

Figures 1 & 2 | The Louisiana Territory and East & West Florida

## FOR THE RECORDS

### Records of the Diocese of Louisiana and the Floridas

#### A Brief History of the Diocese

European exploration and conquest of North America is one of overlapping claims and fluid borders. Initially, Spain claimed the entire Gulf Coast from Florida to Texas as part of its empire. The French, beginning with LaSalle, had other ideas and laid claim to the entire Mississippi River watershed, effectively splitting the Spanish territory in half. Eventually, the French established settlements along the Gulf Coast beyond the Mississippi River basin. These included such places as Biloxi and Mobile to the east and small forts and settlements in what is now Texas to the west.

The boundaries continued to shift due to the European wars of the eighteenth century, culminating in the Seven Years' War, known in North America as the French and Indian War. In the 1763 Treaty of Paris, France ceded Canada and all of Louisiana east of the Mississippi River to Britain, except the Ile d'Orleans. They ceded this latter territory and Louisiana west of the Mississippi River to Spain. [See Figure 1]<sup>1</sup> During the war, Britain captured Havana, Spain's preeminent port in the Caribbean. Spain yielded Florida to Britain for the return of Havana.

The British split Florida into two colonies at the Apalachicola River, creating the territories of East Florida and West Florida. They expanded West Florida north to include the southern half of modern Mississippi and Alabama including the city of Natchez and west to the Mississippi River including the city of Baton Rouge and all of modern Louisiana east of the river and north of Lake Pontchartrain. This area in Louisiana is known today as the Florida Parishes. [see Figure 2]<sup>2</sup>

Britain's hold on the territory was quite fleeting. Spain joined with France during the U.S. Revolutionary War and used it as an opportunity to attack and capture the British positions in Biloxi, Mobile, Pensacola, and St. Augustine. The Treaty of Paris 1763 ending the war returned both East Florida and West Florida to Spain although with ambiguous northern and western borders. The Spanish moved the boundary between the two Floridas east from the Apalachicola River to the Suwanee River.

With changes in political boundaries came the need to adjust ecclesiastical boundaries. Typically, the Roman Catholic Church prefers to have bishops and archbishops overseeing a diocese located within one political jurisdiction. The church, at the urging of the Spanish authorities, put religious matters of the two Floridas under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Santiago de Cuba. That bishop already had authority over church affairs in the Louisiana territory.

This arrangement proved to be untenable. The Spanish authorities proposed the creation of the Diocese of St. Christopher with its seat in Havana. Louisiana and the Floridas became part of the new diocese, but with an auxiliary bishop on the mainland. This arrangement also proved unworkable. At the request of King Charles IV, Pope Pius VI established the Diocese of Louisiana and the Floridas with its seat in New Orleans, and appointed Luis Ignacio Maria de Peñalver y Cardenas the first Bishop in 1793.

When Bishop Peñalver arrived in New Orleans to take possession of his See, he found a variety of problems. The population, influenced by the French Revolution, had become anti-clerical and anti-religion. Combined with a general antipathy of all things Spanish and a shortage of clergy, the new bishop faced obstacles and difficulties. After six years, he petitioned for a change to another diocese, and received an appointment as Archbishop of Guatemala.

Francisco Porro y Peinado received an appointment as the second bishop of the diocese in 1801, but hearing rumors of the impending transfer of the territory from Spain to France, he delayed his travel and never actually took possession of it. With the sale of Louisiana from France to the US, the diocese came under the supervision of Bishop John Carroll of Baltimore. Because the Floridas still belonged to Spain, their status became unclear, although the Bishop of Havana asserted jurisdiction.



Figure 3 | Hipolite Dupuis' name in alphabetic list

In 1815, Louis-Guillaume[William]-Valentin DuBourg became the third bishop of the diocese. He encountered some of the same problems in New Orleans as those faced by Bishop Penalver. Consequently, he relocated to St. Louis and ran the diocese from there.

While in St. Louis, Bishop DuBourg appealed to France for priests and nuns to serve in the diocese and to evangelize among the Native Americans in its western territory. Those who answered the appeal included Mother Philippine

Duchesne, Father Joseph Rosati, and Father Pierre-Jean De Smet, all well-known names in St. Louis and western U.S. history. He also built a cathedral, the first in the United States west of the Mississippi River, and founded the St. Louis Latin Academy, the predecessor of St. Louis University.

In 1825, Pope Leo XII erected the Vicariate Apostolic of Alabama and the Floridas, taking territory from the diocese. The same pope split the diocese in 1826 to create the new Dioceses of New Orleans and St. Louis.

### The Content of the Record Set

To use the records of the Diocese of Louisiana and the Floridas effectively, it is important to understand what it does and does not include. For example, the record set does not contain the records of the individual parishes within its borders. These records typically remain at the parish itself or in the archives of the parish’s contemporary diocese or archdiocese. In some cases, you might also find them digitized on Ancestry, FamilySearch, or FindMyPast.

Instead, the records contain documents created by and for the diocese. Although often created by the bishop’s staff, the records may also have come from outside sources such as the papacy, the king of Spain, or other dioceses and archdioceses. While this is not an exclusive list, some of the items you might find in these records include:

- Reports of missionary activities
- Royal and Papal decrees
- Royal instructions for marriages among Protestants in the territory or between Protestants and Catholics.
- Financial records of the diocese and some of the parishes within the diocese
- Parish census reports
- Accounts of the bishop visiting parishes within the diocese
- Appointment of pastors to the various parishes in the diocese
- Records establishing parishes in the diocese
- Discipline of pastors and other clergy
- Indications from pastors whether or not they desired to stay in their parishes after the retrocession of Louisiana from Spain to France and its subsequent sale to the United States
- Special appeals to the bishop
  - Sanctuary
  - Dispensations

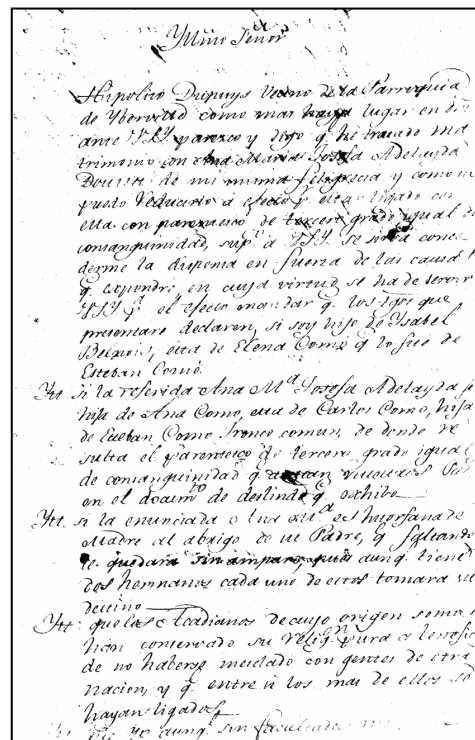


Figure 4 | First Page of Hipolite Dupuis Request for Dispensation

While some of these items might appear to be of little use for genealogical research, others could be real gems.

Hipolite (Juan Baptiste & Isabel Benoa) m. 7 Jan. 1800, Ana Maria Josefa Delaide DOUSAIS (DOUSET) (Juan Bautiste & Ana Como of France) wit. Pedro Dousais & Juan Bautista dePui (SGA-14, 26, #99)

Figure 5 | Hipolite Dupuis and Ana Maria Josefa Delaide Dousais Marriage, Diocese of Baton Rouge Catholic Church Records

**Using the Records**

You can access them through Notre Dame University’s online portal at <https://archives.nd.edu/mano/>. Start searching with the “Alphabetical List” created by Notre Dame. They evaluated the records and created a calendar for them The index does not include every name mentioned in the record set, but does list the names of the authors of the items found in the collection and the names of the principal people involved in the record. To find the list, scroll down to the bottom of the webpage.

Consider the example of Hipolite Dupuis. His name appears in the alphabetical list with a date 1799 Dec 16 and the note (proceedings for dispensation). [See Figure 3 for his name in the alphabetical list.]

For the next step, search the calendar entry to be sure the record in question pertains to the correct person of that name.

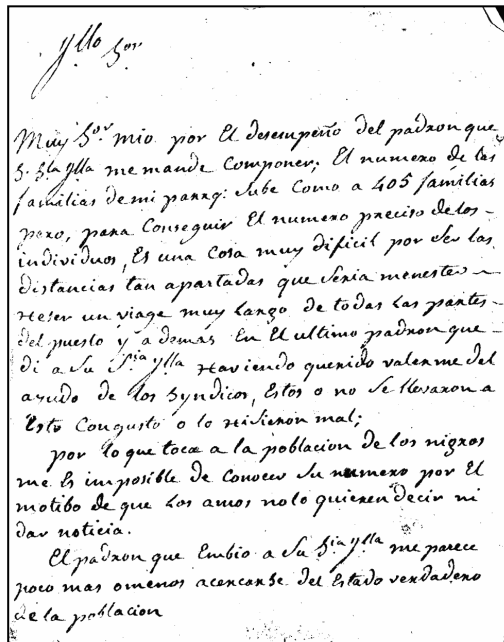


Figure 6 | 1801 Census of St. Martin’s Parish Attakapas [St. Martinsville], Louisiana

In our example, we want to be sure the Hipolite Dupuis named in the alphabetical list is actually our ancestor rather than someone else with the same name. The website makes this a particularly easy step, because it provides a link directly from the alphabetical list to the calendar.

The link will take you to an abbreviated calendar entry, with cross-links for other names in the documents. It also provides a link to the original calendar entry. Although abstracted from the original documents, the original calendar entry typically goes into enough detail to determine whether to pursue the originals.

The calendar tells us Dupuis, of Iberville, Louisiana, wished to marry Ana Maria Josefa Adelayda Doucet of the same town. Canon Law, however, did not permit the marriage because they were related in the third degree [second cousins]. This was a significant problem among the Acadians (now known as Cajuns) who settled in the bayou country of southwestern Louisiana. They tended to live in small communities and over time, everyone in the area was related to everyone else.

The next calendar card further elaborates on the situation, specifically the details of the relationship. Dupuis states “he is the son of Isabel Belnois, daughter of Elena Como, daughter of Esteban Como; that Ana is the daughter of Ana Como, daughter of Carlos Como, (son) of Esteban Como; that Ana’s mother is dead and her father is needy.”<sup>3</sup> The cards further describe his poverty as “Ana’s father is 56 and although he has a house and two Negroes, he is poor.”<sup>4</sup>



According to the calendar, other witnesses provided testimony. Ultimately, the bishop “grants the dispensation on condition that they make a general confession before marrying and one other afterwards, that during the publishing of the bans they fast three days and recite the rosary every night. A letter is to be sent to the pastor of Iberville that he may marry them when the conditions are fulfilled. A church official, Valdes, certifies this and adds that he notified Dupuys (Dupuis) of the decree and sent the letter [to the parish priest].”<sup>5</sup>

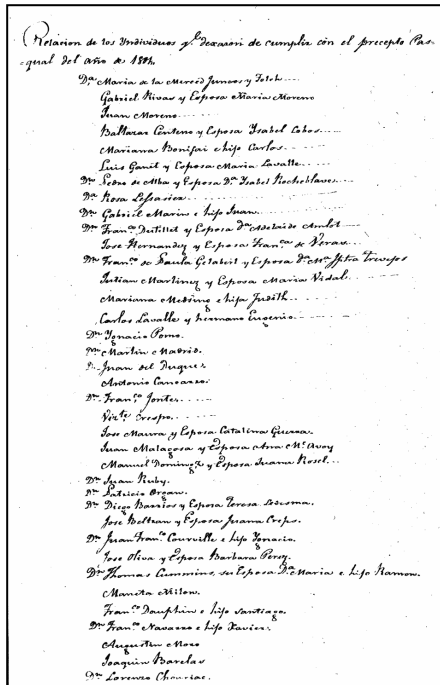


Figure 7 | List of People who failed to make their Easter Duty,” St. Miguel Parish, Pensacola, West Florida

Although the calendar entry appears informative and complete, a good researcher will not stop with an abstract, especially one completed by someone else. Next, we must look at the original documents. Some researchers may find reading handwritten documents in Spanish challenging. Nevertheless, we must look at the original. See Figure 4<sup>6</sup>

Once we are satisfied that we have gleaned all of the information from the documents, what is the next step? Look for other resources. These might be in the Archdioceses of New Orleans,<sup>7</sup> Mobile,<sup>8</sup> or St. Louis,<sup>9</sup> or the Dioceses of Biloxi,<sup>10</sup> Baton Rouge,<sup>11</sup> Lafayette, Houma-Thibodaux, Pensacola-Tallahassee, St. Augustine,<sup>12</sup> or Belleville.<sup>13</sup>

In the case of our example, Hipolite Dupuis and his family lived in Iberville Parish. That area is included in the Diocese of Baton Rouge, so we will look in the records there.

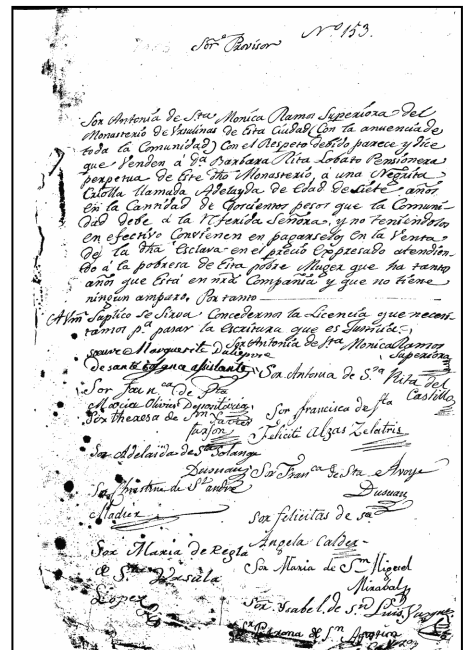


Figure 8 | Ursuline Sisters asking the bishop's permission to sell enslaved girl, Adelaida

Among these records, we learn the marriage of Hipolite Dupuis and Anna Maria Josefa Delaide Douset took place on 14 January 1800 at St. Gabriel Church, presumably after completing the requirements placed on the dispensation by the bishop. The record also names the parents of the bride and groom and the witnesses. See Figure 5<sup>14</sup>

The same records also include the marriages of Hipolite’s parents, Jean-Baptiste Dupuis and Elizabeth Benoit<sup>15</sup> described as Acadians, and the parents of Anna Douset, Jean-Baptiste and Ann Como.<sup>16</sup> Earlier ancestors may be in volume one of the same series, or in Acadian records [See “The Acadians, 18th-century Refugees,” in the [July 2018 edition of PastPorts](#) <bit.ly/3iACZmd>.<sup>17</sup>]

**Another Way to find Your Ancestor’s Dispensation**

A print volume, *Marriage Dispensations in the Diocese of Louisiana and the Floridas, 1786-1803*,<sup>18</sup> may be another access point to these records. Although the book only references dispensations, the index appears to include more names



## Final Thoughts and Conclusions

The records of the Diocese of Louisiana and the Floridas offers insight into the lives of our North American French Ancestors, particularly those living in the gulf coast area. Notre Dame's digitization of the records offers us easy access that typically would not be available for this type of record.

What will you find by searching these records?

### NOTES:

1. "Louisiana Purchase.jpg." *Wikimedia Commons*, [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Louisiana\\_Purchase.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Louisiana_Purchase.jpg) (accessed 7 March 2022).
2. "Map of East and West Florida in 1819, the year that Spain ceded Florida to the United States by the Adams-Onís Treaty (ratified 1821," Wikipedia, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/East\\_Florida#/media/File:Map\\_of\\_East\\_and\\_West\\_Florida\\_in\\_1819.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/East_Florida#/media/File:Map_of_East_and_West_Florida_in_1819.jpg) (accessed 7 March 2022).
3. Records of the Diocese of Louisiana and the Floridas, Calendar (1799, 12, 16) Hipolite Dupuis's request for dispensation to marry his second cousin, Ana Maria Josefa Adelayda Doucet, Card 2 <https://archives.nd.edu/mano/> (accessed 7 February 2022). [The website does not have URLs for individual parts of the collection. The link is to the record set.]
4. Ibid.
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid.
7. Woods, Earl C., *Sacramental records of the Roman Catholic Church of the Archdiocese of New Orleans*. New Orleans: Archdiocese of New Orleans, 1987. Call no. R 976.335 W894S or 976.335 W894S
8. Calagaz, Ann, editor, *Sacramental records of the Roman Catholic Church of the Archdiocese of Mobile : volume 1, section 1, 1704-1739*. Mobile, AL : Mobile Municipal Archives, 2002. Call no. R 976.122 S123. Digital copies on Archdiocese of New Orleans website, <https://nolacatholic.org/church-records>, (accessed 18 February 2022).
9. See History & Genealogy's video tutorial, "Locating St. Louis Archdiocesan Parish Records Online," <https://www.slcl.org/genealogy/video-tutorials> (accessed 18 February 2022).
10. *Registres paroissiaux, 1720-1734, Eglise catholique. Paroisse de Nouvelle-Orléans (Louisiane)*, Microfilm des originaux dans les Archives nationales, Section Outre-Mer, Paris. Nouvelle-Orléans: Sépultures 1724-1730, 1734; Baptêmes 1729-1730 Biloxi: Sépultures 1720-1722 Kaskaskia: Baptêmes, mariages, sépultures 1723-1724, FamilySearch, <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/514701?availability=Family%20History%20Library> (accessed 18 February 2022).

11. Catholic Church, Diocese of Baton Rouge, *Diocese of Baton Rouge, Catholic Church Records*. Baton Rouge: The Diocese, 1978. Call no. R 976.318 C363D and 976.318 C363D
12. *Church records, 1594-1924, Catholic Church. Cathedral (St. Augustine, Florida)*, <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/220611?availability=Family%20History%20Library> (accessed 18 February 2022).
13. *Illinois, Diocese of Belleville, Catholic parish records, 1729-1956*, <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/1388122> (accessed 18 February 2022).
14. Catholic Church, Diocese of Baton Rouge, p 268.
15. Ibid, p 269.
16. Ibid, p 247.
17. “The Acadians, 18th-century Refugees,” *PastPorts*, July 2018 E-Journal , [https://www.slcl.org/sites/default/files/07\\_2018.pdf](https://www.slcl.org/sites/default/files/07_2018.pdf) (accessed 25 February 2022).
18. Bourquard, Shirley Chaisson, *Marriage dispensations in the Diocese of Louisiana and the Floridas, 1786-1803*. New Orleans: Polyanthos, 1980. Call no. 976.3 M359.
19. “1801 Census of St. Martin’s Parish Attakapas [St. Martinsville], Louisiana”, *Records of the Diocese of Louisiana and the Floridas*, <https://archives.nd.edu/mano/0010/00000178.gif> (accessed 28 February 2022)
20. “1801 List of People who failed to make their Easter Duty”, St. Miguel Parish, Pensacola, West Florida, *Records of the Diocese of Louisiana and the Floridas*, <https://archives.nd.edu/mano/0010/00000184.gif> (accessed 28 February 2022).
21. “Ursuline Sisters asking the bishop’s permission to sell enslaved girl, Adelayda,” *Records of the Diocese of Louisiana and the Floridas*, <https://archives.nd.edu/mano/0012/00000216.gif> (accessed 28 February 2022).
22. “Ursuline Sisters asking the bishop’s permission to sell enslaved man, Antonio, to his wife” *Records of the Diocese of Louisiana and the Floridas* <https://archives.nd.edu/mano/0012/00000220.gif> (accessed 28 February 2022).

## LIBRARY CLOSURE

Sunday, April 17, H & G will be closed for the Easter holiday.

\*All SLCL library branches will be used as polling places for the April 5 municipal election but will remain open.

## NEW CATALOG

St. Louis County Library and St. Louis Public Library launched [a new shared catalog](#) on March 17. This partnership gives SLCL cardholders access to millions more books, movies and music, as well as many updated patron account features.



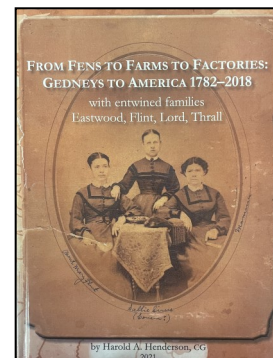
## SPOTLIGHT ON



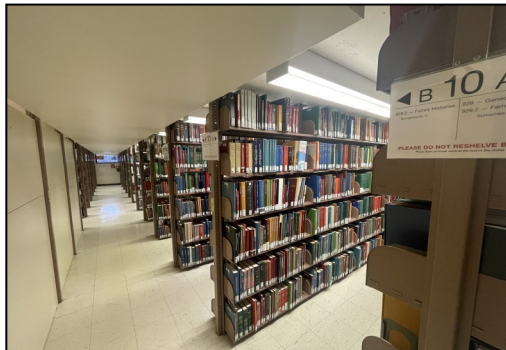
## FAMILY HISTORY BOOKS

From *Aarons of the South* to *The Zychlinski Family*, History & Genealogy has over 14,000 family history books in its collection, many of which circulate. A family history book is a record of a family and the lives of its members. Many of the family histories in the collection are a part of the National Genealogical Society (NGS) Collection. Now family histories are purchased by H & G or donated through NGS every year. The books can be searched in the [SLCL catalog](#) and also browsed, as the Dewey Decimal system puts them in surname order. The call number for family history books begins with 929.2, and they are currently located on Tier 4 in H & G at the Headquarters Branch.

Many family history books have also been digitized and can be located online. They can be found on websites like Hathitrust and Archive.org, as well as in databases such as AncestryLibraryEdition, Fold3, and Familysearch.org. Much like with online family trees, family history books should be corroborated with evidence.



If you are interested in writing your own family history, H & G has several books to guide you through the process, including *Guide to Genealogical Writing: How to Write and Publish Your Family History* by Penelope L. Stratton and Henry B. Hoff, CG, FASG (929.1 S911G) and *Publish your Family History: A Step-by-step Guide to Writing the Stories of Your Ancestors* by Dina C. Carson (929.1 C321P). Both of these guides can be checked out.



## CENSUS RELEASE

Don't forget, the 1950 census will be released April 1! See the February 2022 edition of [PastPorts](#) for tips and more information. If you would like to be a part of bringing this new genealogy resource to life by making it searchable, volunteer indexing opportunities can be found at <https://www.familysearch.org/1950census/>.

## YOUR LIBRARY RENEWED

The "Your Library Renewed" campaign that began in 2012 is coming to a close. All St. Louis County Library branches have been refurbished or replaced. The penultimate project, the Lynn Beckwith, Jr. Administration Building, is nearing completion. The final project, a new Ladue Branch, will begin this year. See <https://www.slcl.org/your-library-renewed> for more information. More details to follow.

# NEW Periodicals

Did your ancestors live in Kentucky? History & Genealogy at the St. Louis County Library has recently acquired the following new periodicals:

### Clay County Ancestral News

1985-2020, Volumes 1-36  
Clay County Historical Society

### Whitley Branches

1997-2020, Volumes 1-95  
Whitley County Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc.

### Branches of Laurel

1986-2019, Volumes 3-34  
Laurel County Historical Society

### Yesterday's Tuckaways

1969-2017, Volumes 1-49  
Hopkins County Kentucky Genealogical Society, Inc.

Genealogy periodicals are monthly, quarterly or yearly publications from local historical and genealogical societies. These periodicals contain a wealth of genealogical information, including articles, indexes and maps. All periodical titles can be found in the [St. Louis County Library's card catalog](#). As periodicals are housed in closed stacks, please see a History & Genealogy staff member for help retrieving the periodicals you need.

**PastPorts** is published by History & Genealogy at St. Louis County Library, located on Tier 5 of Library Headquarters.

Current and past issues can be downloaded from the web <http://www.slcl.org/pastports>.

#### Contact us:

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St. Louis, MO 63131

314-994-3300  
genealogy@slcl.org  
www.slcl.org/genealogy

# Events

Saturday, April 9, 10:00 am

St. Louis Genealogical Society Monthly Meeting

### “Finding Family in the ‘New’ 1950 Census: Indexing Innovations and Search Strategies”

Learn how to use time-tested and novel strategies to find your relatives now while discovering how to help make the 1950 Missouri census searchable as soon as possible. This hybrid meeting will be offered in both virtual and in-person formats.

Featured speaker: John Dugan, Missouri State Archivist

Tuesday, April 26, 7:00 pm

Irish Special Interest Group Meeting

### “Irish Heritage in St. Louis”

The Irish have been immigrating to the U.S. for hundreds of years and almost every major city in the country has been influenced by their unique culture and traditions. Learn more about the enduring legacy of the Irish in St. Louis.

Featured speaker: Gabrielle Woeltje

Visit [stlgs.org](http://stlgs.org) for more information and to register.

## STLGS CONFERENCE

**St. Louis Genealogical Society 2022 Family History Conference: “Get in Your Car and Go—Midwest Archives and Libraries”**

Saturday, May 14, 9:30 am–3:30 pm

Maryland Heights Community Center

Featuring Dr. David McDonald and local speakers

Hybrid (virtual and in-person options)

See [stlgs.org](http://stlgs.org) for more information and to register.

# NEW Books

WARREN E. MILTEER, JR.

## Beyond Slavery's Shadow

Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press  
975.00496 M662B

On the eve of the Civil War, most people of color in the United States toiled in bondage. Yet nearly half a million of these individuals, including over 250,000 in the South, were free. In *Beyond Slavery's Shadow*, Warren Eugene Milteer Jr. draws from a wide array of sources to demonstrate that from the colonial period through the Civil War, the growing influence of white supremacy and proslavery extremism created serious challenges for free persons categorized as negroes, mulattoes, mustees, Indians, or simply free people of color in the South. Segregation, exclusion, disfranchisement, and discriminatory punishment were ingrained in their collective experiences.

Nevertheless, in the face of attempts to deny them the most basic privileges and rights, free people of color defended their families and established organizations and businesses.

These people were both privileged and victimized, both celebrated and despised, in a region characterized by social inconsistency. Milteer's analysis of the way wealth, gender, and occupation intersected with ideas promoting white supremacy and discrimination reveals a wide range of social interactions and life outcomes for the South's free people of color and helps to explain societal contradictions that continue to appear in the modern United States.—Publisher

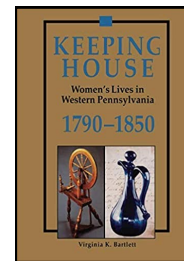
VIRGINIA K. BARTLETT

## Keeping House: Women's Lives in Western Pennsylvania 1790-1850

University of Pittsburgh Press  
974.8 B291K

This book is a fascinating re-creation of the lives of women in the time of great social change that followed the end of the French and Indian War in western Pennsylvania. Many decades passed before a desolate and violent frontier was transformed into a stable region of farms and towns. *Keeping House: Women's Lives in Western Pennsylvania, 1790-1850* tells how the daughters, wives, and mothers who crossed the Allegheny Mountains responded and adapted to unaccustomed physical and psychological hardships as they established lives for themselves and their families in their new homes. Intrigued by late eighteenth and early nineteenth-century manuscript cookbooks in the col-

lection of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, Virginia Bartlett wanted to find out more about women living in the region during that period. Quoting from journals, letters, cookbooks, travelers' accounts - approving and critical - memoirs, documents, and newspapers, she offers us voices of women and men commenting seriously and humorously on what was going on around them. The text is well-illustrated with contemporaneous art-- engravings, paintings, drawings, and cartoons. Of special interest are color and black-and-white photographs of furnishings, housewares, clothing, and portraits from the collections of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania.—Publisher

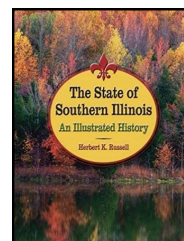


HERBERT K. RUSSELL

## The State of Southern Illinois: An Illustrated History

Southern Illinois University Press  
977.3 R963S

In *The State of Southern Illinois: An Illustrated History*, Herbert K. Russell offers fresh interpretations of a number of important aspects of Southern Illinois history. Focusing on the area known as "Egypt," the region south of U.S. Route 50 from Salem south to Cairo, he begins his book with the earliest geologic formations and follows Southern Illinois's history into the twenty-first century. The volume is richly illustrated with maps and photographs, mostly in color, that highlight the informative and straightforward text. Perhaps most notable is the author's use of dozens of heretofore neglected sources to dispel the myth that Southern Illinois is merely an extension of Dixie. He corrects the popular impressions that slavery was introduced by early settlers from the South and that a majority of Southern Illinoisans wished to secede. Furthermore, he presents the first in-depth discussion of twelve pre-Civil War, free black communities located in the region. He also identifies the roles coal mining, labor violence, gangsters, and the media played in establishing the area's image. He concludes optimistically, unveiling a twenty-first-century Southern Illinois filled with myriad attractions and opportunities for citizens and tourists alike. *The State of Southern Illinois* is the most accurate all-encompassing volume of history on this unique area that often regards itself as a state within a state. It offers an entirely new perspective on race relations, provides insightful information on the cultural divide between north and south in Illinois, and pays tribute to an often neglected and misunderstood region of this multidimensional state, all against a stunning visual backdrop.—Publisher



## History & Genealogy services

The following H&G services are free and available to researchers who are unable to visit the library.

### Lookup service

H&G can provide photocopies, prints, or digital scans of many library materials from indexed sources or when given a specific citation:

- Up to 30 pages from one book or one article from a journal issue. Staff can also photocopy or scan tables of contents and index pages.
- Microfilmed records—A list of microfilm available in the H&G collection can be viewed [online](https://bit.ly/3jrqw3j) <<https://bit.ly/3jrqw3j>>.
- Print outs from database records if patrons cannot access the database at home.
- Please use the [online lookup request form](https://bit.ly/2UQXJKE) <<https://bit.ly/2UQXJKE>> to submit requests.

### Print collection

More than 27,000 books in the collection can be checked out. The entire collection is included in the library's [online catalog](https://slouc.na2.iiivega.com/) <<https://slouc.na2.iiivega.com/>>. Books with call numbers that do not begin with "R" are available to check out. Patrons can request books online or by calling 314-994-3300.

### Research guidance

H&G staff members can provide research assistance by phone.

### Book-a-Genealogist

Researchers encountering brick-walls or who would like assistance in developing a plan to achieve specific research goals can schedule a phone consultation with an H&G staff member. Requests can be made using the online [Book-a-Genealogist form](https://bit.ly/3fQbB0r) <<https://bit.ly/3fQbB0r>>.

### Database access

Many library [databases](https://bit.ly/3hBmF3Y) <<https://bit.ly/3hBmF3Y>> can be used at home by St. Louis County Library card holders living in the metropolitan area. For more information, please contact the History & Genealogy Department at 314-994-3300 or [genealogy@slcl.org](mailto:genealogy@slcl.org).

## This month in history

"Open ye gates. Swing wide, ye portals." were the words that officially opened the St. Louis World's Fair on April 30, 1904. The Louisiana Purchase Exposition would last for the next seven months and ultimately host some 20 million visitors.

The fairgrounds covered 1,200 acres of Forest Park and consisted of 1,500 buildings.

The fairgoers experienced modern advancements in technology, agriculture, art, and history. Some such advancements that were on display at the fair included private automobiles, outdoor electric lighting, and the X-ray machine. Attendees were also delighted with trying exciting new foods, amusement rides, and never-before-seen entertainment acts.



For more information on this historical event that has shaped our city's culture for 118 years, check out the resources available in History & Genealogy.

## NEW PRINT POLICIES

As of January 1, 2022, the library resumed charging for print, copy and fax services. Each library cardholder will receive a monthly credit of \$5.00 for computer printouts.

H & G printouts:

Black and white printouts (8.5 x 11 or 11 x 17 in): \$0.10

Color printouts (staff assistance) (8.5 x 11 or 11 x 17 in): \$0.25

H & G copies:

The H & G copy machine will still require cash.

Black and white copy (8.5 x 11 or 11 x 17 in): \$0.10

Color copy (8.5 x 11 or 11 x 17 in): \$0.25

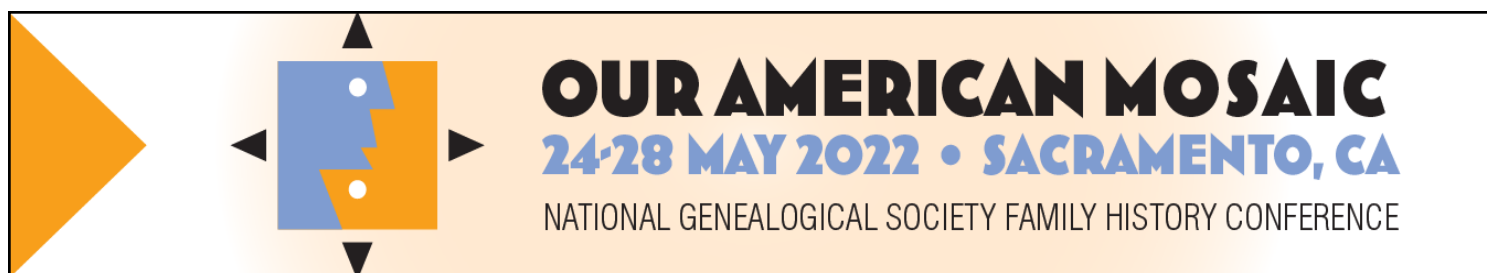


# Data life

SAMPLINGS FROM THE DATABASE COLLECTION

## HeritageQuest Online

[HeritageQuest Online](#) is available through the St. Louis County Library. It provides access to U.S. Federal Census records, local and family history books, Revolutionary War Pension & Bounty-Land Warrant applications, Freedman's Bank records, the Social Security Death Index, wills & probate records and more.. HeritageQuest is owned by Ancestry.com and contains a sampling of databases from the larger AncestryLibraryEdition collection. It also has the same searching interface. HeritageQuest can be used from home with your SLCL library card, and is therefore a useful substitute for census records usually found on AncestryLibraryEdition, especially when you need at-home access.



**OUR AMERICAN MOSAIC**  
**24-28 MAY 2022 • SACRAMENTO, CA**  
 NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars for the 2022 National Genealogical Society Family History Conference. Three options will be offered: in person in Sacramento, online at home, or streaming on-demand after the conference. See <https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/> for more details.

## SLCL HISTORY PROGRAM

St. Louis County Library will present the following virtual program:

### **Ulysses S. Grant, Robert E. Lee and the Appomattox Surrender**

April 7, 2:00 pm

Presented by the National Park Service. Examine the final days of the Appomattox Campaign and the surrender terms negotiated between Generals Grant and Lee at Appomattox Courthouse. Adults. Registration required. Participants will receive Zoom information via email immediately after registering. A recording of this virtual program will be posted to YouTube within three business days. Register at <https://www.slcl.org/events>.

## TECH TALK

Would you like to show your online family tree to a family member who does not use the internet? Bring your online discoveries to a family reunion in the park?

The St. Louis County Library loans mobile wi-fi Hotspots!

Access the internet on the go, anywhere, any time with a wi-fi mobile Hotspot. Free mobile internet access is being provided by the St. Louis County Library through T-Mobile. Hotspots can be checked out by adult cardholders in good standing. For more information, visit <https://www.slcl.org/wi-fi-hotspots>. Hotspots can be requested through the [SLCL catalog](#).