

## For the records

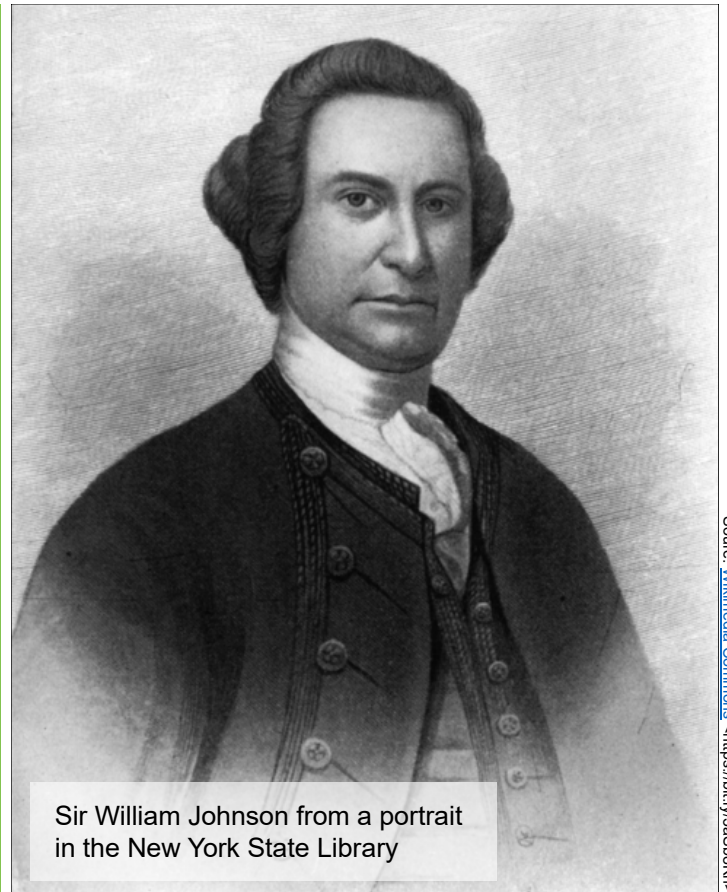
### The Papers of Sir William Johnson

The papers of Sir William Johnson, 1738–1808, are an invaluable resource documenting colonial America. They can offer genealogical clues about ancestors, as well as provide historical context about their lives. Although many of the original manuscripts were destroyed, most of the texts fortunately survive as published transcriptions and are widely available to researchers.

#### Johnson's life and activities

Sir William Johnson (ca. 1715—11 July 1774) was the son of Christopher Johnson (? – 1763) and Anne Warren (? - 26 Jan. 1744) of Smithtown, County Meath, Ireland. His paternal grandfather was William McShane in Dungannon, County Tyrone, who anglicized the name to Johnson. William's maternal uncle, Vice Admiral Peter Warren, brought William to North America in 1738, where William demonstrated an aptitude for frontier life. William established a small farm north of the Mohawk River and became a fur trader. During the French and Indian War, he served as an officer, rising to the rank of Major General of the provincial Militia on 16 April 1755. He was highly regarded for his ability to work with the Iroquois. He was made a baronet on 15 Nov. 1755, and in 1756 was named "Colonel, Agent and Sole Superintendent of all the affairs of the Six Nations and other Northern Indians."

As to Sir William Johnson's immediate family, there is some debate as to the lineage and relationships of William Johnson and his spouses. Johnson died in 1774 at his second manor home, Johnson Hall (Johnstown, N.Y.). In his will (1774), Johnson refers to his deceased wife as "my beloved wife Catherine," but Burke's Peerage (1915) suggests he married Mary, daughter of John de Wisenberg of Montreal in 1739. It



Source: Wikimedia Commons <https://bit.ly/2a5b8kn>

is likely that Mary and Catherine are simply two names for the same individual, i.e. Mary Catherine Wisenberg. Baptisms for three children appear in the registers of Henry Barclay at Fort Hunter. The mother was listed as Catherine with the surnames Wysenbergh, Wysen Berg, and Wysenberk, and the children as Anne (8 Jun 1740), Mary (14 Oct 1744), and John (7 Feb 1741). Fort Hunter was located about four miles upriver from Fort Johnson (Amsterdam, N.Y.), William Johnson's original manor. The names appearing in the baptism correlate with those children named in William Johnson's will as children begot by Catherine: John Johnson 2nd Baronet, Anne Claus, wife of Daniel Claus, and Mary, wife of Guy Johnson. Catherine is not buried at Johnson Hall. In his will, William specifies a willingness for Catherine's remains to be

removed and buried with him, but he did not expressly request it. It is likely she is buried at Fort Johnson on the manor that her son, John Johnson, assumed ownership of in 1763.

In 1759, William entered into a common law relationship with Molly Brant, sister of Thayendangea, alias Chief Joseph Brant, and step-daughter of Sachem (High Chief) Brant, Kanagaradunkwa. This was not Johnson’s first relationship with a Mohawk woman. In his will, Johnson names “two Mohawk lads”: “young Brant, alias Kaghneghtago, and William, alias Tagawirunta” to whom Johnson left to each “the sum of one hundred pounds York currency” and 1000 acres each. There are many wild stories regarding William Johnson and his relationships with Mohawk women, and it is unclear the direct lineage of these two boys.

It is clear that Molly Brant was the mother to eight Johnson children. In his will, William refers to Molly as his “house keeper,” a term commonly adopted at the time for a householder or someone who ran a household. Molly’s eight children by Johnson received a financial distribution of between 100–300 York currency and over 1000 acres of land. Those children were: Peter, Elizabeth, Magdalena (Lana), Margaret, George, Mary, Susanna, and Anne. Johnson names Peter and George as natural born.

Johnson’s relationships with Mohawk women stemmed from connections he established with key leaders among the Iroquois Confederacy including King Hendrick Theyanoguin, Sachem Little Abraham, and Sachem Brant Kanagaradunkwa, all of whom were present in the Mohawk Valley near Fort Johnson and Fort Hunter. These Mohawk gave him the name Warraghiyagey and accepted him as their brother. Through his relationships with these key Mohawk figures, Johnson was uniquely able to serve as the primary negotiator and documentarian of interactions between the English and the Iroquois Confederacy and his papers are a unique glimpse into frontier life of New York State.

**History of the manuscripts and their scope**

The Sir William Johnson Papers range in coverage from 1738 to 1808. Johnson died in 1774. The scant papers dating 1774–1808 often pertain to his descendants and affairs related to his

Preliminary Campaigns, 1755–1756 701

[ca]sh	paid John Thompson his Club on St. Patricks day .....	3	2	—
[ca]sh	paid for a pipe best Vidonia Wine & Cartage .....	24	2	—
[ca]sh	paid Fre <sup>t</sup> . Gun powder $\text{w}^{\text{th}}$ Dover & twice Cartage & Entry .....	1	6	9
ca[sh]	paid Hen Holland for 10 Bls pork @ 70/ £ 35 .....			
	Cooperage Cartage & pickling them .....	6	10	
ca[sh]	paid P V B Livingston for 5 bar <sup>ls</sup> . Beef @ 50/ .....	12	10	0
10	W <sup>t</sup> Holland Gun powder @ £ 12 .....	120		
[ ]	small arms 29/6 .....	147	10	
[ ]	tage the Beef powder & arms .....	9	6	315 16 4
[ ]	9 Hhds & 2 Bundles Furrs $\text{w}^{\text{th}}$ snow Chance .....	9		
[ ]	lading .....	1		— 1 9
[ ]	paid Jam <sup>s</sup> . Alexander Esq <sup>r</sup> for 18 yds. lace @ 14/ .....	12	12	
	for 28 yds Gr. Allapeen 3/3 .....	4	11	
	for 3 Doz. Coat Buttons .....	12		
	for 2½ Doz. Vest .....	5		
	for 1¾ yds Velvet 30/ .....	2	12	6
	Noel for 200 Quils .....	6		
[ ]	for 1 Doz. paper's Ink powder .....	8		
[ ]	Ream fine post paper .....	2	2	
[ ]	9/ & a Basket 6d. .....	9	6	23 18 —
[ ]	½ measuring 7/6 .....	41	12	6

[ ]

Account of Colden & Kelly, 1755 (Papers of Sir William Johnson, Vol. 1, p. 701)

estate. Only a few papers cover the period 1738–1744. Prior to the French and Indian war, records are limited as Johnson was busy fur trading and farming. The majority of papers, dating 1744–1774, when Johnson grew in authority and stature during the war, include a vast array of historical and genealogical information. While many of the records pertain to the colony of New York, genealogical information also applies to people living in New England, Canada, Pennsylvania, and across the Illinois country (Upper Louisiana). Indeed, William Johnson had dealings as far west as Fort Chartres on the Mississippi southeast of present day St. Louis.

During the American Revolution, the Johnsons were loyalists. Col. John Johnson, 2nd Baronet, attempted to raise an army of 300 loyalists. They were captured by a superior force

Seven Years' War		581	
JOHNSON'S ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES — Continued			
1755			
July 20	To a Belt sent to the Six Nations to call their Warriors down .....	£3.	15. —
	To another Belt to call the Aghquagey, Schoharee & Southern Ind <sup>s</sup> . down .....	2.	18. —
	To the 4 Ind <sup>s</sup> . whom I sent Express to Gen <sup>l</sup> : Braddock for 40 days .....	24.	— —
	To the Interpreter whom I sent to Scoharee w <sup>th</sup> . a Message, Expenses .....	—.	18. —
	To a Kettle for the Outscouts 14/. & Prov <sup>s</sup> : for 3 Ind <sup>s</sup> : 10 days 30/ .....	2.	4. —
	To sund <sup>y</sup> . exp <sup>s</sup> : attending the Interpreters Journey with the Aghquageys to the Lake Atsegy where he divided some Corn between them ..	1.	1. 6
	To rideing D <sup>o</sup> : 3 Loads w <sup>th</sup> . a Waggons to the Lake @ 32/. @ .....	4.	16. —
	To sund <sup>s</sup> : supplied by Hend <sup>k</sup> . Fry to the 6 Nations going up .....	7.	2. —
	To a Pistol I gave to Abraham Isacks Son .....	1.	4. —
21	To 4 young Ind <sup>s</sup> : sent up with Capt <sup>s</sup> : Stoddert & Stevens to call down the Warriors of the 6 Nations 3 Strowds, 3 Shirts 3 Laps, 3 Pr: Hose, 3 Pr: Shoes, 3 Combs, Paint, Powder Lead & Provisions .....	7.	10. —
	To the 2 Officers who go with them travelling Money 6 Dollars .....	2.	8. —

Account of Indian expenses, July 1755 (*Papers of Sir William Johnson*, Vol. II, p. 581)

in January 1776. Johnson was pardoned and he, along with many of the loyalist families and Iroquois, abandoned their possessions and fled to Montreal. William Johnson's papers were confiscated from his sons' effects. In April 1801, seven random bundles of William Johnson's papers with a contents list were deposited with the New York Secretary of State. In 1850, John Tayler Cooper presented a second collection of William Johnson's papers to the New York State Library. John Cooper had inherited them from his grandfather, John Tayler who had purchased them at auction during the revolution. The New York State Library bound these two donations into 22 volumes.

In 1849, the State Library purchased additional papers from William L. Stone Jr. These papers made up vols. 23–25 and

covered the same period as those bound into the first 22 volumes. In 1866, additional manuscripts were purchased from Henry Stevens who had obtained them in London. These papers, comprising vol. 26, were related to the Indian Department and were produced during the superintendence of Sir William Johnson and Guy Johnson. The complete original papers held by the New York State Library comprised 26 bound volumes totaling roughly 6550 items.

Manuscripts of William Johnson not in the 26 bound volumes include "Records of the Indian Agency, 1757-59," "Prideaux and Johnson Orderly Book – Siege of Fort Niagara, 1759," and "Diary of Sir William Johnson, 1759 and 1761." All were in the collections of the New York State Library.

In 1911, the New York State Library burned. Many papers contained in the original 26 volumes were damaged or destroyed by the fire. "Records of the Indian Agency, 1757-59," "Prideaux and Johnson Orderly Book – Siege of Fort Niagara, 1759," and "Diary of Sir William Johnson, 1759 and 1761" were destroyed. A copy of the orderly book appears on pp. 394-478 of William L. Stone's *Life and Times of Sir William Johnson, Bart.* <<https://bit.ly/3vBkJPj>>. Following the fire, the remains of the original 26 volumes were assessed as "ten volumes...in fair condition, twelve volumes...in very poor or fragmentary shape and four volumes...wanting." In 1921, James Sullivan, Director and State Historian of New York described them as "fair" to "poor" and others "not in shape even to be used for reference."

Although an initial calendar of the papers was created in 1856 and bound in 1870, the first published calendar was prepared by Dr. Richard E. Day in 1909 as *Calendar of Sir William Johnson Manuscripts* (available on [FamilySearch](https://bit.ly/3n9evCp) <<https://bit.ly/3n9evCp>>). Day's calendar is the only complete record of what was in the original collection. The New York State Library provides a [finding aid for the remaining papers](https://bit.ly/3jdwiHh) <<https://bit.ly/3jdwiHh>>, but access to the originals is restricted due to fragility. To consult William Johnson's papers, researchers will need to look at published sources.

### Published volumes

Thankfully, Johnson's papers were of great interest to New York researchers. Many of Johnson's Papers appeared in the



publications, [Documents Relative to the Colonial History of New York](https://bit.ly/30rM8r9) <https://bit.ly/30rM8r9> and [Documentary History of New York](https://bit.ly/3n5d6fV) <https://bit.ly/3n5d6fV> both of which pre-date the 1911 fire.

Prior to the fire, the State Library began work publishing the papers dated 1738–1762 (only a few from 1760–1762 had been included). The size of the work slowly grew from one to multiple volumes. Although it was not published before 1911, the printer’s proofs survived and many of the early documents that were destroyed or rendered illegible were preserved by the proof. This work excluded those documents previously published in *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of New York* and *Documentary History of New York*. Combined, they provide substantial coverage for this period.

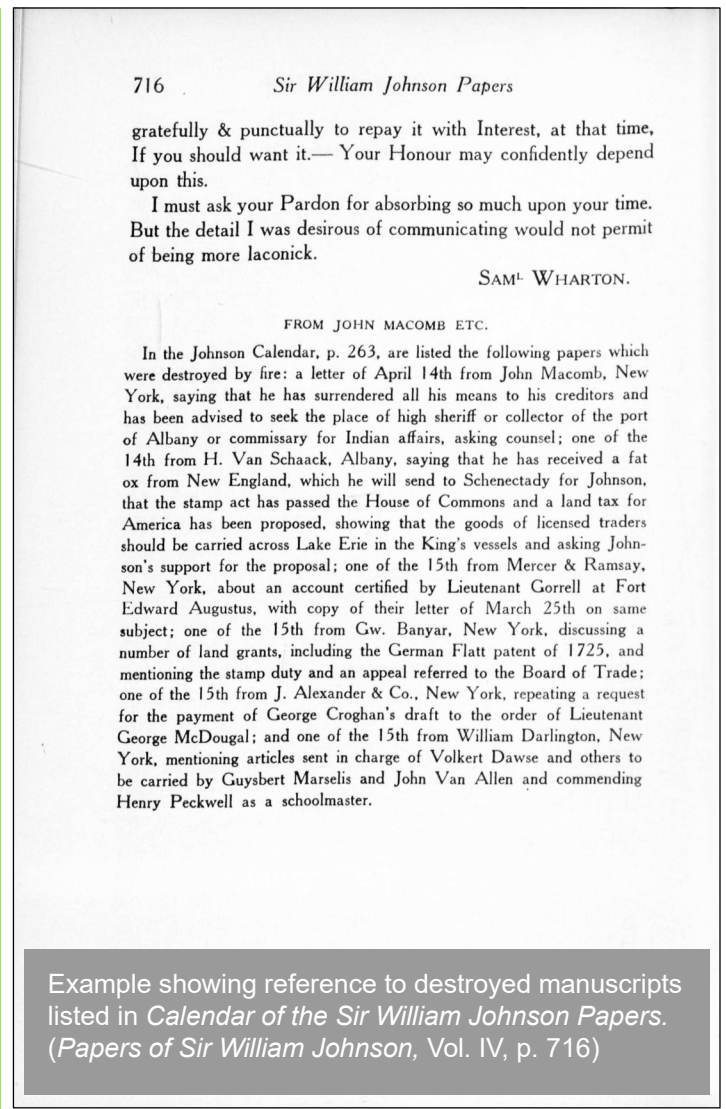
*The Papers of Sir William Johnson* is a 14-volume set published from 1921 to 1965 by the University of the State of New York. They are held in print in the History & Genealogy Department at St. Louis County Library (see bibliography) and online at [FamilySearch](https://bit.ly/2YXe5q7) <https://bit.ly/2YXe5q7>. The volumes are an indispensable resource for genealogists working in Colonial New York.

**Vols. I–III: 1738–1774**

The first three volumes include papers salvaged from the original printer’s proofs. Vol. I includes a genealogy of the Sir William Johnson family (the aspects of his common-law marriages and the children begotten from those relationships were not addressed), a chronology of William Johnson, 1715–1774, and papers covering 1738–1755. The papers in Vol. II cover 1755–1756 including the onset of the Seven Years War (French and Indian War) and continue in Vol. III.

**Vols. IV–VIII: 1763–1774**

Vols. IV –VIII, covering 1763–1774, were produced after years of restoration work on the fire-damaged papers. The fire did some of the worst damage to those dating 1763–1765, which suffered partial to total loss. This is the coverage period of Vol. IV. Some copies of letters destroyed were obtained from other sources, but papers identified by Day’s calendar were a total loss in many cases. The volumes include references to Day’s Calendar in cases where a document was lost



and not replaced by a copy, along with information regarding the lost item or items (see image, above).

**Vols. V–VI: 1766–1769**

Vol. V includes significant documentation regarding the magnitude of the trade network from Oswego to Fort Chartres on the Mississippi. Documentation covers early attempts to establish English colonies in the Illinois country, the Northwest, and Canada. Of great concern was land speculation in the colony of New York and the growing discontent of relations between European settlers and natives, a situation described through Vols. V–VI (Dec 1767–May 1769). Johnson led negotiations at the 1768 Treaty of Fort Stanwix, but his papers make it clear that no line between natives and speculators was



Post-War Period, 1763–1774 161

we have been and viewed the said Lands and on examining said Indians & others we cannot find any Lands set off or appropriated by the Sachems to the said Tribe as a Tribe: But we find various Tracts or Pieces of Land which hath been set off to particular Persons or Families amounting in the whole to between Two and Three Thousand Acres which the Sachem saith is what he meant to give and execute a Deed of to said Tribe and is still willing to do it according to his Agreement and Promise at said General [ ]<sup>1</sup>

[ ] bibe than the Petitioners who [ ]  
 to remain with the Sachem as heretofore [ ]  
 off by themselves but they are not willing to [ ]  
 But we not having Authority to set off any Lands [ ]  
 if we could have persuaded them to agree where and how [ ]  
 [ ] several Days waiting on them trying to get them to agree to ho[w] [ ] off and where but could not we were obliged to return and do [ ] abovesaid. All which is submitted by

N. B. As the Lands set off and improved by the Tribe or particular Persons are intermixed with other Lands some leased and others unimproved we think if it be set off from the other Lands it must be surveyed which is a Work of considerable Time.

June 15<sup>th</sup>. 1764 T[o] the House of Mag<sup>ts</sup>.  
 Gent.

Resolved that this Report be accepted  
 Noted & past Ord. J. Lyndon Cler  
 In the Upper House — Read the same Day and concurred  
 By Ord. Henry Ward Secry  
 Rhode Island &c. Ss To the Hon. General Assembly now sitting in Newport by Adjournment.

Ephraim Coheis and Samuel Niles Two Indians of the Narraganset Tribe Indians of which Thomas Ninigret is Sachem

<sup>1</sup>Several lines missing.

Subscribers to land, 1764 (*Papers of Sir William Johnson*, Vol. IV, p. 161)

repositories for additional papers related to William Johnson. Vols. IX–XII are a result of that search. Volume IX covers similar territory as Volumes I–III (1738–1757). Volume X (1758–1763), Volume XI (1764–1765), and Volume XII (1766–1774) follow in suit.

**Vol. XIII: Addenda**

In 1962, an addenda, designated Vol. XIII, was published containing various documents found too late for inclusion in the second series of volumes. This volume includes documents beyond 1774, including letters of Guy Johnson and Daniel Claus, and errata, corrections, additions, and emendations for the previous four volumes.

Vol. XIII also provides an updated chronology of the William Johnson Papers with an index that includes *The Papers of Sir William Johnson* (JP), *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of New York* (DR) and *Documentary History of New York* (DH). Each entry includes abbreviations to identify the pertinent sources and provides volume and page numbers. The chronology is on pages 735–997. Page references in Vol. XIII are to the octavo edition of *Documentary History of the State of New York* (1849–51) and not the quarto edition (1850–1851). History & Genealogy has the octavo edition (974.7 D637). FamilySearch has digitized the quarto edition.

**Vol. XIV: Index and errata**

Vol. XIV provides an index and additional errata to the previous volumes. The index provides subject, and name indexing, and effort was made to provide complete names where only vague or general references occurred. The index in does not reference the papers contained in *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of New York* or *Documentary History of New York*, but each of these series comes with its own index.

**Genealogical value**

The genealogical value of William Johnson’s Papers will depend on how a particular ancestor interacted with him. As the largest landowner in the Mohawk Valley and the colonies’ Indian Agent to the Iroquois Confederacy, William Johnson was positioned to interact with many European settlers in New York State. His papers are rich in letters, bonds, and petitions naming European settlers in the Mohawk valley and beyond.

As a military officer, Johnson sent and received dispatches, negotiated for goods, and dealt with the financial needs of a military regiment. Names of dignitaries, officers, and common soldiers appear throughout the records. The many names of Europeans and native Americans, with whom he interacted and traded with for goods and services, also appear.

**Research tips**

As with other manuscript collections, researching the Sir William Johnson papers is not a straightforward process. The collection is segmented into multiple publications and series, a result of how the documents were assembled. When con-



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Index (*Papers of Sir William Johnson*, Vol. XIV, p. 1)

sulting the papers, researchers should think about what could be ascertained from a manuscript collection of this nature. While searching for a surname might return results, other types of searches might apply. Johnson may have interacted with a village, a fort, or a military unit that had ancestral ties. He was heavily involved in locating provisions, conducting trade, and settling land disputes. What search terms might refer to an experience or event related to your ancestors?

Thankfully, several resources include indexes. Vol. XIV of *The Papers of William Johnson* provides a subject, topical, and every name index to the complete 14-volume series. Vol. XI of *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of New York* includes a subject, topical, and name index to the first ten volumes, as prepared by E.B. O'Callaghan. The first ten volumes include the original William Johnson papers, and papers of the collateral lines of John Johnson, Gus Johnson, and others.

*Documentary History of New York* unfortunately does not include a compiled Index. All five volumes come with various levels of contents notes. A few volumes have indexes. The researcher should take advantage of any indexing provided at the volume level.

For a more comprehensive look at the papers, consult the original *Calendar of Sir William Johnson Manuscripts* by Richard E. Day. The calendar provides a comprehensive list of all the original 26 volumes held by the New York State Library and includes all three of the aforementioned works: *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of New York*, *Documentary History of New York*, and *The Papers of William Johnson*. The calendar includes a published index, although it is limited only to surnames recorded by Day in the chronology and excludes numerous lists and mentions found in the papers.

Richard Day's Calendar can be used in conjunction with the chronological list of documents found on pp. 735–997 of Vol. XIII of *The William Johnson Papers*. The chronology documents all of the papers appearing in *The Papers of William Johnson*, *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of New York*, and *Documentary History of New York*. Although it is not an every name index, it provides volume and page numbers for papers for the octavo edition (1849–1851) of *Documentary History of the State of New York*.

**Mentions in the Draper Manuscript Collection**

Lyman Coleman Draper was a historian and collector of manuscripts, first as a private collector and later as historian for the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Josephine L. Harper's *Guide to the Draper Manuscripts* makes specific reference to Sir William Johnson, his son John Johnson, son-in-law, Guy Johnson, and wife Molly Brant in several series

of the collection. Series DD, Vol. 8 includes a list of Sir William Johnson manuscripts owned by J. Bailey Myers in 1877. Series F, “Joseph Brant Papers,” and Series G, “Brant Miscellanies,” would also be worth cross-referencing with the Sir William Johnson Papers. An article about using the Draper Manuscripts appears in the [Nov. 2011 issue of PastPorts](#) <<https://bit.ly/2Xm5cWC>>, and a guide to using them is available on the [library’s website](#) <<https://bit.ly/3FVWIHb>>.

The papers of Sir William Johnson is an immensely valuable source of historical and genealogical information. Although it requires patience and persistence, those researching early American ancestors could find it to be rewarding.

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## Journal highlights

### Gleanings from recent periodicals.

Copies of journal issues are available upon request. Submit requests using the online lookup [request form](#) <<https://www.slcl.org/content/lookup-request/>>/

*American-Ostfriesen Journal* (Ostfriesen Genealogical Society of America), 24:3 (July–Sept. 2021): “**The 1950 U.S. Census Questions**,” 19.

*The Arkansas Family Historian* (Arkansas Genealogical Society), 59:2 (Summer 2021): “**World War I ‘Alien Residents’ Registrations in Arkansas, Part I**,” 29.

*Familie und Geschichte: Hefte für Familiengeschichtsforschung im sächsisch-thüringischen Raum* [Family and History: Periodical for Family History Research in Saxony and Thuringia] (Degener Verlag): „**Die Meisterprotokolle der Limbacher Strumpfwirkerinnung 1785 bis 1861“ [List of Master Weavers of the Limbach Stocking Workshop, 1785–1861]**, 385.

*Illinois Heritage* (Illinois State Historical Society), 24:2 (March–April 2021): “**Richard Carroll—A Black man’s Journey to Freedom in Illinois**,” 28.

*Internet Genealogy*, 6:1 (April-May 2021): “The Statistical Abstract of the United States,” 21; 16:3 (August / September 2021): “**Sorting out the Smith and Keeping up with the Joneses: Ancestors with the Same Names**,” 10.

*NGS Magazine* (National Genealogical Society), 47:2 (April-June 2021): “**Researching Poor Ancestors: Almhouse Records**,” 19; “**Navigating Freedmen’s Bureau Records for Research Success**,” 27; “**Wealth of Information: Federal Bankruptcy Records, 1800–1940**,” 36.

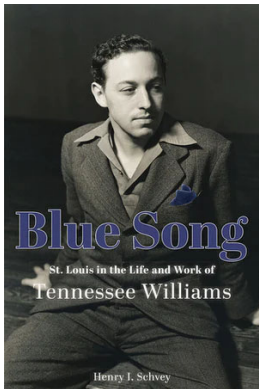
*North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal*, 47:2 (April-June, 2021): “**Using Parish Registers to Fill in the Blanks: A Case Study**,” 127. This issue also includes a series of articles about religious archives and their records pertaining to North Carolina.

*Pfälzisch-Rheinische Familienkunde* [Genealogy in Rhineland-Palatinate], 69:8/9 (2021): “**Auswanderer aus Kandel kommen nach Amerika**” [Emigrants from Kandel come to America], 461.

*The Quarterly* (Illinois State Genealogical Society), 53:2 (Summer 1921): “**Here Comes the 1950 Census: What We’ll Learn; How to Prepare**,” 76

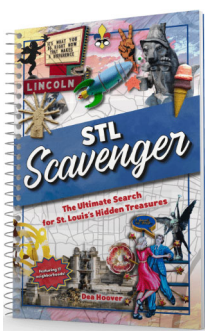


# NEW Books



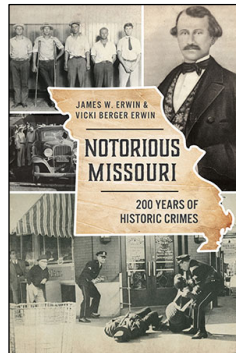
**HENRY I. SCHVEY**  
**Blue Song: St. Louis in the Life and Work of Tennessee Williams**  
 University of Missouri  
 RB Williams Tennessee and circulating copy

In 2011, the centennial of Tennessee Williams’s birth, events were held around the world honoring America’s greatest playwright. But absolutely nothing was done to celebrate Williams’s life and extraordinary literary and theatrical career in the place that he lived in longest, and called home longer than any other—St. Louis, Missouri. The question of this paradox lies at the heart of this book, an attempt not so much to correct the record about Williams’s well-chronicled dislike of the city, but rather to reveal how the city was absolutely indispensable to his formation and development both as a person and artist. Unlike the prevailing scholarly narrative that suggests that Williams discovered himself artistically and sexually in the deep South and New Orleans, *Blue Song* reveals that Williams remained emotionally tethered to St. Louis for a host of reasons for the rest of his life.—*Publisher*



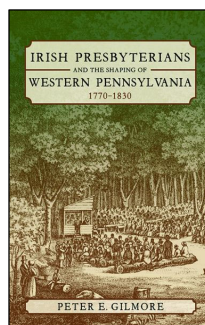
**DEA HOOVER**  
**STL Scavenger: The Ultimate Search for St. Louis's Hidden Treasures**  
 Reedy Press  
 R 977.866 H789S and circulating copy

Looking for a new way to explore the St. Louis region? Get out your magnifying glass or zoom in on your camera to find these buildings, businesses, statues, and architectural details on a scavenger hunt! Follow the photos and cryptic clues to spot the places hidden in plain sight in 17 neighborhoods around the St. Louis region. We hope you will dig into the history behind each one on your quest to finish.—*Publisher*



**JAMES E. ERWIN & VICKI BERGER ERWIN**  
**Notorious Missouri: 200 Years of Historic Crimes**  
 History Press  
 R 977.8 E73N and circulating copy

From the duel on Bloody Island to the “Missouri Miracle” kidnapping and recovery of Shawn Hornbeck, Missouri has seen its share of notorious crimes. It was home to the first western gunfight on the town square between Wild Bill Hickok and Dave Tutt. The three trials of the alleged murderer of Colonel Thomas Swope, the founder of Kansas City’s Swope Park, enveloped the state. Residents also saw the killings within a few blocks of each other that inspired the songs “Stagger Lee” and “Frankie and Johnny.” Vicki Berger Erwin and James W. Erwin explore crimes, criminals and victims from the violent history of the last two hundred years in the Show Me State.—*Publisher*



**PETER E. GILMORE**  
**Irish Presbyterians and the Shaping of Western Pennsylvania, 1770–1830**  
 University Of Pittsburgh  
 R 285.2748 G488I

A historical study examining the religious culture of Irish immigrants in the early years of America. Despite fractious relations among competing sects, many immigrants shared a vision of a renewed Ireland in which their versions of Presbyterianism could flourish free from the domination of landlords and established church. In the process, they created the institutional foundations for western Pennsylvanian Presbyterian churches.—*Publisher*

## View a list of new books online

View of a list of recent additions to the collections [online](https://bit.ly/3uw6ryl) <<https://bit.ly/3uw6ryl>>.

History & Genealogy books are listed in the St. Louis County Library [online catalog](https://iii.slcl.org/) <<https://iii.slcl.org/>>.

# Classes

Classes are free and open to the public. Registration is required. Register online <<https://bit.ly/3jJ8bxq>> Classes will be conducted by Zoom.

Wednesday, October 27, 6:30 p.m.

## Digital Archiving and Preservation Basics

Learn how to care for and protect digital files and photos. Library staff will share techniques for saving and preserving your digital memories. | [Register](https://bit.ly/3Da9jEv) <<https://bit.ly/3Da9jEv>>

Wednesday, November 10, 6:30 p.m.

## First Landowners: Federal Land Records, Family Maps, and HistoryGeo.com

The availability of map publications for the federal land states has transformed how we find the first landowner. Learn about these genealogical resources and how to use them for cluster and collateral research. | [Register](https://bit.ly/3DaxnXN) <<https://bit.ly/3DaxnXN>>

Wednesday, December 1, 6:30 p.m.

## Exploring the Ancestry Library Edition Database

The Ancestry Library Edition Database is a powerful tool for genealogical research. Find out how to take advantage of Ancestry's capabilities in your research. | [Register](https://bit.ly/2Z7o3pe) <<https://bit.ly/2Z7o3pe>>

Wednesday, December 15, 6:30 p.m.

## Getting More Out of FamilySearch

Basic search techniques will miss most records in FamilySearch. Learn to navigate unindexed image collections, search the FamilySearch catalog effectively, and use advanced search features to tap into hard-to-find records. *Prerequisite: FamilySearch Basics or equivalent research experience.* | [Register](https://bit.ly/3jglTJV) <<https://bit.ly/3jglTJV>>

## LIBRARY HOLIDAY CLOSING

- **Thursday, Nov. 25** | Thanksgiving Day
- **Friday, Nov. 26** | Day after Thanksgiving
- **Friday, Dec. 24** | Christmas Eve
- **Saturday, Dec. 25** | Christmas Day

## 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/3jrqrw3j) <<https://bit.ly/3jrqrw3j>>.
- 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](http://webpac.slcl.org) <<http://webpac.slcl.org>>. 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 can be used at home by St. Louis County Library card holders living in the metropolitan area. The Ancestry Library Edition database, normally restricted to in-library use, can be accessed remotely on a temporary basis. View the list of genealogical databases on the library's [website](https://bit.ly/37GRbTF) <<https://bit.ly/37GRbTF>>.

For more information, please contact the History & Genealogy Department at 314-994-3300 or [genealogy@slcl.org](mailto:genealogy@slcl.org).

## OF NOTE

### St. Louis area libraries to share integrated library system

St. Louis County Library and St. Louis Public Library will begin sharing an integrated library system (ILS) in 2022. The new ILS will allow patrons from both library systems to access nearly 5 million items, making library materials more convenient and accessible for both St. Louis County and City residents to check out. The new shared catalog is expected to be complete in spring 2022. The new ILS will allow patrons across the region to seamlessly view, request, and check out material from either system.

SLCL and SLPL will begin using the Polaris ILS in 2022, a product of Innovative Interfaces Inc. Using Polaris, patrons can discover materials from either library system through a single search and have them delivered to their library of choice. Patrons will be able to use their current library card to access items from both systems, they will not need to obtain a new library card.

Kristen Sorth, Director & CEO of St. Louis County Library said, “The continued regional collaboration between two fantastic library districts is getting stronger through a shared collection of library materials. Working closely together to address and remove barriers to library resources is important for the region.”

**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:

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

314-994-3300  
[genealogy@slcl.org](mailto:genealogy@slcl.org)  
[www.slcl.org/genealogy](http://www.slcl.org/genealogy)

# Events

**Meetings are free and open to the public. Registration is required.**

**Saturday, Nov. 13 | 10:00 a.m.**

*St. Louis Genealogical Society General Membership Meeting*

### Ohio Valley Pioneers: Using the John Dabney Shane Collection

John Dabney Shane conducted interviews in the Ohio River Valley during the early nineteenth century. Discover the value of this under-utilized resource. Dan Lilienkamp, speaker. | [Register](#) <<https://bit.ly/3t3Fodo>>

“Our systems are very fortunate to have such a wonderful working relationship and to see the importance of collaboration and how it benefits our customers,” said Waller McGuire, Chief Executive Officer for St. Louis Public Library. “This latest partnership will allow customers unlimited access to the breadth and depth of each collection, providing a greater scope of materials for each cardholder to use.”

This is a historic decision for the two library systems, which have regularly collaborated on projects to increase access to library programs and services. Including:

- Eliminating overdue fines in 2020.
- Providing scholarships for adult learners to complete their high school diploma and earn a career certificate through the launch of the Career Online High School program in 2017.
- Introducing Wi-fi Hotspots for patron check out to help address the region’s digital divide
- Offering a reciprocal lending agreement for City and County residents for 28 years.

St. Louis area residents have long enjoyed the benefits of two outstanding library systems. This most recent collaboration opens up even greater opportunities for the two library systems to work together in the future.