

MISSOURI TIMES

The State Historical Society of Missouri

May 2017 Vol. 13, No. 1



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State Historical Society Breaks Ground on New Headquarters in Columbia

A vision that once seemed relegated to some distant future has staked its claim on the present. On April 19 the State Historical Society of Missouri held a ceremonial groundbreaking at the building site for the Center for Missouri Studies, a new facility that will define the organization in the twenty-first century.

“This day has been a long time coming,” said Gary Kremer, the Society’s executive director, in his remarks to a crowd of about 150 supporters that included public officials, University of Missouri representatives, members of the Gould Evans architectural team that is designing the building,

and SHSMO officers, trustees, current and former staff, and members and patrons. “We are today embarking on a new phase of the history of the State Historical Society of Missouri. The new Center for Missouri Studies will allow us to do things we have only dreamed of for years.”

Kremer said that despite many challenges along the way, he never stopped working for a new home for the State Historical Society since becoming its director in 2004. He thanked Missouri politicians, SHSMO officers, and others who supported the building project and helped secure \$35 million for it in state construction funds. He also remembered

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Honorary groundbreaking (from left): SHSMO senior associate director Gerald Hirsch, US congresswoman Vicki Hartzler, Columbia mayor Brian Treece, SHSMO president Bob Priddy, former Missouri legislator Dwight Scharnhorst, SHSMO executive director Gary Kremer, US senator Roy Blunt, former Missouri state senator Kurt Schaefer, Missouri legislator Glen Kolkmeier, SHSMO trustee Beatrice Litherland Smith, Missouri state treasurer Eric Schmitt, SHSMO officer Virginia Laas, Missouri secretary of state John R. “Jay” Ashcroft, SHSMO past president Stephen N. Limbaugh Jr., Missouri legislator Donna Lichtenegger, and Missouri Department of Public Safety director Drew Juden.

Missouri Students “Take a Stand” at National History Day State Contest

A wet spring Saturday failed to dampen spirits at the National History Day in Missouri state contest in Columbia on April 29. Nearly 600 student contestants, accompanied by their parents and teachers, and joined by 143 volunteer judges, braved steady downpours while traveling between buildings on the University of Missouri campus

to give enthusiastic presentations of history projects they had spent much of the school year researching.

In Strickland Hall, Rachel Adger, a student at South Valley Middle School in Liberty, stood calmly at the front of the room, ready to explain her website, *The Freedom Riders: Taking a Stand by Sitting Down*, to contest

judges. “The Riders protested by traveling into the Deep South by bus and participating in sit-ins,” she said. “So, quite literally, the Freedom Riders took a stand by sitting down.”

Rachel described her research on the Freedom Riders, pointing in particular to impactful

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Letter from the State Historical Society of Missouri President

I've seen the drawings. I've seen the model. But when I sat at our groundbreaking ceremony and looked at the entire one-half city block on which the new Center for Missouri Studies will be built, I had trouble grasping just how big this project is.

For more than forty-five years I have been visiting the windowless narrow gray halls and the crowded reading room of the State Historical Society of Missouri, entering through an obscure door in a corner of Ellis Library on the MU campus. What we

are about to create at Sixth and Elm Streets in downtown Columbia is almost beyond my imagination—even if I have seen the drawings of the exterior and the interior of the new building.

We have dreamed of this happening for decades. Only now, however, is it becoming real. Sticking a shovel into a trough of dirt at the ceremony (because the building site at present is an asphalt parking lot) made everything different.

We are going to do this! This is really going to happen!

Before the groundbreaking event, Gary Kremer and I began reflecting on so many of the people who shared this dream through the years who have not lived to share this reality. They have become the history that the Center for Missouri Studies will preserve and promote. We remember them with great fondness and realize that we are going forward in their spirit.

We hope you will share in the great moments that will take place in the coming months. Come and watch the progress. Please support us as



Bob Priddy, SHSMO president

we build a structure and the endowment that will go with it to make sure that a dream long held becomes a vision forever continued.

Bob Priddy
President, Board of Trustees

State Historical Society Breaks Ground

friends such as Lawrence Christensen, a trustee and past president of the Society, and James Goodrich, its former executive director, who did not live to see the project come to fruition.

Also speaking at the event were Roy Blunt, US senator and third vice president of the Society; Brian Treece, mayor of Columbia; Bob Priddy, current SHSMO president; Stephen N. Limbaugh Jr., US district judge and past SHSMO president; Kurt Schaefer, former Missouri state senator; Eric Schmitt, Missouri state treasurer; and John R. "Jay" Ashcroft, Missouri secretary of state. In attendance were Vicki Hartzler, US congresswoman, and representatives of Missouri governor Eric Greitens and former governor Jay Nixon.

Observing that Missouri's diverse geography and population make the state uniquely reflective of the nation's history, Blunt said that the

new building would provide facilities worthy of preserving and displaying a special heritage. "This is a day legislative leaders determined that they were going to see happen," Blunt said, noting that he and others backed the project through lean years.

SHSMO president Bob Priddy said the new building would lead present and future generations to stirring encounters with the past. "We're soon going to see emerge from this rather unremarkable piece of ground a remarkable building that says history is alive, history is something that can teach," Priddy said. "Voices will live here. Images will reach out to us here. . . . We are building something

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that will say history is vital and challenging, and it is part of our everyday life."

The Center for Missouri Studies headquarters will offer a significant upgrade from SHSMO's current facilities in MU's Ellis Library. Its ground floor will feature a much larger art museum and a multipurpose events space with a seating capacity of 250. The second floor will include an expanded research center built to accommodate modern technology and to provide greater access to documents, photographs and maps, oral history recordings, microfilm reels, and other resources.

The new building will have on-site parking and about 76,000 square feet of floor space, roughly twice the size of SHSMO's space at Ellis. A two-story glass lobby will feature two main entrances, one facing the University of Missouri and the other opening to downtown Columbia and the general public. The two doorways will symbolize the State Historical Society's intent to be a meeting place that draws campus and community together.

Construction at the building site on Sixth and Elm Streets is slated to begin within the next month. Completion is anticipated in the summer of 2019.



An artist's rendering of the future Center for Missouri Studies, as viewed from the south.

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Important Loans Featured in Upcoming Bingham Exhibition

In 1834 the twenty-three-year-old George Caleb Bingham left his mother's home in Arrow Rock to open a studio in Columbia, Missouri. The artist rented space in a building owned by James S. Rollins, a charismatic young lawyer and part owner of a local newspaper, the *Missouri Patriot*. Bingham's introduction to Rollins led to an enduring friendship built around shared values, ambitions, and political views.

Bingham's arresting 1834 portrait of Rollins stands as an early product of this friendship. The sitter's ruddy,

brightly lit face emerges from an amber background. His neck is hidden by a black cravat, and the tips of his white collar obscure the bottom of his cleft chin. Despite its somewhat primitive "lacquered" quality, the image has an extraordinary psychological presence. Rollins's gray eyes seem to acknowledge the spectator, breaking the 183-year temporal barrier that separates us from his painted visage.

Ellen Westfall Mering, a direct descendant of Rollins, generously loaned this rare early

portrait to the State Historical Society of Missouri. Mering also loaned several other artworks to the Society, including portraits of Rollins's parents, *Dr. Anthony Wayne Rollins* and *Sarah (Sallie) Harris Rodes Rollins*, both painted in 1837, and the much later 1873 depiction of Rollins's daughter, Sarah (Sallie) Rodes Rollins. All four of these paintings are featured in the exhibition *Painted Personas: The Portraits of George Caleb Bingham*, which runs from June 10 to September 23 at SHSMO's headquarters in Columbia.



George Caleb Bingham's portrait of his friend James S. Rollins.



Beth Lane, longtime secretary at the Rolla Research Center.

Beth Lane Retires from Research Center in Rolla

A familiar face will be missing from SHSMO's Rolla Research Center this month. Beth Lane, the secretary at the Rolla center, retired on April 28. She had been a member of the staff since 1993.

John Bradbury, the recently retired assistant director in Rolla, said Lane was usually the first to greet visitors when they came to the center or called by phone. She took on many roles to ensure that records were well managed and the office ran smoothly, he added. Although many researchers learned to ask for her by name, others never knew the lengths she would go to in finding and organizing materials for them.

Bradbury also credited her with being the center's informal "social director," organizing office lunches and other events. "Her old supervisor will especially miss pineapple upside-down cake on his birthday," he said.

"The entire staff of the State Historical Society of Missouri will miss Beth," said Gary Kremer, SHSMO's executive director. "She has been an important part of our effort to serve researchers for more than two decades. We wish her the very best in her retirement."

Lane said that she has particularly enjoyed spending time with patrons and doing hands-on work with the Rolla center's collections. "I never liked history until I began to learn at SHS Rolla," she said. "I remember a

metal trunk that came in with items in it. There was a small tablet, and stitched into it with hair were a child's initials and the date that the hair was cut. That was the kind of experience that was special to me."

Lane said her retirement plans start with travel and camping trips with her husband. Her bucket list includes a visit to Niagara Falls.

Claire Marks Joins SHSMO Staff as Archivist at St. Louis Research Center

The Research Center in St. Louis is fully staffed again following personnel moves after former associate director Zelli Fischetti retired last October. New archivist Claire Marks, a St. Louis native who holds a master's degree in library science from the University of Missouri in Columbia, joined SHSMO's staff in April.

Marks worked previously at the Missouri History Museum, where she was a cataloger on the Soldiers' Memorial Revitalization Project. During her time in Columbia as a graduate student, she was an intern and student worker at SHSMO's Columbia Research Center. She also served as an associate historian for the website *Over There: Missouri and the Great War*, a statewide collaborative digitization project to document Missouri's role in World War I.

"During her internship with us, we saw Claire's talent and her passion for working in archives and helping people to access information," said Gerald Hirsch, SHSMO's senior associate director.

"We are very happy to be able to reconnect with her and offer her a position at the St. Louis center."

As an archivist, Marks will work closely with researchers and other patrons to help them find and use the resources in SHSMO's collections. In addition to Marks, the staff in St. Louis includes associate director Nancy McIlvaney, media specialist Josephine Sporleder, and senior archivist Kenn Thomas.



New archivist Claire Marks.

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Missouri Students “Take a Stand” at National History Day State Contest

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primary sources such as vivid sound and visual recordings of the Civil Rights movement. “The recordings help illustrate history for students,” she said. “We can actually see things like signs on walls that segregated blacks from whites that show how it was during the times we are studying.”

Students and judges alike took little notice of the storms outside as presentations on topics tailored to this year’s contest theme, “Taking a Stand in History,” unfolded throughout the day. “The power stayed on, the lights stayed on, the equipment all worked,” said John Brenner, a judge in another room at Strickland where websites were presented. “I

honestly was too absorbed in talking with the students about their projects to know what the weather was doing. I’m always impressed by how well they answer our questions and how much they seem to learn from their History Day projects.”

Sixty-one students from the state contest, including Rachel Adger, now advance to represent the Show-Me State in June at the national contest, held on the campus of the University of Maryland in College Park. The Missouri delegates to the national contest can be followed on the organization’s Twitter site, @nhdmo. For the full list of 2017 state contest award winners, visit nhdmo.org.



Scenes from the state contest (clockwise from top left): Students from Liberty High School in a group performance on nineteenth-century mental health care reformer Dorothea Dix; Noah Johnson from West Nodaway R-1 Schools with his exhibit on the daring Doolittle aerial raid on Tokyo in 1942; Tyson Ellison of LSE Middle School in Boonville with his third-place medal for a performance on heavyweight boxer Muhammad Ali; Ariel Chen and Claire Manuel of Discovery Middle School in Liberty with their exhibit on the French fashion designer Coco Chanel.

Former NHDMO Student Returns to Help Run 2017 State Contest

Rebekah Northern, a University of Missouri student and a volunteer with National History Day in Missouri, helped staff this year’s state contest. Northern, from Bloomfield, Missouri, is also a former participant in the contest. In the following interview, she reflects on what it was like to work at an event she once competed in.

When did you participate in the NHD state contest?

In 2008 when I was an eighth-grader at Bloomfield Middle School. I did a performance on Carrie Chapman Catt, one of the leaders of the women’s suffrage movement.

What was the best part about competing in NHDMO? The hardest part?

Presenting a project that you’ve worked so hard on and have learned from. When it was my turn to perform, I felt I was unveiling a story about a woman that people may not have known about. The hardest part was accepting that although it is a competition, the meaning of it is not about winning a medal.

How did being a past participant shape your approach to planning for and working at the state contest?

I think I understood how much time and hard work students put into their projects, which made me take my role very seriously. I had lunch at a table with a group of judges that was deciding who would move on to the final round. It was really eye-opening to see how much these judges cared about every project and took in every detail about them. They talked very highly of the students.

What advice do you have for current participants?

Dig deep, get creative, and enjoy the process!

Chuck Berry Remembered: SHSMO Research Project Leads to Archive on a St. Louis Legend

The passing of rock 'n' roll legend Chuck Berry on March 18 brought the St. Louis Research Center's Chuck Berry Project Research Papers (S0196) into the media spotlight. The collection documents the St. Louis native's colorful life and times as a songwriter and performer.

Berry became the first inductee into Cleveland's Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1986 in recognition of his profound influence on American music. Born in 1926, he began publicly performing as a youth at Sumner High School in St. Louis. Berry joined the Johnny Johnson Band in 1953 and traveled two years later to Chicago, where he met the legendary blues singer Muddy Waters. Berry so impressed Waters that he introduced the budding musician to Leonard Chess, cofounder of Chicago's Chess Records. Chess signed him to a contract, and shortly thereafter Berry began recording a long list of now classic songs that defined the burgeoning teenage music genre called rock 'n' roll.

Berry's first hit, "Maybelline," reached the top of Billboard's rhythm and blues charts in 1955 and was notable for featuring the kind of guitar riff that became his signature sound. As a touring performer, Berry's "duck walk" while playing his guitar famously characterized his stage routine. His list of popular hits grew to include "No Money Down," "Nadine," "Brown Eyed Handsome Man," "Too Much Monkey Business," "Roll Over Beethoven," and many others. He became internationally famous, appearing on television and in several rock 'n' roll movies. He opened Berry's Club Bandstand, a St. Louis nightclub.

Berry's life was also punctuated, however, by run-ins with the law. He was sent to a reformatory after an armed robbery conviction in 1944. In January 1962 he received a three-year prison sentence for violating the Mann Act after he transported an underage girl across state lines. He also served a four-month sentence for tax evasion in 1979.

The Chuck Berry Project Research Papers contain articles, interview features, and news clippings about Berry. The collection also includes an index to other news clippings from 1958–1983, the transcript of the Mann Act trial, two papers by the University of Missouri–St. Louis history professor George Lipsitz, and a 1982 *St. Louis Magazine* article



Chuck Berry, from the photo morgue of St. Louis labor and civil rights leader Ernest Calloway's newspaper, the *Citizen Crusader*.

about Berry by SHSMO manuscript specialist Kenn Thomas.

The Berry Project Papers also include oral history interviews with Berry's friend, the guitarist Billy Peek, and his daughter, Ingrid. Lipsitz and Thomas began the collecting project in 1981.

Collection Preserves Work of St. Louis Activist Bonnie Hart, the "Atomic Lady"

Among the St. Louis Research Center's many collections documenting environmental activism in Missouri are the Bonnie Hart Papers (S0657). From the late 1940s until her death in 2001, Hart, a citizen activist, devoted her life to raising social and political awareness of environmental issues.



Bonnie Hart on the Trans-Siberian Railway during a tour of the Soviet Union in May 1987.

In the 1950s, Hart began to play a significant

role in drawing attention to health concerns stemming from nuclear weapons tests. Responding to initial reports linking the tests with human health issues, St. Louis activists founded a large-scale study, the Baby Tooth Survey, to collect baby teeth and test them for levels of Strontium-90, a radioactive isotope. By showing that children born after the start of nuclear testing had elevated levels of Strontium-90 in their teeth, the study was instrumental in ending above-ground tests in the 1960s.

Known as the "Atomic Lady" to her friends, Hart became a staunch opponent of nuclear proliferation and the development of nuclear power. She led impassioned letter-writing campaigns, sent numerous missives to legislators and newspaper editors herself, and made regular calls to radio programs. She also compiled a large news clipping file and assembled a personal library on nuclear hazards. The Hart collection includes correspondence with such political figures as Hubert Humphrey, the US vice president, and Everett Dirksen, a prominent Republican congressman from Illinois.

As the anti-nuclear movement grew, Hart became a major source of information for other activists, including St. Louis environmentalist Kay Drey. Hart's newspaper clippings collection, for instance, included reports on radioactive waste buried near St. Louis International Airport that helped Drey lead a successful campaign to have it removed.

The Hart Papers also reflect how her burgeoning environmental activism affected her family. Holly Thornton, Hart's daughter, described her mother's reaction to the school nuclear drills of the time: "They'd close the blinds and you got in the hall and you'd duck and cover. Well, Mom wouldn't let my brother and myself go. . . . So we had to sit

in the room. She was making a point that it didn't matter if we were in the hall or where we were at or even if we did survive—would we want to survive?"

Hart elaborated on this theme during the Kennedy administration in a letter she sent to a number of political leaders, including John F. Kennedy and his vice president, Lyndon Johnson. She declared, "Adults who wouldn't take their children for a tonsillectomy or even to the dentist without telling the children it will hurt, permit their country and children to be led year after year closer to a nuclear war because Civilian Defense makes it sound as if spending a two week vacation in a fall-out shelter is the worst those involved in such a war would have to endure."

The Bonnie Hart Papers contain Hart's correspondence, news clipping file, and book and magazine collection. In addition to nuclear power, topics covered in the collection include the Vietnam War, the US space program, and various political campaigns. The collection also contains an oral history with Holly Thornton and several photographs on a CD.

Bonnie Hart died on January 28, 2001. Thornton donated the collection in 2002.

May

Preservation and Handling of Paper and 3D Objects Workshop

May 22 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Sedalia

Want to know more about preserving and caring for paper and 3D objects? Bring your questions to this Missouri Association for Museums and Archives workshop at the Daum Museum of Contemporary Art. The presenters will include Lucinda Adams from the SHSMO Kansas City Research Center, Matt Clouse of the Daum Museum, and Sarah Elder from St. Joseph Museums. The workshop, sponsored by the Missouri Humanities Council, is free. A catered lunch is available for \$15. Attendees will receive a materials notebook with samples of museum and archival materials as well as an additional information packet. The event will be held at the Daum Museum on the campus of State Fair Community College, 3201 W. Sixteenth Street, in Sedalia. To register, visit <http://missourimuseums.org/events>.

SHSMO Turns 119!

May 26 All Research Centers

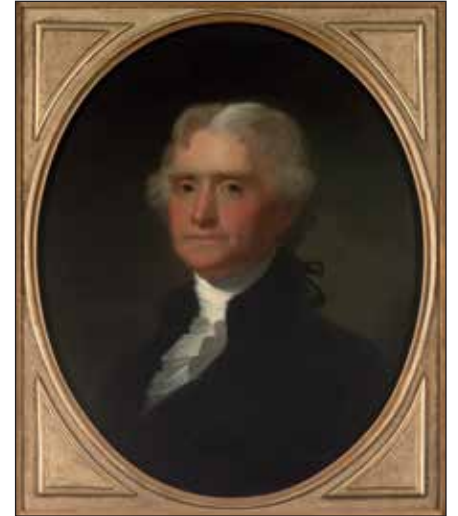
Join us at any of our six research centers across the state to celebrate the anniversary of the State Historical Society of Missouri's founding in 1898. Stop by to visit, explore the collections, have a cupcake, and learn more about how you can take part in SHSMO.

June

Painted Personas: The Portraits of George Caleb Bingham

June 10 – September 23 Columbia

The State Historical Society of Missouri is home to over two dozen portraits by the celebrated American painter George Caleb Bingham. These artworks were originally produced for a variety of venues, from the homes of private citizens to the halls of government buildings. *Painted Personas* examines the varied functions of Bingham's portraiture and considers how dress, gesture, and background communicated carefully choreographed messages related to the paintings' original settings as well as the subjects' roles within families, society, and nineteenth-century culture. Among the paintings on display will be a portrait of Thomas Jefferson, an image of the sculptress Vinnie Ream, and several portraits on long-term loan from the descendants of James S. Rollins.



Bingham's portrait of Thomas Jefferson.

Kenneth E. Behring National History Day Contest

June 11–15 College Park, Maryland

Finalists from the state contest will represent Missouri at nationals, held on the University of Maryland–College Park campus. In past years, Missouri delegates have represented the Show-Me State with distinction, bringing home medals, speaking at Breakfast on the Hill, and showcasing their work at the National Museum of American History. Follow NHDMO on Facebook and Twitter to stay posted on the 2017 delegation's experience.



A cartoon by Lee Judge for the *Kansas City Star*.

Kansas City Cartoonists: Curator's Walk-Through

June 17 1:30 p.m. Columbia

Join Joan Stack, SHSMO curator of art collections, for a walk-through of the exhibition *Kansas City Cartoonists S. J. Ray and Lee Judge: Cartoonists from Two Millennia Critique Culture*. Stack will discuss how the topics addressed by these cartoonists remain relevant today. More than 60 cartoons by Ray and Judge from the SHSMO collection are currently on display, highlighting the artists' humorous and creative approaches to contemporary issues. The exhibition in the Columbia Research Center will run through November 10.

Photograph and Papers Preservation Workshop

June 26 Ellington

Employees and volunteers who work in small archives are invited to join members of SHSMO's staff at the Reynolds County Genealogy and Historical Society, 233 S. Second Street, Ellington, for this professional development workshop. Sessions will cover the basics of processing papers and photographs and delve into issues regarding provenance and original order. Case examples provided for discussion will focus specifically on southeast Missouri. For more information, contact the Reynolds County Genealogy and Historical Society at 573.663.3233 or by email at info@rcghs.org.

August

Extended Research Hours

August 3 4:45 – 8 p.m. Columbia

Take advantage of this opportunity to tap into SHSMO resources after hours! The Columbia Research Center will be open until 8 p.m. for patrons to conduct research.

Missouri State Genealogical Association Conference

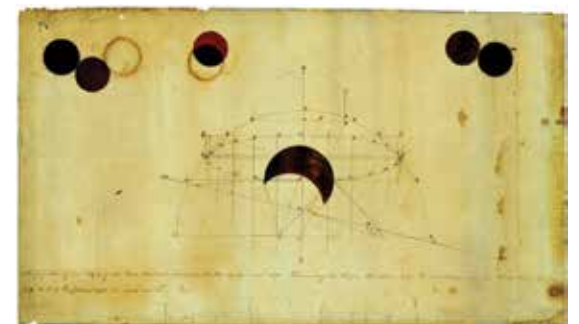
August 4–5 Columbia

Join SHSMO in Columbia at the annual gathering of Missouri family history researchers. Learn from experts in the sessions, visit with staff members in the exhibit hall, and network with other genealogists. The conference will be held at the Stoney Creek Hotel and Conference Center, 2601 S. Providence Road, Columbia. For details, visit www.mosga.org.

Great American Eclipse

August 21 Statewide

A total solar eclipse will occur over Missouri between 1 and 1:30 p.m. on August 21. The state's last total eclipse happened on August 7, 1869, and was visible only in Missouri's northeast corner. This time it will cross the entire state, though some regions will experience only a partial eclipse. Cities under total eclipse will include St. Joseph, Columbia, Jefferson City, Cape Girardeau, and parts of the Kansas City and St. Louis metro areas. Missouri state parks as well as cities across the state will hold special events to observe this rare phenomenon. To see if parks or cities in your area are planning special eclipse events, visit: <http://missouri.edu/eclipse/>.



Astral projection for an eclipse of the sun, from the Kirby–Ridgway–Lightholder Family Papers (CA6390), SHSMO-C.

Looking ahead

Center for Missouri Studies Speaker Series

Lecture and Annual Meeting

October 7 Columbia

You are invited to help guide the mission of the State Historical Society of Missouri forward at its annual meeting. Visit with other SHSMO members and enjoy a Center for Missouri Studies presentation. The event will be held at the Courtyard by Marriott and Conference Center in Columbia. A room block is available for out-of-town guests at the rate of \$119 per night, plus tax. To receive this discount, mention SHSMO while booking your room before the deadline of **September 6**. Watch the *Missouri Times* and <http://shsmo.org/annualmeeting> for further details.

Glass Plate Photo Collection Illustrates Challenges of Move to New Headquarters

Following last month's groundbreaking ceremony, SHSMO's Columbia staff is gearing up for the move to the Society's new headquarters building in 2019. Transporting extensive, often fragile collections to the new facility will require careful planning to make sure that nothing is lost or damaged in transit and public access to the materials is interrupted as little as possible.

"It's a real challenge, but one we're thrilled to be taking on," photograph archivist Anne Cox said. "It's important that we start early to minimize disruptions to our typical services. We want to maintain public access as much as possible while also ensuring that the collections are moved safely."

Cox identified glass plate negatives as one example of a sensitive collection that calls for special precautions before it is moved. The glass plates will need to be reboxed before making the trip to the new facility.

"Glass plate negatives are some of our most fragile materials and some of the heaviest, making them especially difficult to move," she noted. "They're also some of the more significant photographic materials in the collections, as they cover earlier time periods and the image quality is typically very good."

There are two distinct kinds of glass plate negatives in SHSMO's collection, each created with a different photographic process. The collodion wet plate process, which predominated from about 1851 to 1885, required negatives to be completed immediately, while the collodion was still wet, limiting the settings in which this method could be used.

Consequently, the gelatin dry plate, in common use beginning in 1880, essentially replaced the collodion process. As the first photographic negative materials to be mass produced, gelatin dry plates democratized photography, allowing more people to make photographs in a wider variety of places and circumstances. Although the introduction of film negatives in the 1890s prompted a decline in the use of gelatin dry plates, glass plates remained in regular use into the mid-1920s.



An old storage box (left) next to a new one designed specifically for transporting glass plate negatives.

SHSMO's popular glass plate collections include the Maximilian E. Schmidt Photographs (P0001), documenting early Boonville; the Otto and Joe Kroeger Photograph Collection (P0002), which depicts the life of the Kroeger family in Jefferson City; and the Charles Trefts Photographs (P0034), which includes images from the St. Louis area, the Ozarks, and other parts of Missouri. Staff members will need to move not only these collections but also some previously untouched ones such as the John D. Cooper Glass Plate Negative Collection (P0165), which documents northeast Missouri, and the Texas County, Missouri, Glass Plate Negative Collection (P0279).

Cox said that new storage enclosures have been acquired to protect the negatives from damage during the move. Specially designed glass plate negative storage boxes will provide safe vertical storage for the

negatives in small groups. The boxes will guarantee equal support and even amounts of pressure on the negatives stored within them. Special support structures will prevent the negatives from shifting in the box during transportation while moderating a consistent weight from box to box, allowing safe handling by archivists and movers.

"Since rehousing requires handling the negatives, we are digitizing the images while we get them ready for the move," Cox said. "That will help us to minimize future handling of the negatives and significantly increase the public's access to them." Computerized records and descriptions for the negatives will also be created during the digitization process to make the collection easier to search.

This photo from the Maximilian E. Schmidt collection (P0001-A315) shows Louise and Doris Schmidt with the family dog on the Missouri River bluffs near the bridge at Boonville, circa 1903.



Mabrey Family Papers Provide Diaries of Wayne County Civil War Veteran and Public Servant

A recent acquisition to the Springfield Research Center includes the personal papers of a Civil War veteran who returned from the war to enjoy a long career in Wayne County as a teacher, school superintendent, probate judge, and public administrator. The Mabrey Family Papers, donated by Doris Mabrey Smither, also shed light on an altercation with a neighbor long preserved in the family's memories of its past.

Henry Y. Mabrey was a first lieutenant in the Thirty-First Missouri Volunteer Infantry, which served in southeast Missouri and later saw action in the siege of Vicksburg, Mississippi, in 1863. His grandson, Carl Mabrey, born in 1906, remembered a trip to Greenville, Missouri, where Henry showed him a tree that he had sheltered behind during a skirmish on July 20, 1862.

The Mabrey Papers include Henry's diary from the war, a day-by-day account of his activities and interactions with other soldiers. Other diaries he kept after the war record events in Wayne County and his experiences as an educator, public official, and resident. The collection also contains papers relating to the life and career of Henry's son George, including diaries and letters George exchanged with his immediate and extended family.

The Mabrey Papers include Henry's diary from the war, a day-by-day account of his activities and interactions with other soldiers. Other diaries he kept after the war record events in Wayne County and his experiences as an educator, public official, and resident.

A small volume within the collection records an incident between Henry Mabrey and a neighbor, Sam Rhodes, that began sometime in 1876 and came to a head on May 7 in that year. On that day, Henry shot Rhodes in what is described as an act of self-defense. He kept records of witness testimony, apparently recorded through interviews with local law officials prior to a court hearing.



The Mabrey family, circa 1910. Henry Mabrey is in the center, standing behind the children on the steps.

The testimony portrays Rhodes as the aggressor. According to Mabrey family accounts, Rhodes felt insulted by a joke told by Henry Mabrey and decided to lie in wait for him on the road to his home. An article in the *St. Louis Republican* on May 19, 1876, states that when his adversary appeared, Rhodes "pulled his coat and advanced upon Mabrey, who met the charge by first shooting him under the right arm, and as Rhodes turned he received another shot in the shoulder."

Counter to Mabrey family lore, the shooting was nonfatal. There is no known record showing that Mabrey was convicted of any offense, although many of the courthouse records were lost in a fire. Mabrey's papers show that his career continued uninterrupted, and that he lived until 1915. Rhodes appears in 1900 and 1910 census records for Bollinger County and lived until 1919.

New Titles Expand Missouri Digital Newspaper Project to More Than 1.4 Million Pages

New partnerships with more Missouri public libraries have added another 259,000 pages of digital newspaper content to the Missouri Digital Newspaper Project. The latest partnerships are with the St. Joseph Public Library, Shelbina Carnegie Public Library, and the Gentry County Public Library.

The new content is from 23 newspapers spanning the years 1870 through 1954. These newspapers were digitized through grants to public libraries 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. To explore the new additions, visit: <http://shsmo.org/newspaper/mdnp/>.

Over the past eight years, more than 1.4 million pages of Missouri newspapers have been digitized through the Missouri Digital Newspaper Project, with the goal of providing a free, searchable database of newspapers from every county in the state. The collection now includes 198 titles representing 73 of Missouri's 114 counties and the city of St. Louis.

Focused on merging meaningful historic content with innovative modern technology, the State Historical Society of Missouri employs the highest national digitization standards: newspapers in SHSMO's collection are digitized to National Digital Newspaper Program specifications. Many of Missouri's digital newspapers are also available through the Library of Congress's Chronicling America site, which ultimately aims to include newspaper pages from all states and US territories in its online collection.

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Doctor, Economist, Professor: Three Generations of the Moulder Family in Southeast Missouri

A new collection at the Cape Girardeau Research Center, the Moulder Family Papers (CG0012), traces three generations of a Missouri family from 1873 to 1987. The papers were donated by Frances Valentine Moulder, a lecturer in urban and community studies and sociology at the University of Connecticut in Torrington since her retirement as a sociology professor at Three Rivers Community College in Norwich, Connecticut.

The collection features a written account by Frances Moulder's grandmother, Phoebe (Test) Moulder Black, in which she describes moving to Linn Creek in 1898 and meeting Thomas Valentine Moulder, a young physician just beginning to practice medicine in rural Missouri. Phoebe married Thomas on December 6, 1899. They moved from Linn Creek to Scott County in southeast Missouri, and their son, Wilbur, was born in 1904 in Crowder.

The couple's marriage was short-lived. In 1912 Thomas Moulder died of rheumatism in Morley, Missouri. The country doctor was

remembered, according to his obituary in the *Scott County Kicker*, as the "original Socialist of the county." The obituary also credits Dr. Moulder with founding the drugstore in Puxico, Missouri. After Thomas's death, Phoebe married William Henry Black, who had a farm and a general store near Morley.

Wilbur Moulder attended the Missouri School of Mines (now the Missouri University of Science and Technology) in Rolla and graduated with a bachelor of science degree in 1926. He worked for the American Telephone and Telegraph Company until 1931. Five years later he received his graduate degree from the University of Missouri.

In 1937 Wilbur moved to Knoxville, Tennessee, where he joined the Tennessee Valley Authority as an economist. He married Rebecca O'Connor Hunt, and their daughter, Frances Valentine Moulder, was born in 1945. During their time in Knoxville, Wilbur and Rebecca founded the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Church and Fellowship House, which was dedicated to civil rights.

The collection contains several other written family history resources as well. In 1987 Rebecca recounted a trip she, Frances, and Wilbur took in 1950 in search of the "farm and graves of my husband's ancestral Moulders" in Union County, Tennessee. She describes the excursion and how five-year-old Frances loathed every minute of it.

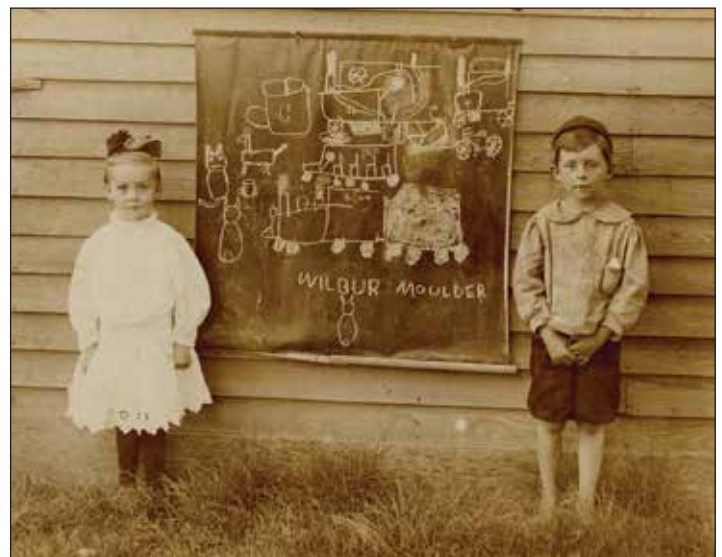
Frances Valentine Moulder is represented in many of the collection's photographs and writings, including her grandmother's autobiography. Phoebe Moulder Black wrote her life story for thirteen-year-old Frances, dedicating it to her granddaughter "to keep, cherish, and do as she like with." The inscription is dated February 3, 1958.

The Moulder collection contains seven folders of papers, postcards, photographs, and genealogies. It can be viewed at the Cape Girardeau Research Center, or at any of the State Historical Society of Missouri's other locations upon request.

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Phoebe Moulder (right) and a relative in about 1900



Wilbur Moulder (right) with a cousin, Carmen, circa 1910.

Wight and Wight Records Offer Fresh Insights into Kansas City's Architectural Heritage

The State Historical Society of Missouri Kansas City Research Center is well known for its substantial collections of materials relating to the city's built environment. Its holdings include more than 16,000 sets of architectural drawings for building projects from the late 1880s to the early twenty-first century.

The publicly available records now include the recently processed Wight and Wight Architectural Records Collection (K0825). The collection, which consists primarily of architectural drawings for projects built in and around Kansas City, Missouri, between 1904 and 1951, documents the work of an important firm during a period in which the rapidly growing city built a reputation for encouraging bold and modern urban architecture.

Born in Canada in 1874, Thomas Wight developed an early interest in architecture, traveling to the United States at the age of seventeen to answer an advertisement for an office boy with the prestigious New York-based firm of McKim, Mead and White. After working his way up in the firm, studying for a year abroad at the American Academy in Rome, and finding a mentor in Henry Bacon, the designer of the Lincoln Memorial, Wight was ready to establish his own business. He was offered several prospective partnerships in Cleveland, Toronto, and New York, but it was an offer from his friend, Edward T. Wilder, in Kansas City that Thomas ultimately chose. Together they formed the architectural firm of Wilder and Wight in 1904.

There were many reasons for Thomas's decision to establish a business in Kansas City, the greatest being that the booming

midwestern metropolis offered raw, untapped architectural potential. The fledgling firm found its footing when it won a commission to design the First National Bank at Tenth Street and Baltimore Avenue in downtown Kansas City. Wilder and Wight's Neoclassical Revival design brought them instant recognition and secured a commission for the New England National Bank, also erected on Tenth Street. The firm then received numerous residential commissions from real estate developer J. C. Nichols for his Sunset Hills addition.

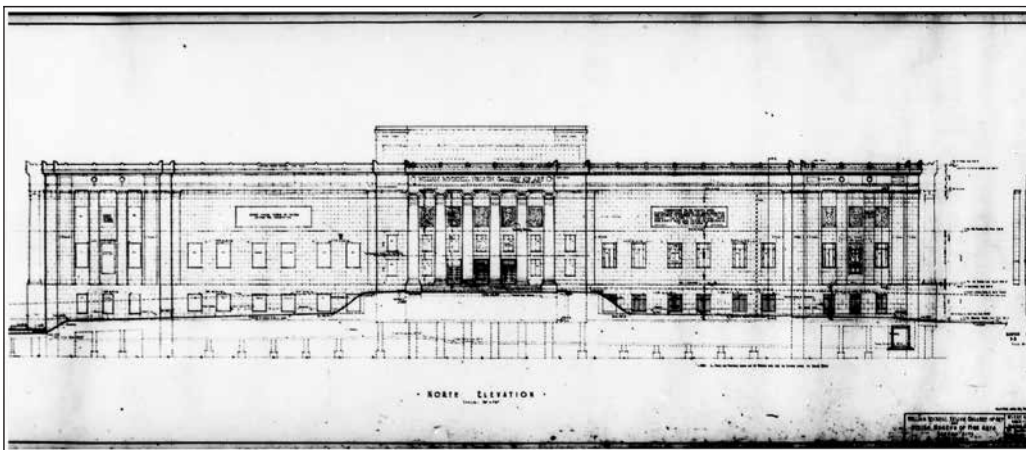
While Thomas Wight was busy establishing his own architectural firm, his younger brother William was following in his footsteps. William secured a position with McKim, Mead and White, spending ten years in the firm that included a year of study in Europe. In 1911, William joined his brother's firm in Kansas City, buying out Edward Wilder's share. In 1916 the firm officially changed its name from Wilder and Wight to Wight and Wight.

Over the next thirty years, the brothers distinguished themselves in Kansas City and the Midwest. They were known for their Neoclassical design style, their exceptional command of mass and proportion, and their exquisite attention to details. In Kansas City their noteworthy buildings included the Kansas City Life Insurance Company, Mercy Hospital, the Thomas H. Swope Memorial in Swope Park, the Federal Courts Building, and the US Post Office. Perhaps their most notable design was the city's famed Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art. By the time of William Wight's death on October 29, 1947, and Thomas's on October 6, 1949, the brothers had established a vibrant legacy.




William Wight with a client, Madge MacLennan, the wife of Kansas newspaper publisher Frank MacLennan. Wight and Wight designed a house for the couple that was built in Topeka in 1928. The house now serves as the Kansas governor's residence.

The Wight and Wight Architectural Records Collection contains 144 sets of architectural drawings. Most are of buildings in and around the Kansas City metropolitan area, although there are also drawings of buildings elsewhere in Missouri and Kansas and in Tulsa, Oklahoma; Santa Rosa, New Mexico; and Ashland, Wisconsin. The collection adds to the Kansas City Research Center architectural records, helping to document the city's rich architectural heritage and the insights of local architects who influenced skylines across the Midwest.



A drawing from Wight and Wight's design of the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art.

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