



PastPorts

AUGUST 2024

FOR THE RECORDS

Welcome to the new Emerson History and Genealogy Center

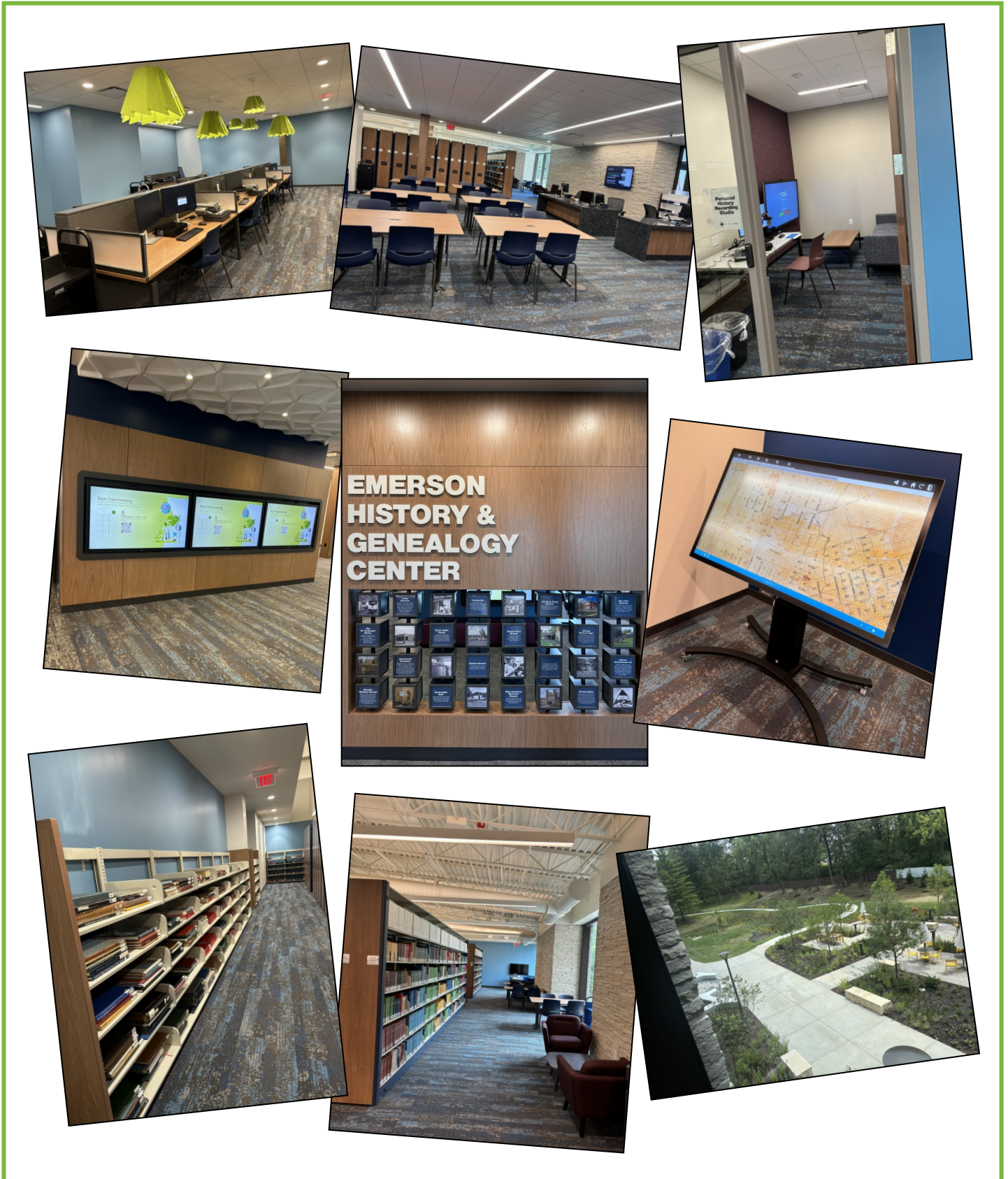
It has been a little over two years since the Headquarters Branch (our former home) was closed. The department was relocated to the Daniel Boone Branch, and we enjoyed seeing many patrons continue researching there. For those of you who have been waiting for the new space to open, welcome back! The Clark Family Branch officially opened on July 9. The branch has replaced Headquarters, and is still located at 1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd. The Emerson History & Genealogy Center, as we are now called, thanks to a generous grant from Emerson, is located on the second floor of this wonderful new building.

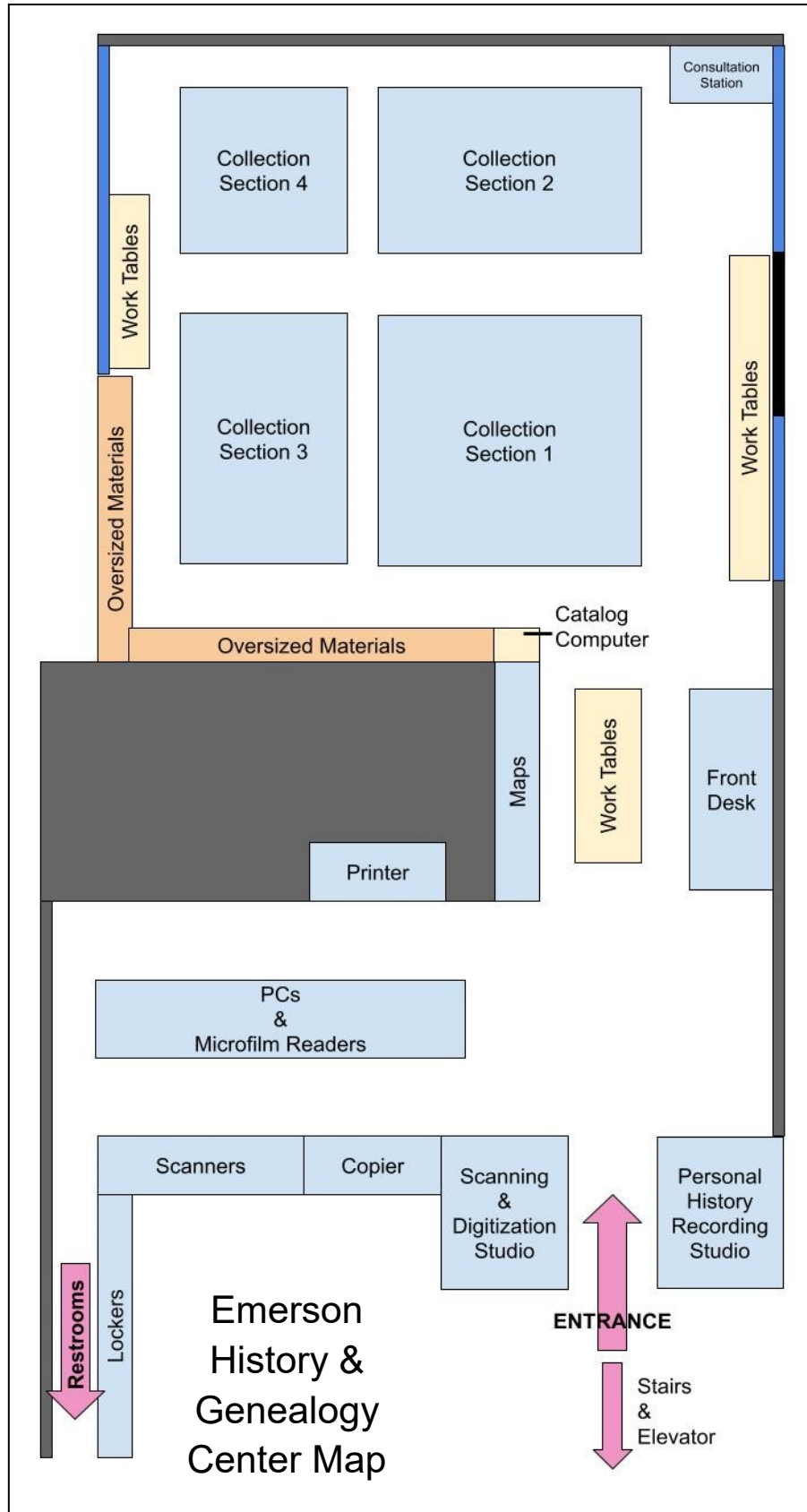
There are so many new features in our department, it's hard to know where to begin! Some of the highlights include:

- Patrons can now access the entire collection on high density movable shelving with no more closed tiers
- New microfilm readers
- Interactive FamilySearch touch screens to explore your genealogy in a fun way!
- Large, tilting screens with links to a variety of map resources
- Personal History Recording Studio where you can record oral history interviews with family members
- Scanning and Digitization Studio filled with technology to digitize your photographs, slides, VHS tapes, and film
- Dedicated consultation station for Book-a-Genealogist sessions
- And more!

We thank you in advance for your patience as we all grow accustomed to the new environment and technology.

Much of this edition of PastPorts has been dedicated to information about our new space. We hope you enjoy it and look forward to seeing you soon!





Print Collection Sections 1 & 2

Sections 1 and 2 of H&G Collection	
974.9-975.2	974.882-974.9
974.811-974.843	974.843-974.882
974.762-974.811	974.7243-974.762
974.485-974.7	974.7-974.7243
974.426-974.485	974.28-974.426
973.8-974.16	974.16-974.28
973.757-973.8	973.7468-973.754
973.733-973.7447	973.7447-973.7468
973.7-973.733	973.3456-973.7
973-973.2	973.2-973.3456
971.426-973	971.344-971.4252
949.454-970.3	970.3-971.343
948.22-949.454	944.04-948.22
943.464-943.5917	943.5917-944.04
943.42-943.464	943.3-943.42
943-943.1	943.1-943.3
942.9-942.998	942.531-942.9
941.5-942.12	942.12-942.531
940.5472-941.5	940.54-940.5472
929.209-929.72	929.72-940.54
929.2 W-929.2 Z	929.2 T-929.2 W
929.2 S-929.2 T	929.2 T-929.2 T
929.2 R-929.2 S	929.2 P-929.2 R
929.2 M-929.2 O	929.2 O-929.2 P
929.2 L-929.2 M	929.2 J-929.2 L
929.2 G-929.2 H	929.2 H-929.2 J
929.2 F-929.2 G	929.2 D-929.2 F
929.2 C-929.2 D	929.2 D-929.2 D
929.2 B-929.2 C	929.2 A-929.2 B
659.11-929.1	929.1-929.2 A
362.734-659.11	333.1-362.732
071-305.896	305.896-333
Periodicals 979.549-999, Biographies, 0-070.92	Periodicals 978.198-979.547
Periodicals 977.389-977.841	Periodicals 977.841-978.183
Periodicals 977.322-977.389	Periodicals 977.198-977.311
Periodicals 976.686-976.9	Periodicals 976.9-977.198
Periodicals 976.335-976.686	Periodicals 975.9-976.335
Periodicals 974.9-975.6	Periodicals 975.6-975.9
Periodicals 974.6-974.9	Periodicals 974-974.6
Periodicals 0-943.22	Periodicals 943.42-974

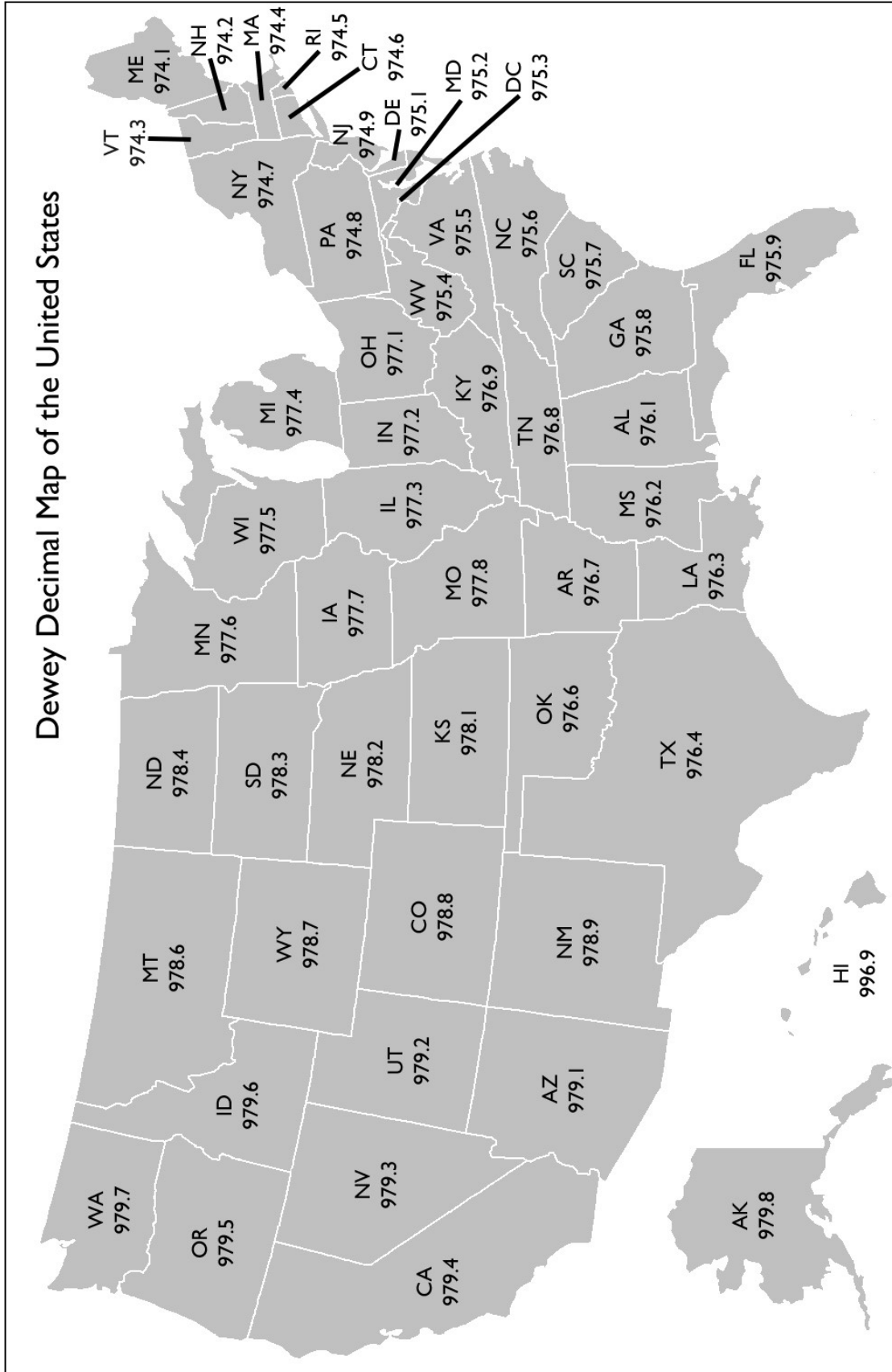
Aisle

Print Collection Sections 3 & 4

Yearbooks 978.0049-979.753	Aisle	City Directories 979.753-999
978-978.004 977.866-977.877		977.894-977.8996 977.877-977.894
977.8592-977.866 977.8-977.8155		977.8386-977.8592 977.8155-977.8382
977.553-977.8 977.344-977.384		977.3991-977.553 977.3855-977.3991
977.299-977.344 977.1835-977.229		977.265-977.299 977.229-977.265
977.159-977.1835 976.9735-977.1		977.137-977.159 977.1-977.137
976.9132-976.9735 976.774-976.852		976.8834-976.9132 976.852-976.882
976.4288-976.744 976.142-976.2942		976.339-976.4287 976.2942-976.339
975.8552-976.142 975.6845-975.761		975.8-975.8552 975.761-975.8
975.627-975.6845 975.5275-975.5665		975.6-975.627 975.5671-975.6
975.5-975.5275 975.2-975.297		975.427-975.499 975.287-975.427

History & Genealogy Dewey Decimal Guide

- 000-099
 - Bibliographies
 - Library and Information Science
 - Journalism and newspapers
- 100-199
 - Ghosts, hauntings, and spiritualism
- 200-299
 - Religion
- 300-399
 - 323 – Civil Rights
 - 326 – Slavery
 - 355 – Military Science
 - 385 – Railroads
 - 386 – Inland Waterways
 - 387 – Ships
 - 390 – Folklore
- 400-499
 - Languages
 - Dictionaries
- 500-599
 - Sciences
- 600-699
 - 610 – Medicine and Health
 - 620 – Engineering, including weapons, locomotives, & airplanes
- 700-799
 - 720 – Architecture
 - 770 – Entertainment
 - 790 – Sports
- 800-899
 - Memoirs
- 900-999
 - 929.1 – Genealogy Guides
 - 929.2 – Family Histories
 - 929.3 – Genealogical Sources
 - 940.3 – World War I
 - 940.53 – World War II
 - 941 – British Isles
 - 941.1 – Scotland
 - 941.5 – Ireland
 - 942 – England
 - 943 – Germany
 - 944 – France
 - 945 – Italy
 - 947 – Russia and Eastern European Countries
 - 948-949 – Nordic Countries
 - 951.9 – Korea
 - 959.7 – Vietnam
 - 970.1 – Native Americans
 - 971 – Canada
 - 972.5 – Mexico
 - 972.9 – West Indies
 - 973 – United States
 - 973.2 – Colonial
 - 973.3 – Revolutionary War
 - 973.5 – War of 1812
 - 973.6 – Mexican War
 - 973.7 – Civil War
 - 974 ≤ U.S. States (see map next page)



Emerson History & Genealogy Center Scope of Collections

In order to conduct reasonably exhaustive research, genealogists need at their disposal a wide variety of resource types.

The library considers for selection resources including, but not limited to, the following:

Abstracts, transcripts, and indexes of historical records

Business, community, industry, military, religious, and transportation histories

Published diaries, memoirs, and letters

Plat maps and atlases

City, county, and farm directories and phone books

Family histories

Yearbooks and school directories

International sources related to Missouri immigration

The scope of resources is determined based on location. Primary selection of resources for the United States emphasizes

32 states including, but not limited to:

Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia

International locations are identified based on Missouri immigration needs and selection is limited to resources that are available for purchase. Current locations of selection consideration include, but are not limited to:

Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, England, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, India, Italy, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Mexico, Poland, Romania, Scotland, Switzerland, Wales

United States and international selections are regularly reviewed and revised to ensure locations of collection development meet contemporary needs.

History & Genealogy Services

Print collection

More than 25,000 books in the collection can be checked out. The entire collection is included in the library's [online catalog](#). Books with call numbers that do not begin with "R" are available to check out. Patrons can request books online. Reference materials may be used in person during library hours.

Database access

Many library [databases](#) can be used at home by St. Louis County Library card holders living in the metropolitan area. Some databases are restricted to branch or H&G department access only. H&G also maintains the [SLCL Digital Archives](#).

Research guidance

H&G staff members can provide research assistance by phone and in person. Contact information can be found in the lower right corner of this page.

Lookup service

H&G can provide photocopies, prints, or digital scans of many library materials from indexed sources or when given a specific citation. Requests can be made through the [online lookup request form](#).

Book a Genealogist

Researchers encountering brick walls, or who would like assistance in developing a plan to achieve specific research goals, can schedule a consultation with an H&G staff member. Requests can be made using the online [Book a Genealogist form](#).

Memory Lab

H&G has personal recording and scanning & digitization studios for preserving family history. [Reservations](#) are required. Recorders and scanners may also be [checked out](#) for home use.

Classes & programs

H&G offers a variety of in-person and virtual [events](#) for new and experienced genealogists. All events are free and a li-

THANK YOU

The History & Genealogy Center would like to thank Emerson for their sponsorship, along with all of those who have contributed named collections throughout the years, including:

National Genealogical Society Book Loan Collection

St. Louis Genealogical Society Collection

Julius K. Hunter & Friends African American Research Collection

Lewis Bunker Rohrbach Collection

Joyce A. Reisinger Collection

William C.E. and Bessie Becker Collection

Mary Berthold Collection

St. Louis Jewish Genealogical Society Collection

H&G would also like to thank the countless individuals who have donated small collections and individual books. Your gifts are much appreciated by the researchers who use our resources!

PastPorts is published by the Emerson History & Genealogy Center at the St. Louis County Library.

[Subscribe](#) to PastPorts or [view](#) current and past issues.

Contact us:

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St. Louis, MO 63131

314-994-3300

genealogy@slcl.org

slcl.org/genealogy

Mon-Thurs 9 am-8 pm, Fri-Sat 9 am-5 pm, Sun 1-5 pm

Memory Lab

Scanning & Digitization Studio

The new Scanning and Digitization Studio in the Emerson History and Genealogy Center is full of technology to help you preserve your photographs and videos.

With equipment for digitizing photographs, slides, and developed negatives, you can take your old photo albums and make them digital with remarkable ease. You can use the Epson FastFoto scanner to load up to 30 regular-sized photo prints and digitize them in under two minutes. The Epson Perfection scanner will take your 35mm slides and bring those images to life once again, with built-in Digital ICE to remove most surface defects. It can also digitize photo negatives, provided they have already been developed.

If you've visited History & Genealogy before, you may remember the Zeta Scanner, which was often used for digitizing large books, documents, and maps. While the Zeta is still available for general use, the Scanning and Digitization Studio is equipped with new CZUR scanners, with a similar overhead camera design, but with greatly increased functionality.

Do you still have your old mixtapes on cassette? If so, you may be interested in the Reshow cassette to digital converter. Just pop in your cassette and a few clicks later you'll be digitizing those nostalgic jams!

If you have held on to your home movie VHS tapes with the hope that you'd be able to watch them again some day, now is your time. The ClearClick device is simple to use and saves your video to a flash drive. All you have to do is pop your tape into the VCR, hit record, and watch!

Personal History Recording Studio

History & Genealogy also offers the Personal History Recording Studio. Reserve a time slot in the studio so that you can record yourself talking about your own memories or telling your life story, or bring an older relative and interview them.




A comfortable couch and coffee table are provided. A large touchscreen television with a user-friendly interface allows you to simply touch a button to record either video and audio or audio only.

Once you have ended your recording, you will easily be able to save it to the Downloads folder on the Desktop PC. At the studio's work desk, you can use our free Audacity audio-editing or OpenShot video-editing software to trim and adjust your recording. Make sure to bring your own flashdrive or portable hard drive to save your finished personal history recording.




H&G staff will be available and happy to help you if you have any questions during the process.

There are many exciting things that you can do in these new spaces, and H&G anticipates a high demand. Appointments are required to access the stations. Each appointment is for a maximum of two hours, with a limit of two appointments per person per week. Appointments can be made at www.slcl.org/library-services/memory-lab.

Scanning & Digitization Studio—Photo Conversion Equipment

			
	Epson FastFoto FF-680W	Epson Perfection V850 Pro	CZUR ET24 Pro
DPI Range	300 - 600 - 1200	150 - 6400 (max recommended)	96 - 320 - 350
Best Used For	Photos Documents	Negatives 35mm Slides Photos Delicate Photos & Documents	Books Pamphlets Maps Large Documents
Not Recommended For	Delicate or Damaged Photos & Documents	N/A	High Resolution Items
Maximum Size Items	13.9" x 16.5"	8.5" x 11.7"	16.5" x 11.7"
Difficulty Rating	Easy to Use	Moderate Difficulty	Moderate Difficulty

Scanning & Digitization Studio—Video Conversion Equipment

			
	ClearClick Video to Digital Conversion	Wolverine 8mm and Super 8 Digitizer	Mini DV Converter
Best Used For	VHS Mini DV	8mm Film Super 8 Film	Mini DV
Requires	USB Drive, or Micro SD Card	SD Card 32 GB	ClearClick
Difficulty Rating	Easy to Use	Moderate Difficulty	Easy to Use

MOVING SHELVES

The movable shelves in the History & Genealogy Department are a brand new, space-saving technology that may take some getting used to! Here are some tips for interacting with the shelves:

There are four shelf sections.

The shelves will not close if there is a person standing in the aisle, but you should still make sure that the aisle is clear before moving them.

If you push the arrow button on a shelf but it does not move, it means there may be an obstruction elsewhere. Locate the open aisle, confirm it is empty, and then push the flashing stop button. You can then return to your desired aisle.

Be considerate of other visitors: Rather than reading a book while in an aisle, bring the book to a table and peruse it there so that other patrons may move shelves as needed.

If you cannot reach the top shelf, please use a provided step-ladder or ask staff for assistance. Do not stand on lower shelves.

When you're finished with a book, place it on a blue or black reshelving cart. Staff will return books to the shelves periodically.



NEW MICROFILM SOFTWARE



With new microfilm machines comes new software! While the machines are merely an improved version of the microfilm readers History & Genealogy had before the move, the software that comes with it has a new look. Each microfilm station will have a quick start guide, but you are welcome to ask staff if you have any questions!

ROHRBACH ROOM

This room, which houses St. Louis County Library historical items as well as special materials from the Rohrbach Collection, was made possible by the support of Carol Rohrbach. The room is not currently open to the public.



SLCL Digital Archives

Perhaps you have already explored this wonderful new resource, but just in case you missed it, SLCL Digital Archives is here!

SLCL Digital Archives is a new resource created by the History and Genealogy Department that contains hundreds of digitized records including Missouri yearbooks, St. Louis newspapers, St. Louis City and County directories, maps and atlases, and more. The site will continue to grow as items are digitized and added to the collection.

The Digital Archives does not require an SLCL library card for use. You can access the majority of the collection online from anywhere. For copyright reasons, there are some materials that require a special log in to access; simply visit your local SLCL branch and ask staff for assistance.

Additionally, you do not need to create an account to use SLCL Digital Archives, but there are benefits to doing so! If you create a free account on the website, you will be able to save items to your own collections for easy viewing later, access a session history for items you've viewed, and more!

This project is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.



H&G Classes & Programs

Using the Periodical Source Index (PERSI)

Monday, August 5, 6:30 pm, Virtual

The Periodical Source Index (PERSI), produced by the Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center in Indiana, is the largest subject index to genealogy and local history periodical articles in the world. Learn how to use this index and access articles about your ancestors. Adults. [Registration](#) required.

Exploring the Memory Lab

Thursday, August 8, 6:30 pm, Virtual

Learn about the Emerson History & Genealogy Center's Memory Lab, including what items can be digitized, the output formats available, and how to make an appointment to preserve your own memories. Finish with a virtual tour of the lab stations. Adults. [Registration](#) required.

Beginning Jewish Genealogy Research

Wednesday, August 21, 6:30 pm, Virtual

This class will teach you the basics of Jewish genealogical research and introduce you to resources available through the Emerson History & Genealogy Center at the St. Louis County Library. Adults. [Registration](#) required.

Coming in September:

Exploring Ancestry Library Edition

Wednesday, September 4, 2:00 pm, Clark Family

Genealogy in Newspapers

Monday, September 9, 2:00 pm, Clark Family

Beginning Genealogy Research

Wednesday, September 11, 2:00 pm, Bridgeton Trails

Monday, September 23, 6:30 pm, Virtual

Exploring the Memory Lab

Tuesday, September 17, 2:00 pm, Clark Family

Introduction to Mexican Genealogy

Saturday, September 28, 11:00 am, Virtual

Register for these and other SLCL classes and programs at slcl.org/events-classes.

StLGS Events

Understanding and Working with the U.S. Federal Census

Saturday, August 10, 10:00 am, Clark Family & Virtual

Information contained in the U.S. federal census varies from year to year. Join us for a look at the development of the federal census and the clues they contain that lead to other sources. Speaker: Judy Belford.

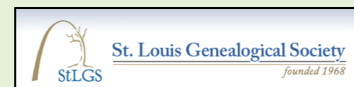
Jewish SIG Meeting: St. Louis Jewish Newspapers

Sunday, August 25, StLGS Office & Virtual

Did you know that there once were more than a dozen newspapers in St. Louis that had direct relevance to the Jewish community? We'll explore the history of St. Louis Jewish newspapers, learn more about their contents, and most importantly, let you know where they are and how to access them.

See stlgs.org for more information and to register for virtual access.

Events are free and open to the public.



NEW ANCESTRY RECORDS

Do you have ancestors who lived in Greece or Australia? Ancestry Library Edition has added new records!

Greece, Electoral Rolls and Male Registers, 1830-1940 (in Greek), 497,053 records

Tasmania, Australia, Hobart Town Gazettes, 1844-1906, 508,018 records

Victoria, Australia, Port Philip Government Gazettes, 1847, 7,524 records

Australia, Education Gazettes, 1893-1959, 182,876 records

South Australia, Australia, Passenger Lists, 1627-2011, 351,084 records

Australia, Government Honour Records, 1900-2023, 284,034 records

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

On August 24, 79 A.D., Mt. Vesuvius, a volcano in southern Italy, erupted and destroyed the cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum, as well as other smaller settlements.

Vesuvius is still considered an active volcano and last erupted in 1944. Its current activity, however, produces little more than sulfur-rich steam from vents at the bottom of the crater.

Over 1000 casts have been made from impressions of bodies in the ash deposits that have been recovered in and around Pompeii. Visitors to the area can see these, as well as many preserved homes and businesses.

FAMILYSEARCH CLASSES

Stuck on your genealogy research? Try FamilySearch's free online classes! Live and recorded classes are available. They cover a variety of topics, including how to use FamilySearch.org, genealogy methods and records, specific types of ethnic research, and more! See www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/FamilySearch_Library_Classes_and_Webinars for the complete list.



NEWBook

DANIEL L. RUST AND ALAN B. HOFFMAN

Come Fly with Me: The Rise and Fall of Trans World Airlines

Missouri Historical Society Press
387.706 R971C

This book recounts how three larger-than-life personalities—Charles Lindbergh, Howard Hughes, and Carl Icahn—shaped the history of Trans World Airlines (TWA) and determined its fate. It's the story of how powerful, strong-willed individuals created and ultimately destroyed an American icon that had deep roots in Kansas City and St. Louis, Missouri. Come Fly with Me traces the airline from its origins in the 1920s to the twenty-first century. By using unprecedented access to the entire TWA corporate archives and interviewing key business leaders, the authors have crafted a compelling tale of a corporation, an industry, and an era.

