

FOR THE RECORDS

Shenandoah Valley Virginians: The John Walter Wayland Papers

The papers of Dr. John Walter Wayland (1872-1962) cover an important region of research for colonial settlement and westward migration in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. (Figure 1) Dr. Wayland was a professional historian, author, and professor who corresponded with living descendants of pioneers and preserved those letters in a collection of papers held by the Stewart Bell Jr. Archives at the Handley Regional Library in Winchester, Virginia.

Dr. Wayland was himself a dedicated genealogist – and from 1928-1941, he collected tombstone inscriptions and bible records – mostly of Shenandoah Families. In addition, Wayland transcribed original courts-martial records in Frederick County, Virginia which were produced during the French and Indian War.

For researchers tracing their ancestors into the Shenandoah Valley from Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia – the John Walter Wayland papers may include documentation and possibly even correspondence with ancestors, descendants, or collateral lines.

Biography of Dr. John Walter Wayland

Dr. John Walter Wayland was born on December 8, 1872 in Woodlawn, Shenandoah Co., Virginia to John Wesley and Anna Kagey Wayland. John grew up in the Shenandoah Valley and was raised in the Church of the Brethren – a historically German denomination with deep roots in the Shenandoah. Wayland was a descendant of the Rev. Johann Heinrich Haeger, who served as the spiritual leader of the Germanna colony (1714) of Fauquier County, Virginia.

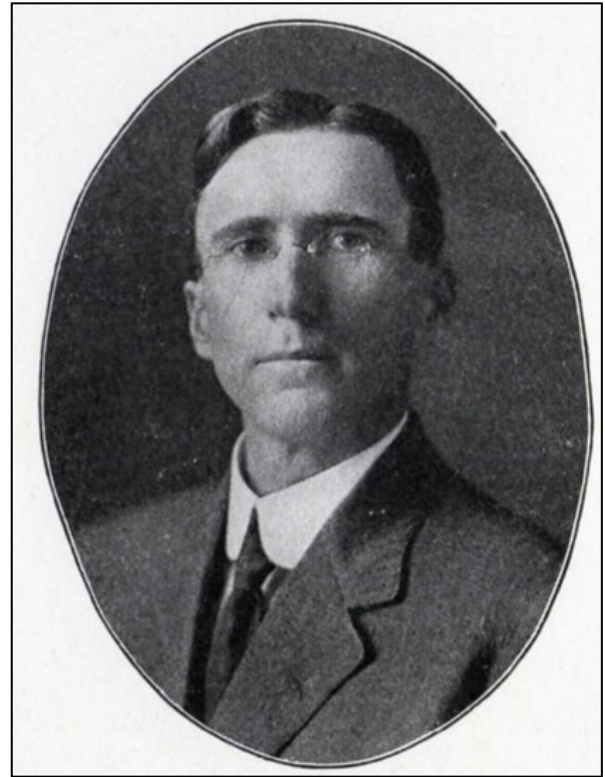


Figure 1: Dr. John Walter Wayland

Clarence Wenger, architect
 POST OFFICE BOX 374, HARRISBURG, VIRGINIA

Saturday night

Dear Dr. Wayland:

It is most interesting to read in the News-Record about the old schools. My mother long ago pointed out to me the place where the old school was this side of Edom. She went there when she was in her early teens. She lived in the old stone house up the Little Valley across the road, and east of the school. Her father, Isaac H. Beery, was a brother of Noah's who does that name on your Noah's Graves?

The school northeast of Wenger's Mill we called "The School Down on the Hill". My father went there when he in his late teens (late 1700), and I started to school there in 1905, when I was 6. It was abandoned after I had gone there two years, and I went to Edom to a two-room school which was located just west of the zig-zag in the road, where you come up from the mill.

People hereabouts who attended the one room school "Down on the Hill" are Miss Lolla Bell, Mrs. Ed Rhodes, Mrs. Hershey McCauley, Newton Bell, Irvin Burruss, of Edom; Norfey Peugh, Lirrille SED, Mrs. Warner Stearns, Lirrille. We used to play "boundtown" possibly the ancestor of baseball, where one player would toss a rubber ball to the batter who had a paddle-like bat, and who would give it a lusty set out into the field; if anyone caught the ball, he came to bat (or toss, I forget which).

It is interesting also to know that was a Methodist Church near that school. My father said that the last service he knew of there was a funeral when he was quite young. I think he said there was a brick church there. I remember when I was a kid, looking at some of the tombstones, and finding dates back in the 1700s. It is sad, isn't it, when we think of the prehistoric enthusiasm with which the members built that church and that now there is no trace of it. Even the names of those buried in the cemetery are unknown in this part of the Valley now, except such as Smiths, etc.

I hope to get more of your fine books. As I have told you before, this section of Virginia owes much to you for recording facts that would have been lost. I can well imagine the many hours of research you have had to make to verify one single fact. You should be very happy to know you have contributed so much.

Best wishes,

Sincerely yours,
Clarence Wenger

Figure 2: Wenger, Clarence. 1954. Correspondence with John Walter Wayland, Box 1, Letter 2481.

John Wesley Wayland, according to the 1860 & 1870 censuses, was a Teacher of Common School – he taught history at Woodlawn Academy, a noted Shenandoah County school. John Walter attended a one-room school in Shenandoah County. From 1890-1893, John Walter Wayland followed in his father’s footsteps and taught in one-room schoolhouses in the Shenandoah Valley. He also became an ordained minister in the Church of the Brethren. John married Mattie V. Fry of Bridgewater, Virginia on June 8, 1898, and he graduated from Bridgewater College in 1899 (Bridgewater, Virginia). John remained at Bridgewater College for a number of years where he taught the New Testament, history, and ethics. In 1907, he earned his Doctorate in Philosophy from the University of Virginia.

An interest in the Shenandoah Valley developed in John from an early age. Not only was his father a history teacher, but his mother was also a chronicler. Anna Wayland kept a diary from 1850 until 1900 which included accounts of the Confederate and Northern armies as they passed the Wayland home at Mt. Jackson. Dr. Wayland, as a boy, often heard Anna telling stories of the civil war.

In 1908, the State Normal and Industrial School for Women was founded in Harrisburg, Virginia. Dr. Wayland was a founding faculty member and later department head of History and Social Science. The school became State Normal School for Women in 1914 and later became State Teachers College in 1924. Today it is James Madison University. Dr. Wayland retired from State Normal College in 1931, but continued to write on the history and genealogy of the Shenandoah Valley until his death in 1962. He was granted an Honorary Doctor of Laws from Bridgewater College in 1936. Dr. Wayland published over 40 books and hundreds of articles on Virginia History, the Shenandoah Valley, and the American Civil war over his lifetime.

Scope of the Papers

The John Walter Wayland Papers are held by the Stewart Bell Jr. Archives located at Handley Regional Library in Winchester, Virginia. According to the scope and contents note: “The John Walter Wayland Papers contain(s) a variety of materials written by Wayland, to include extensive correspondence, compilations of tombstone inscriptions, family Bible records, genealogies, military rosters, court records, and property books. The collection also includes some diaries from the period of the Civil War as well as an assortment of pamphlets, advertising materials, books, and music.” There are 12 Boxes which comprise the John Walter Wayland Papers.. A box list is available from the Stewart Bell Jr. Archives (www.handleyregional.org/services/departments/archives/manuscripts/w/26-WFCHS).

September 1, 1954

Dear Mr. Wenger:

I thank you for your interesting letter of Saturday night, and appreciate your kind and generous expressions regarding my efforts to keep at least a few of the places, names, and events of former years from being lost and forgotten. This kind of thing has become a hobby with me, and I find it a means to keep up an interest in life after I have passed the time when I do not have the energy to undertake more difficult tasks.

It is probably, I believe, that we are cousins of some degree, but just what the line of connection is I do not know. I am satisfied that your grandfather, Isaac H. Beery (as well as Noah) and my mother were cousins. I think it was through the Kegeys. My mother was Anna Kegey, daughter of Jacob. He had brothers Henry, David, Isaac, and "California" etc. David at some time before 1860 moved to Bridgewater. He had a large family -- perhaps Noah I. Kegey of Weyer's Cave Station is now the only child of David living. Joseph K. Kegey of Dayton was another son of David.

I know that my mother was a first-cousin to Noah Beery's wife, who was Kate Neff, a daughter of Daniel. Daniel was a brother to Barbara Neff (daughter of John), my mother's mother. Sons of Daniel were Jacob G., Milton, and Dr. John H. Neff of Harrisonburg.

At an early date, I think just before or about 1860, my father taught a term of school at Edom -- I think probably in the old school house that used to stand just southwest of the creek, nearly opposite the church. If so, it was a coincidence that it was the first school house I ever entered.

Herewith I am enclosing a copy of your letter, with only a few changes, and an omission of the last paragraph. I hope you will sign it and send it to the editor of the NEWS-RECORD. I hope that a number of persons will write about the old schools, and your letter may "get the ball rolling."

With kindest regards and all good wishes, I remain,

Yours sincerely,
John Walter Wayland

Figure 3: Wayland, John Walter. 1954. Correspondence with Clarence Wenger, Box 1, Letter 2482.

The Stewart Bell Jr. Archives has digitized boxes 7, 8, and a portion of Box 11 which can be accessed via the Box list. The entire 12 Boxes were microfilmed by FamilySearch onto 8 microfilm reels (a brief review reveals at least one item was missed during the microfilming). FamilySearch has now digitized the records and they can be viewed on FamilySearch from any St. Louis County Library location (www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/1219789?availability=Family%20History%20Library). They include DGS (Digital Genealogical Society) numbers 8985549 through 8985556, and 8933108.

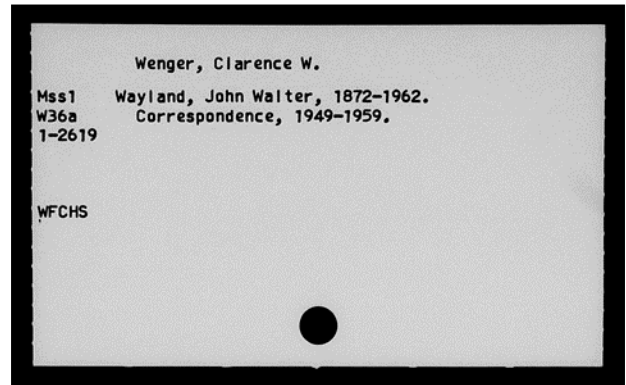


Figure 4: Wenger, Clarence. 1954. Correspondence with John Walter Wayland, Box 5, Index Card.

Correspondence

Dr. Wayland gave many talks in the Shenandoah Valley about genealogy, history, and the Civil War and he often corresponded with attendees of his programs, educators, scholars, and researchers. Much of the correspondence found in the collection of papers are responses to many of Dr. Wayland’s lectures or relate to his research or teaching in the Shenandoah Valley.

Boxes 1-6 of the Wayland Papers contain collected correspondence. Boxes 1-4 contain 2,619 alphabetized letters written to and by Dr. Wayland. Box 4 also contains a collection of miscellaneous general correspondence. Participants of his programs would write to him and ask him questions or ask him to provide insights into Shenandoah history. These letters are a wealth of genealogical information from people who lived in the Shenandoah Valley! The letters often contain specific names of early settlers, school attendees, or names of prominent citizens – teachers, lawyers, doctors, clerics, scholars, judges, etc. The letters often highlight specific events or specific groups – churches, schools, etc. – that could prove useful to a genealogical researcher. Often the correspondence would include newspaper clippings or typed transcripts from local newspapers that individuals wished to share with Dr. Wayland.

A letter by Clarence Wenger identifies and names attendees of a one-room school, identifies a local mill, and discusses a local Methodist church and cemetery. (Figure 2) The author was planning to submit the letter to the News-Record, a local newspaper, and sought Dr. Wayland’s insight.

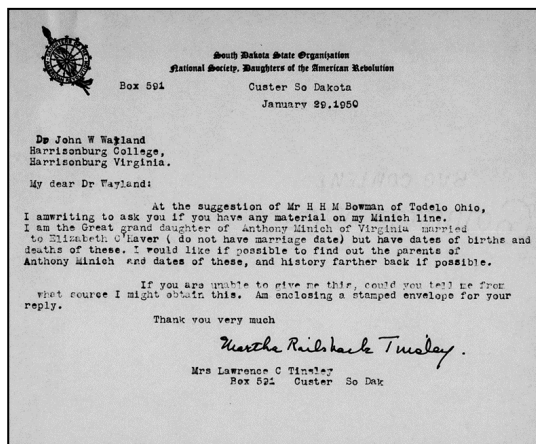


Figure 5: Tinsley, Martha. 1950. Correspondence with John Walter Wayland, Box 6.

Wayland’s responses are often full of historical and genealogical information that might have never found its way into print. In his response to the letter from Clarence Wenger, Dr. Wayland suggests that two individuals are likely cousins and goes on to identify important family genealogy information related to the Kagey family of Mt. Jackson, Virginia. (Figure 3)

Dr. Wayland created a 3x5 card index for his letters. (Figure 4) The index cards are in alphabetical order and can be found in Box 5 of the collection. The cards index the corresponded party – so can be useful for locating any correspondence from a particular individual or organ-

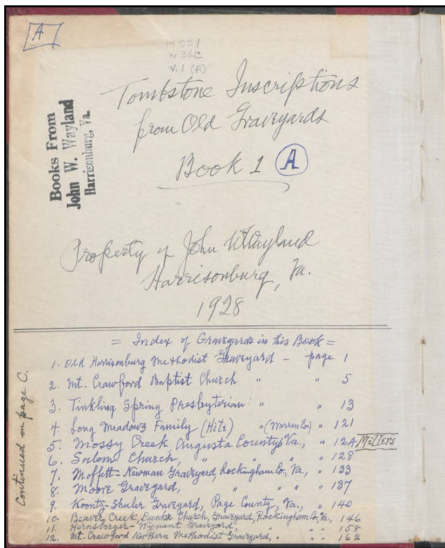


Figure 6: Wayland, John Walter. 1928. Tombstone Inscriptions from Old Cemeteries, Book A.

ization – but unfortunately they do not index all of the names found within a particular letter. Although each letter is numbered, as in our examples in Figures 2 (2481) and 3 (2482), the index card does not provide the letter numbers. This is because the index cards were intended to be interfiled with the letter. This makes the index cards a useful quick index for locating the corresponding parties – but it does not speed up the process of locating letters or identifying content or names within the letters.

In Box 5, following the index card file, are miscellaneous letters which were never numbered by Wayland and do not appear in the index cards. Box 6 contains similar miscellaneous unnumbered correspondence such as a letter from Martha Tinsley in 1950. (Figure 5) While some of these letters may contain historical or genealogical data, the majority appear to be correspondence related to book orders for Dr. Wayland’s publications. With no index available, these letters must be searched one by one to identify content.

Tombstone Inscriptions

Box 7 contains four volumes (Books A-D) of Tombstone Inscriptions transcribed from 1928-1941, and an index to all four volumes. The transcribed tombstone inscriptions appear to not be complete in FamilySearch’s filming (Book A is missing) but they are complete on the website of the Stewart Bell Jr. Archives. Each volume is handwritten (Figure 6) and contains a contents note (Figure 7) of what cemeteries are included. There is a handwritten every-name index in the back of the book (Figure 8). A type-script index is also available for all four tombstone volumes.

Family Bible Records

From 1928-1943, Dr. Wayland transcribed bible records of Shenandoah Families into a four volume set of handwritten books. These handwritten books are all contained in Box 8 of the collection and have been digitized on the Stewart Bell Jr. Archives website. These books appear in similar format to the Tombstone Inscription volumes – except the content note – which is recorded by surname. (Figure 9)

Shenandoah Valley Diaries

Wayland collected several Civil War era diaries. In Box 8, researchers will find the Diary of Anna Kagey Wayland – which she kept from 1847-1900, docu-

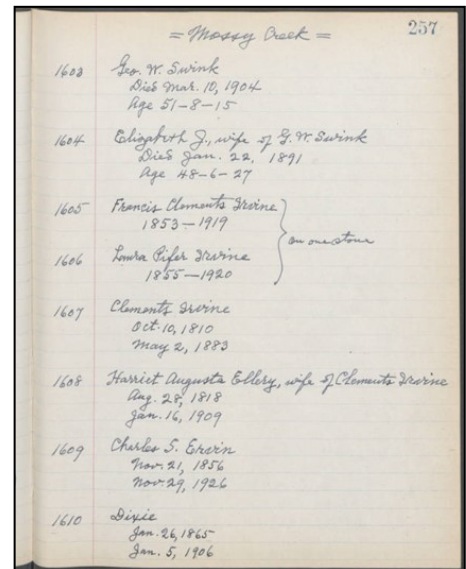


Figure 7: Wayland, John Walter. 1928. Tombstone Inscriptions of Old Cemeteries, Book A, p. 257.

menting the things happening in the town of Mt. Jackson, Virginia. Three Civil War diaries appear in Box 9 produced by Samuel Angus Firebaugh (1862-1864), John P. Louderback (1862-1863) of Page Co., Virginia, and Joseph Franklin Kauffman (1862). The Lucy Buck Diary (1861-1865) is the final item of the collection found in Box 12.

Genealogical Resources

Over the course of his career, Wayland transcribed numerous record sets in the Shenandoah Valley. Among these were marriage records in Shenandoah and Jefferson counties (Box 10), property books and militia companies of Rockingham County (Boxes 9 & 10).

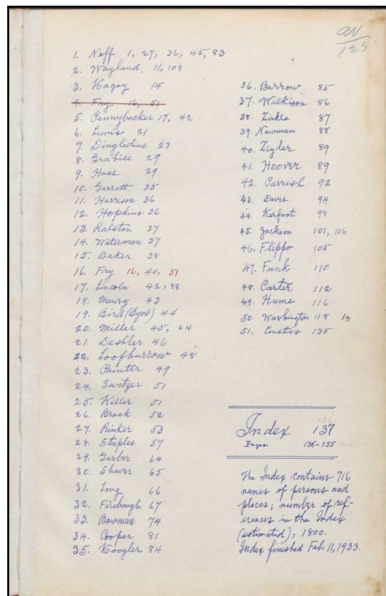


Figure 9: Wayland, John Walter. 1928. Family Bible Records. Book 1, Table of Contents.

From 1900-1925, Dr. Wayland collected and compiled genealogical correspondence in the Shenandoah Valley. Wayland compiled this information into a typescript publication: Leaves and Branches of 300 Virginia Families. The typescript publication appears in Box 9 and is complete with a surname index. Each entry in Leaves and Branches contains a letter followed by genealogical research notes from Dr. Wayland. (Figure 10)

Wayland compiled two volumes of handwritten transcriptions of order records and courts martial records documenting Colonial & Revolutionary soldiers from Virginia – specifically from Augusta, Frederick, Rockbridge, Rockingham, and Shenandoah Counties. These particular counties are challenging for genealogical researchers to navigate due to the complex history of their development and multiple administrative boundary changes – see the PastPorts article “[Genealogical Implications of Changing Boundaries](#)” for more information.

Both compilations have been digitized (Box 11) and are available through the Stewart Bell Jr. Archives and FamilySearch. These sources are titled “Colonial Soldiers of Frederick County, Virginia” and “800 Colonial and Revolutionary Soldiers from the Old Minute Books and Order Books of the Courts in the Counties of Augusta, Frederick, Rockbridge, Rockingham, and Shenandoah, Virginia.”

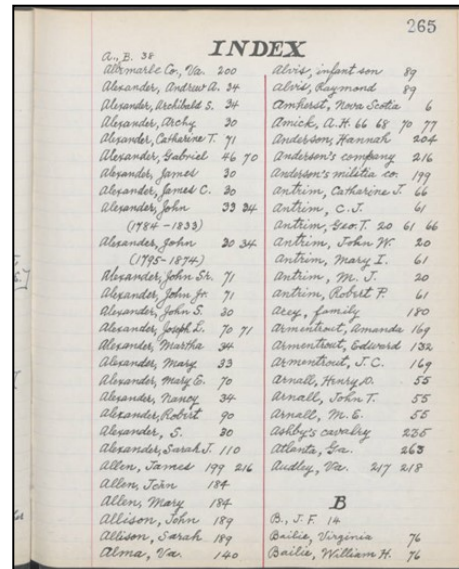


Figure 8: Wayland, John Walter. 1928. Tombstone Inscriptions of Old Cemeteries, Book A, p. 265.

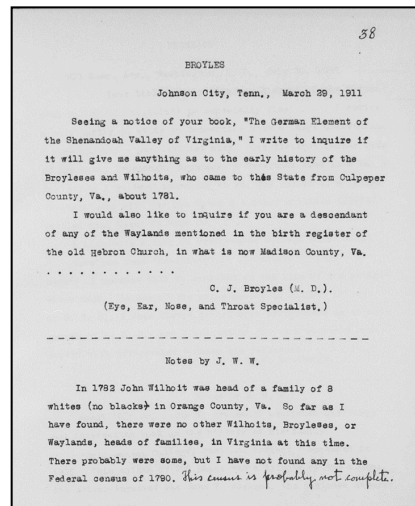


Figure 10: Wayland, John Walter. Leaves and Branches: 300 Virginia Families. Box 9, p. 38.

Historical Publications

Boxes 10-12 also contain a number of miscellaneous publications and records related to or written by Dr. Wayland over the course of his long productive career.

As with any manuscript collection, the information found within the John Walter Wayland Papers is far from predictable. Some researchers may find very little within the resource – but others will find the papers an immensely valuable resource of historical and genealogical information regarding their family. It’s impossible to say what might be found – but if researchers are working in the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia, it might be worth the patience and persistence required to review the papers. They just might be rewarded with important evidence about their family tree.

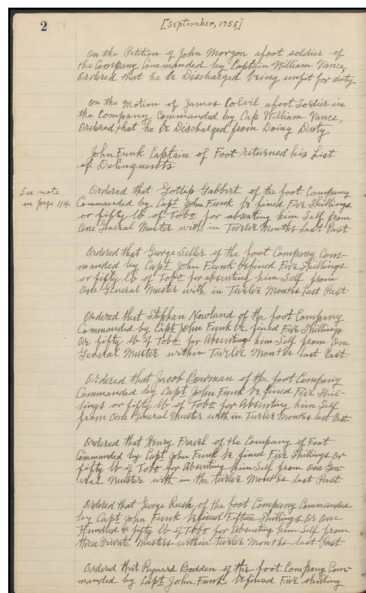


Figure 11: Wayland, John Walter. 1939. Colonial Soldiers of Frederick County, Virginia, p. 2

Bibliography

John Walter Wayland Papers, 26 WFCHS: Stewart Bell Jr. Archives, Handley Regional Library. Accessed 6-15-2023 from: <https://www.handleyregional.org/services/departments/archives/manuscripts/w/26-WFCHS>

John Walter Wayland Papers, 26 WFCHS: Stewart Bell Jr. Archives, Handley Regional Library. FamilySearch. Accessed 6-15-2023 from: <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/1219789?availability=Family%20History%20Library>

H&G Classes & Programs

The following History & Genealogy classes and programs are offered for October 2023:

Family History Month Scavenger Hunt

October 1-31, [Daniel Boone](#), Upper Level
Enter a drawing to win a DNA test kit!

The Scenic Route: Resolving Cases with Cluster & Collateral Research

Monday, October 2, 6:30 pm, Virtual
Learn how to explore the family unit within the context of its community (cluster) and collateral lines. Part of the History and Genealogy Family History Month Webinar Series: Advanced Techniques in American Research.
Adults. [Registration required.](#)

Extra, Extra, Read all About It!: Genealogy in Newspapers

Monday, October 9, 6:30 pm, Virtual
Explore the information you can find in newspapers for genealogy research and discover the most popular newspaper databases. Part of the History and Genealogy Family History Month Webinar Series: Advanced Techniques in American Research. Adults. [Registration required.](#)

One-Step Webpages: A Potpourri of Genealogical Search Tools with Stephen Morse

Thursday, October 12, 6:00 pm, Virtual
Learn about the One-Step Genealogy website straight from its creator, Stephen Morse. This presentation will describe the range of tools available and give the highlights of each one, including searching the census and immigration lists.
Adults. [Registration required.](#)

Does That Even Make Sense? Online Family Trees

Monday, October 16, 6:30 pm, Virtual
Are online trees a genealogist's friend or foe? Learn tools for evaluating whether the information in online trees should be added to your own work. Part of the History and Genealogy Family History Month Webinar Series: Advanced Techniques in American Research. Adults. [Registration required.](#)

Recently Digitized Maps at the Missouri Historical Society

Thursday, October 19, 2:00 pm, Virtual
Discover the Missouri Historical Society's recently digitized collection of maps, atlases and plat books of St. Louis City and County with Emily Jaycox, Librarian at the Missouri Historical Society. Adults. [Registration required.](#)

City Directories: An Untapped "Avenue" for Genealogy Research

Monday, October 23, 6:30 pm, Virtual
Learn how to find and use city directories to help you build your family tree. Part of the History and Genealogy Family History Month Webinar Series: Advanced Techniques in American Research. Adults. [Registration required.](#)

Exploring Ancestry Library Edition

Thursday, October 26, 10:00 am, [Weber Road](#)
The Ancestry Library Edition database is a powerful tool for genealogical research. Find out how to search it and take advantage of its many records. Adults. [Registration required.](#)

Book-tober Fest

Friday, October 27, 7:00 pm, [Florissant Valley](#)
Celebrate Book-tober Fest after hours at the library! Featuring beer samples, presentations on brewing, local history and more activities. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.. Adults 21+. [Registration required.](#)

Beyond the Document: Extracting Evidence from Context

Monday, October 30, 6:30 pm, Virtual
Explore what information can be gleaned from a deeper understanding of context in genealogy documents. Part of the History and Genealogy Family History Month Webinar Series: Advanced Techniques in American Research.
Adults. [Registration required.](#)

Continued on next page

Coming in November:

Basic Conservation and Cleaning of Grave Markers

Thursday, November 2, 6:30 pm, Oak Bend

Genealogy @ Eureka Hills

Monday, November 6, 3:00-6:00 pm, Eureka Hills

Preservation @ Lewis & Clark

Tuesday, November 7, 10:00 am-1:00 pm, Lewis & Clark

Cherokee Genealogy

Thursday, November 9, 3:00 pm, Virtual

SLCL Databases for Genealogy Research

Monday, November 13, 6:30 pm, Virtual

Branching Out with DNA

Thursday, November 16, 6:30 pm, Virtual

DIY Family History Gifts

Tuesday, November 28, 6:30 pm, Daniel Boone

Beginning Digital Preservation

Thursday, November 30, 2:00 pm, Virtual

Visit www.slcl.org/events and choose event type "Genealogy" for more information.

NEW Books

Do you have a Missouri nurse, pharmacist or politician in your family tree? History & Genealogy has the following new sets of books on our shelves:

Examination and Registration of Nurses, 3 volumes, 1910-1912 (R 977.8 M678A)

Roster of Registered Nurses, 7 volumes, covers 1930-1949 (R 977.8 M678R)

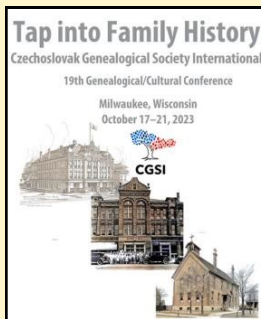
Missouri Board of Pharmacy, 47 volumes, many years between 1911-1972 (R 977.8 M678A)

Official Returns of the Primary Election, 18 volumes, select years between 1946-1972 (R 977.8 M678O)



CGSI CONFERENCE

Do you have Czech ancestors? Check out the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International's conference:



See cgsi.org for details.

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
- Print outs from database records if patrons cannot access the database at home.
- Please use the [online lookup request form](#) to submit requests.

*Some items may be temporarily unavailable due to construction

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](#). 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.

*Some items may be temporarily unavailable due to construction

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 consultation with an H&G staff member. Requests can be made using the online [Book-a-Genealogist form](#).

Database access

Many library [databases](#) 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.

STLGS Event

The St. Louis Genealogical Society presents the following event:

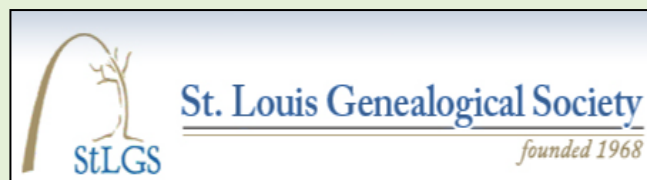
Monthly Meeting: Historic Webster Groves: Families and Their Ties to the St. Louis Community

October 14, 10:00 am, Grant's View

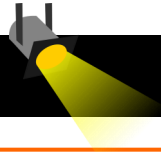
As you drive through the streets of Webster Groves, Missouri, you see names of many prominent families that helped create this historic city. Join Steve Schoenbeck of the Webster Groves Historical Society as he introduces us to these early St. Louis County residents and shares some of the resources of the society's archives you might find useful in your own research.

See stlgs.org for more information.

The St. Louis Genealogical Society (StLGS) is a not-for-profit, all volunteer organization with members in almost every state and several foreign countries. Begun in 1968, it is now the largest local genealogical society in the United States, renowned for its excellence in programming, resources, classes, and membership services.

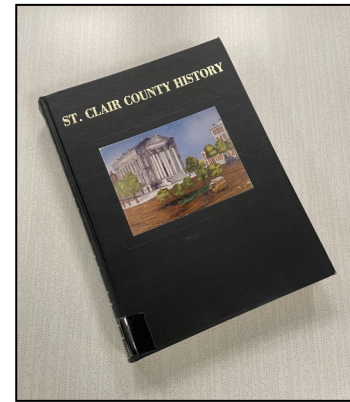
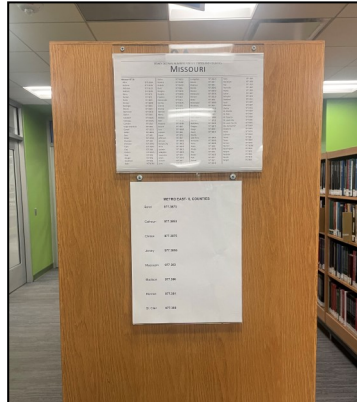


SPOTLIGHT ON



ILLINOIS COUNTIES

History & Genealogy has print materials for our neighboring Illinois counties at our temporary location. If your ancestors lived just over the river, come and check out vital record books, county histories, and more for Bond, Calhoun, Clinton, Jersey, Macoupin, Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair!



GHOST TOUR



Historic Florissant is offering a local ghost tour!

“Join us for a local ghost tour. Travel by bus to different homes in the Florissant Old Town area and hear the strange and unexplained events of those who live in these homes. Tours will be held on Sundays October 22 and 29 at 4:00 and last approximately 60-90 minutes. Reservations are \$25 per person and must be made in advance by calling 314-565-1468. Hurry! This event sells out fast.”—Historic Florissant

Learn more about Historic Florissant, Inc. at historicflorissant.com.

GENEALOGY POX!

Found in *The Bulletin*, published by the Chester County, South Carolina Genealogical Society, June, 1981, p. 37.

GENEALOGY CAN BE HABIT FORMING

WARNING: GENEALOGY POX (very contagious to adults)

SYMPTOMS: Continual complaint as to need of names, dates and places. Patient has blank expression, sometimes deaf to spouse and children. Has no taste for work of any kind, except feverishly looking through records at libraries and court houses. Has compulsion to write letters. Swears mailman doesn't leave mail. Frequents strange places such as cemeteries, ruins, and remote desolate country areas. Makes secret night calls. Hides phone bills from spouse and mumbles to self. Has strange, faraway look in eyes.

TREATMENT: Medication is useless. Disease is not fatal, but gets progressively worse. Patient should attend genealogy workshops, subscribe to genealogical magazines, and be given a quiet corner in the house where he or she can be alone.

REMARKS: The unusual nature of this disease is - the sicker a patient gets, the more he or she enjoys it.

For this disease there is no known cure.

Courtesy of Southwest Nebraska Genealogical Society Newsletter



THEME:
ADVANCED TECHNIQUES FOR AMERICAN RESEARCH
OCTOBER 2-30

Adults. Registration required.
 See reverse for a full schedule of events
 or visit www.slcl.org/events.

Participants will receive Zoom information via email immediately after registering.

St. Louis County Library Program sites are accessible. With at least two weeks' notice, accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities. Call 314-994-3300 or visit www.slcl.org.

Monday, October 2, 6:30 p.m.
The Scenic Route: Resolving Cases with Cluster & Collateral Research

People belong—they live, work and socialize within groups. Exhaustive research requires the thorough examination of these groups. Learn how to explore the family unit within the context of their community (cluster) and their collateral lines.

Monday, October 9, 6:30 p.m.
Extra! Extra! Read All About It!: Genealogy in Newspapers

Newspapers are an excellent source of genealogical and historical information, and digitization has made them widely available. Explore the information you can find in newspapers, and the most popular newspaper databases.

Monday, October 16, 6:30 p.m.
Does That Even Make Sense?: Online Family Trees

Are online trees a genealogist's friend or foe? Learn tools for evaluating whether the information in online trees should be added to your own work.

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City Directories: An Untapped "Avenue" for Genealogy Research

City directories can be used in a variety of ways to further your genealogy research. Learn how to find and use them to help you build your family tree.

Monday, October 30, 6:30 p.m.
Beyond the Document: Extracting Evidence from Context

Advanced genealogists inform their understanding of document creation, seek out ancillary documents, scrutinize record citations and thoroughly analyze documents for the implications their existence presents. Explore what information can be gleaned from a deeper understanding of context.

VIRTUAL PROGRAM

Thursday, October 12
6:00 p.m.

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.

Data Life

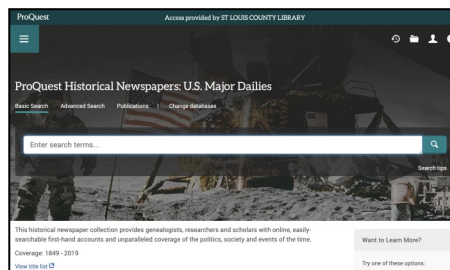
SAMPLINGS FROM THE DATABASE COLLECTION

Are you looking for large U.S. city newspapers? **Historical Newspapers: U.S. Major Dailies** might have just what you need! This SLCL History & Genealogy database can be used in any branch or at home with your library card.

Historical Newspapers: U.S. Major Dailies

Full text coverage of several national daily newspapers. This database includes: Chicago Daily Tribune (1849-1996), Los Angeles Times (1881-1995), New York Times (1857-up to three years behind the current year of publication), Wall Street Journal (1889-2002), and Washington Post (1877-2003). This database provides coverage previously found in the Historical New York Times database. [Proquest]

Access this database at www.slcl.org/resources/historical-newspapers-us-major-dailies.



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

Subscribe at slcl.org/pastports. Current and past issues can be downloaded from the web.

Contact us:

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Temporary Location: Daniel Boone Branch
300 Clarkson Rd.
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314-994-3300
genealogy@slcl.org
slcl.org/genealogy

PARDON OUR DUST

The St. Louis County Library has recently upgraded its website. The History & Genealogy page can be accessed by clicking on "Research & Learn," and then "History & Genealogy." Unfortunately, some of the H&G links have been broken during the upgrade process. Please be patient as our hardworking SLCL technology team works to get everything back on track. Please contact H&G at 314-994-3300 or genealogy@slcl.org for help locating any of our online materials.



STORYCORPS

The St. Louis Storytelling Festival is partnering with the StoryCorps Mobile Tour and will be at the Florissant Valley Branch on Wednesday, October 18. We are excited to invite you to record during their visit!

StoryCorps is a traveling oral history project that is partnered with National Public Radio and the Library of Congress. StoryCorps' mission is to preserve and share humanity's stories. They travel around the U.S. in an Airstream trailer recording 40-minute audio-only conversations between people who know each other. They would love to hear from you!



See www.slcl.org/events-classes/st-louis-storytelling-festival/record-conversation-storycorps for more information.

If slots fill up at Florissant Valley, don't fret! StoryCorps will be in the St. Louis area until October 20. See storycorps.org/stops/mobile-stop-st-louis-mo/ for more sign-ups.

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

The St. Louis Gateway Arch was completed on October 28, 1965. The monument is 630 feet high, and was designed by Finnish architect Eero Saarinen. It was erected to commemorate the Louisiana Purchase and the role of St. Louis in westward expansion. Construction began in February, 1963, and the total cost was \$13 million. Approximately 1.6 million people visited the Gateway Arch in 2022.



FAMILYSEARCH TREE

Would you like to know more about building your tree on FamilySearch.org? FamilySearch is offering a family tree series, with classes every Tuesday in October:

FamilySearch Family Tree: Overview and Navigation

Tuesday, Oct 10, 10:00 AM MDT

FamilySearch Family Tree: Person Page

Tuesday, Oct 17, 10:00 AM MDT

FamilySearch Family Tree: Adding New Individuals

Tuesday, Oct 24, 10:00 AM MDT

FamilySearch Family Tree: Merging Duplicates

Tuesday, Oct 31, 10:00 AM MDT

Register and see more classes at www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/FamilySearch_Library_Classes_and_Webinars.



PETRIFYING PROGRAM

Check out this Halloween-themed SLCL offering:

The True Story of the Exorcist

Various dates and branches

Step into the eerie world of the supernatural, where we unravel the true story of the infamous exorcism that took place in St. Louis. Discover the chilling events, the individuals involved, and the enduring impact of this haunting tale on the city's history. Adults. Registration required.

See slcl.org/events for dates and branches and to register.

VIRTUAL PROGRAM

Recently Digitized Maps

From the Missouri Historical Society

Thursday, October 19, 2:00 p.m.

Explore the Missouri Historical Society's recently digitized collection of maps, atlases and plat books of St. Louis City and County with Emily Jaycox, Librarian at the Missouri Historical Society. Learn how to access them and ways they can be used for genealogy and house/land research.

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.

Presented by



MISSOURI HISTORICAL SOCIETY



St. Louis County Library

Program sites are accessible. With at least two weeks' notice, accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities. Call 314-994-3300 or visit www.slcl.org.



CLASSIC CLIPPINGS



HALLOWEEN COSTUMES

In the United States in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Halloween was celebrated with parades and parties with handmade costumes. In the late 1920s, companies began to mass produce costumes for sale in stores as trick-or-treating became popular. Here are some costumes advertisements found in St. Louis newspapers:

St. Louis Post-Dispatch, October 19, 1938

St. Louis Post-Dispatch, October 9, 1955

St. Louis Post-Dispatch, October 19, 1928

Happy Halloween from some of the H&G staff in their historic Halloween finery!

