

PastPorts

News and tips from the St. Louis County Library
Special Collections Department

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PastPorts is a monthly publication of the Special Collections Department located on Tier 5 at the St. Louis County Library Headquarters, 1640 S. Lindbergh in St. Louis County, across the street from Plaza Frontenac.

Contact us

To subscribe, unsubscribe, change email addresses, make a comment or ask a question, contact the Department as follows:

By mail

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

By phone

314-994-3300, ext. 208

By email

scollections@slcl.org

OF NOTE

Collection guides now available

Staff members have begun producing guides offering an overview of the Department and its resources, including materials available for specific areas of genealogical research. Guides now available include:

General

- Getting Started in Genealogy
- Lodging and Dining Near the St. Louis County Library Headquarters
- Welcome to Special Collections (provides an overview of the Department's collections and services)

St. Louis research

- St. Louis City & County Newspapers
- St. Louis City & County Microfilm, Microfilm & CDs

Ethnic and national research

- Acadian Genealogy
- African American Genealogy
- Bermudian and Caribbean Genealogy
- Bohemian, Czech, Moravian & Slovak Genealogy
- Central and South American Genealogy
- Dutch Genealogy
- Eastern European Genealogy
- English & Welsh Genealogy

- French, (Including Acadians and Huguenot in France), Belgian and Luxembourger Genealogy
- French-Canadian Genealogy
- German Genealogy—General Resources
- German Genealogy—Regional German Research
- German Genealogy—St. Louis-Area Research
- Huguenot Genealogy
- Irish Genealogy
- Italian Genealogy
- Jewish Genealogy
- Native American Genealogy
- Polish Genealogy
- Scottish Genealogy
- Scandinavian Genealogy

Record types

- Church and Vital Records
- Immigration & Naturalization
- Military Records

State research

- Arkansas Genealogy
- Louisiana Genealogy
- Mississippi Genealogy
- New England Genealogy
- Tennessee Genealogy
- Upper Midwest Genealogy (Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin)
- Virginia Genealogy

Other

- Quaker Genealogy

The free guides are located next to the Special Collections Department Reference Desk. Patrons may also obtain copies by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Special Collections Department, St. Louis County Library, 1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63131. Please limit requests to three guides per mailing.

Introductory genealogy classes begin in March

The Special Collections Department is pleased to add a free genealogy course to the lineup of training classes offered at the St. Louis County Library. The course will be taught by Larry Franke with the assistance of Mike Bridwell. Titled "Introduction to Genealogy Databases," the course will instruct participants to find ancestors using *AncestryLibrary.com* and *HeritageQuestOnline.com* electronic databases. Emphasis will be on searching census, immigration and military records, books and periodicals. Class dates are:

- Tuesday, March 3, 6:30-8:30 pm
- Thursday, March 20, 2-4 pm
- Wednesday, April 2, 9:30-11:30 am
- Thursday, April 17, 6:30-8:30 pm

Classes will be held in the computer lab at the Headquarters location. Participants should already have basic computer and Internet skills before registering.

To register, call 314-994-3300 and tell the operator you want to register for a computer class. Registration is on a first-come basis. Space is limited, so register soon. Please note: registration is handled by the Headquarters Reference Staff and not the Special Collections Department.

The Special Collections Department is planning to add courses on other topics in the future.

Tour the Special Collections Department

Are you new to genealogy or just want to know more about the Special Collections Department? Staff members now conduct tours of the Department on the first Wednesday and third Saturday of each month at 10:30 am. Tours provide an overview of the Department's resources, including a foray into materials shelved in areas not otherwise open to the public.

No pre-registration is necessary—just show up and announce yourself at the Special Collections Department Reference Desk on one of the scheduled days. The Department also arranges special tours for groups. To schedule a group tour, call the Department at 314-994-3300, ext. 208 and ask to speak to Joyce or Scott.

Special Collections staff members speak at local events

Special Collections Department Supervisor Scott Holl will speak at the St. Louis Genealogical Society monthly meeting on Saturday, March 1 at 10 am. Scott's presentation will be "Taking Your Ancestors to Church: Finding Clues in Ecclesiastical Records."

Ruth Ann Hager will speak at a National Park Service event commemorating the anniversary of the Dred Scott Decision on Saturday, March 1. The event begins at 10:30 am at the Old Courthouse in downtown St. Louis. Ruth Ann will discuss her research concerning Dred Scott and his family in St. Louis. More event information is available on the Web at <http://www.nps.gov/jeff/parknews/african-american-heritage.htm>.

Joyce Loving and Larry Franke will be featured speakers at a Special Collections Department program on Saturday, March 29 at the St. Louis County Library Headquarters Auditorium. Joyce will speak at 10 am on "It's Not in the Cards: Using the Online Catalog." Larry's presentation at 11:15 am will be "Special Collections CDs Pay a High Rate of Return." Admission is free and open to the public.

Larry Franke and Scott Holl will speak at the St. Louis Genealogical Society's Annual Family History Conference on Saturday, April 12. Larry will speak on immigration research. Scott's presentation will feature information about resources for German genealogy at the St. Louis County Library. Complete program and registration information for the event is on the Web at <http://www.stlgs.org/fair.htm>.

BOOK CHAT

Did you have ancestors in St. Louis living in the Soulard area about 1860? If so, be sure to take a close look at the 2nd Ward enumeration for that census year. While most census takers reported only the U.S. state or foreign country of birth, 2nd Ward enumerator Edward Thierry went further to also list the county and/or town for most residents. Though probably deemed overzealous at the time, such detailed record keeping is a researcher's dream-come-true.

In his essay, "Paths of Urbanization: St. Louis in 1860," Missouri native Walter D. Kamphoefner takes advantage of Thierry's thoroughness to make a close demographic study of the German immigrants living there. The author reports that 90% of 2nd Ward foreign-born adult residents were German speaking. Irish and other British-Isle natives made up the remaining 10% of the foreign born. Of the total ward population, less than 10% had been born in the U.S.

Using the data to locate the geographical origins of German immigrants, Kamphoefner discovered patterns in their geographical origins. One large cluster came from a specific area of Baden (9.5%). Other clusters originated in the Bavarian Palatinate (6%), and the Osnabrück region (5%). One question Kamphoefner pursues is "...to what extent an urban environment broke down the regional loyalties of German immigrants."

Kamphoefner's fascinating essay is only one of many collected in *Emigration and Settlement Patterns of German Communities in North America* (Eberhard Reichman, LaVern J. Rippley and Jörg Nagler, eds., Indianapolis: Max Kade German-American Center, 1995), located at call number R 973.0431 E53 in the Special Collections Department. The Department also has several monographs by Walter D. Kamphoefner, including *The Westfalians: From Germany to Missouri* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1987, call number R 977.8 K15W) and *News from the Land of Freedom: German Immigrants Write Home* (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1991, call number R 973.0431 N558).

NEW IN THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT

Print resources

Call numbers follow each title. Complete bibliographic information for each item is available in the St. Louis County Library's online catalog at webpac.slcl.org.

■ Family Maps by Gregory A. Boyd (abbreviated titles):

Darke County, Ohio. R 977.147 B789F
Dent County, Missouri. R 977.886 B789F
Fayette County, Illinois. R 977.3797 B789F
Hancock County, Ohio. R 977.119 B789F
Holmes County, Mississippi. R 976.2625 B789F
Jersey County, Illinois. R 977.3855 B789F
Johnson County, Illinois. R 977.3465 B789F
Keokuk County, Iowa. R 977.791 B789F
Monroe County, Missouri. R 977.8325 B789F

Ringgold County, Iowa. R 977.7873 B789F
Stark County, Illinois. R 977.3513 B789F

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

- New for Ohio, Knox County (abbreviated titles). R 977.152
Cemetery Records, Vol. 2, Mt. Vernon
Death Records, 1867-1908
Marriage Records, 1808-1875 and 1875-1898
Birth Records, 1867-1908
Births at Mercy Hospital, 1919-1949
Trustee Records, 1823-1875.

- New for Ohio, Morrow County (abbreviated titles). R 977.1516

Early Morrow Births, 1856-1908
Probate Marriage Records, 1848-1907
Early Death Records
Tombstone Inscriptions

- New *Ortssippen* books

Anneessen, Helmut. *Die Familien der Kirchengemeinde Eilsum (1718-1900)*,
2007. R 943.591 A614F
Anneessen, Helmut. *Die Familien der Kirchengemeinde Hatzum (1702-1900)*,
2007. R 943.59 A614F

- Other new titles

Bishop, William Henry. *St. Louis in 1884*. 1977. R 977.866 B622S

Bockstruck, Lloyd DeWitt. *Denizations and Naturalizations in the British Colonies in America, 1607-1775*. 2005. R 929.37 B665D

de La Salle, Nicolas. *The La Salle Expedition on the Mississippi River: A Lost Manuscript of Nicolas de La Salle, 1682*. 2003. R 977.01 L338L

Dobson, David. *The People of Ireland, 1600-1699, Part one*. 2007. 941.5 D635P

Dollarhide, William. *Census Substitutes & State Census Records: An Annotated Bibliography of Published Names Lists for All 50 U. S. States and State Censuses for 37 States*. 2 vols. 2008. 929.3 D665C

Encyclopedia of American Jewish History. 2008. R 973.04924 E56

Hart, Anne. *Search Your Middle Eastern & European Genealogy in the Former Ottoman Empire Records and Online*, 2004. R 929.1 H325S

Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army, From Its Organization, September 29, 1789, to March 2, 1903. 1994.
R 355.0092 H473H

Italians to America: Lists Of Passengers Arriving At U. S. Ports, 1880-1899.

Vol. 21, November 1902-March 1903

Vol. 22. March 1903-April 1903.

R 929.3 I88

Kent, Timothy J. *Rendezvous At the Straits: Fur Trade And Military Activity At Fort De Buade And Fort Michilimackinac, 1669-1781.* 2004.

R 977.4923 K37R

Knodel, John E. *Demographic Behavior in the Past: A Study of 14 German Village Populations in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries.* 2002.

R 304.609 K72D

Lewandowski, Bernard L. *Mount Olive to Carondelet: 125 years of Justice in the St. Louis County Circuit Court.* 2006. R 977.865 L669M

Pease, Theodore Calvin. *Anglo-French Boundary Disputes in the West, 1749-1763.* 1936. R 973.26 P363A

Ripley County Missouri History & Heritage. 2007. R 977.8894 R589

Ryskamp, George R. *Finding Your Mexican Ancestors.* 2007. R 929.1 R996F

Tranel, Mark, ed. *St. Louis Plans: The Ideal and the Real St. Louis.* 2007.

R 307.1216 S145.

Microfilm & microfiche

■ Chicago City Directories: 1839-1909, 1923, 1973-1974, 1985. Note: These acquisitions are in addition to the department's existing holdings.

■ Alton, Illinois City Directories: 1889-1935

■ Belleville, Illinois City Directories: 1891-1892, 1901-1911, 1916-1927, 1929-1935, 1934-1943, 1946-1950

■ East St. Louis, Illinois City Directories: 1905-1926, 1928-1930, 1945-1950, 1955-1957, 1959

Electronic databases

■ Nineteenth Century Newspapers

Offers searchable full-text of 19th-century newspapers from around the United States. Includes the following St. Louis newspapers: *Daily Commercial Bulletin*, 1835-1838; *Missouri Republican*, 1822-1888; *St. Louis Enquirer*, 1919-1824; and *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, 1875-1888. The database is accessible on the Library's website at <http://www.slcl.org/databases/genealogy.htm>.

■ Tell Me More

Improve your genealogical research skills by learning a foreign language. *Tell Me More* is an inter-active instruction program that addresses all critical learning skills, including reading, writing, listening, speaking, vocabulary, grammar and culture. Begin by creating an account and choosing a language (German, Italian, Spanish, Latin-American Spanish or English as a second language). The program allows users to customize the program by choosing a skill level and areas of learning emphasis. The program is accessible on the Library's website at <http://www.slcl.org/databases/atoz.htm#T>.

Both items can be used at computers in any St. Louis County Library branch or at home with a valid St. Louis County Library card. View the complete list of available electronic databases on the Library's website at <http://www.slcl.org/databases/>.

WEB WATCH

Web finds

■ Family History Archives: <http://www.lib.byu.edu/fhc/index.html>

Located at the website of the Harold B. Lee Library at Brigham Young University, this site features a searchable digital archive of mostly out-of-print local and family histories from the Family History Library, Salt Lake City, the Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana, and other sources.

■ Library of Virginia: <http://www.lva.lib.va.us>

The Library of Virginia in Richmond provides a great website to start researchers off on the right track. The site provides a county-by-county index of microfilm that can be borrowed via Interlibrary Loan. Online databases include land, military (including Revolutionary and Confederate), and vital records. Online research guides are also available

■ Wikimapia: <http://wikimapia.org>

An easy-to-use website providing satellite images for anywhere in the world. Maps provide interesting detail. For example, results for St. Louis list neighborhoods such as Dogtown and The Hill as well as hospitals, schools, etc.

New on the Web

■ Madison County, Illinois records to go online: According to a Jan. 11, 2008 article in the *Bellefonte News Democrat*, the Edwardsville Public Library has received a grant enabling them to digitize the records of the Madison County Genealogical Society and make them available online. Some of the records will include cemetery inventories, portraits, and biographies. No timeline was mentioned for the project.

New databases on *Ancestry*

■ Missouri State Census Collection, 1844-1881: Missouri conducted several state and territorial censuses, although few schedules have survived. This database contains an index to some of the remaining schedules and their corresponding images. The Special Collections Department also has the Missouri State Census schedules on microfilm.

■ U.S. General Land Office Records, 1796-1907: This database is incomplete but covers parts of Missouri. The same data is available on the Bureau of Land Management website at <http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en.html>.

■ U.S. Passport Applications, 1795-1925: Features an index linked to passport images. Available information depends upon the time period in which the application was filed.

The *Ancestry* database is available at home for a subscription fee. The *Ancestry.com Library Edition* database may be used at no cost on library computers in the Special Collection Department and at any St. Louis County Library branch.

CALENDAR

March

■ Saturday, March 1, 10 am - Noon
St. Louis County Library Headquarters Auditorium
St. Louis Genealogical Society Monthly Meeting
Program: "Taking your Ancestors to Church: Finding Clues in Ecclesiastical Records"

■ Monday, March 4, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
St. Louis County Library Headquarters Computer Lab
Special Collections Class
AncestryLibrary.com and HeritageQuest.com Databases

■ Wednesday, March 12, 7 – 9 pm
St. Louis County Library Headquarters Auditorium
St. Louis Genealogical Society Jewish Special Interest Group
Program: "Adventures in Postcards"

■ Wednesday, March 19, 7 – 9 pm
St. Louis County Library Headquarters Auditorium
St. Louis Genealogical Society German Special Interest Group
Program: "German Cultural Center: Cultural Influences and Research Tips"

■ Thursday, March 20, 2 – 4 pm
St. Louis County Library Headquarters Computer Lab
Special Collections Class
AncestryLibrary.com and HeritageQuest.com Databases

■ Thursday, March 27, 7 – 9 pm
St. Louis County Library Headquarters Auditorium
St. Louis Genealogical Society French Special Interest Group
Program: "French Colonial Archaeology"

■ Saturday, March 29, 10 am – 12:30 pm
St. Louis County Library Headquarters Auditorium
Special Collections Department Presentation

Program: "It's Not in the Cards: Using the Online Catalog" and "Special Collections CDs Pay a High Rate of Return"

April

■ Saturday, April 12

Maryland Heights Centre, 2344 McKelvey Rd., Maryland Heights

St. Louis Genealogical Society Family History Conference

Door opens for registration at 7:30 am. Conference information is available on the Web at <http://www.stlgs.org/fair.htm>.

■ Tuesday, April 22, 7 – 9 pm

St. Louis County Headquarters, East Room

St. Louis Genealogical Society Irish Special Interest Group

Program: "St. Louis Circuit Court Irish Records"