biological parents of a child released for adoption in Missouri; and adult siblings of a child released for adoption in Missouri.

ADOPTION, ST. LOUIS

The “Resources for St. Louis Area Adoption Information ” binder, located on the index shelves, contains local contact information as well as information about St. Ann’s Hospital and St. Mary’s Orphanage, whose records are available on microfilm in History & Genealogy. This guide also contains an index to the “Journal of Commitments” from the St. Louis House of Refuge for the years 1854-1899. The microfilm for the “Journal of Commitments” is available in History & Genealogy. At the end of the guide is a historical directory of adoption agencies, orphanages, and maternity homes in Missouri.

BAPTISMS

Baptismal records for St. Louis area Catholic, Lutheran, and United Church of Christ congregations are available on microfilm. Catholic baptismal records, in general, are restricted after the early 1920s. Ask for assistance at the reference desk.
BIRTHS, ST. LOUIS CITY AND COUNTY

The St. Louis City Birth Register, 1850-1908, and St. Louis County Register of Births, 1883-1895 and 1905-1910, are available on microfilm.

GENETICS AND GENEALOGY


GUARDIANSHIP RECORDS, ST. LOUIS CITY AND COUNTY

St. Louis County Probate Court Guardianship Case Files, 1877-1983. Microfilm.

St. Louis Guardianship Case Files, 1802–1901; indexes, 1802-2006. Microfilm.

ORPHAN TRAINS


ORPHANAGES, JEWISH


ORPHANAGES, MISSOURI

ORPHANAGES, ST. LOUIS


ORPHANAGES, ST. LOUIS

“St. Louis Orphanages in the 1900 Census.” This index lists the “inmates” staying at ten St. Louis orphanages (Baptist Orphan’s Home, Bethesda Home, Christian Orphans’ Home, Episcopal Orphans’ Home, Evangelical Lutheran Orphan Home, Girls’ Industrial Home, Masonic Home of Missouri, St. Joseph’s Boys’ Orphan Asylum, St. Mary’s Female Orphan Asylum, and St. Philomena’s Industrial School). The listings give the names of children as well as those of the adults who lived and worked there. Other information includes sex, place of birth, and (for the adults) occupation. Located on the index shelves.