State Archives opens St. Louis Branch

Death Records Database Online

Teaching American History

Annual Meeting Report

Mormon History Conference

Archives’ Traveling Exhibits

Published by Robin Carnahan, Secretary of State

Secretary of State Robin Carnahan (r), is pictured here with State Representative Kathlyn Fares (l), sponsor of the legislation creating the St. Louis branch of the Missouri State Archives. Also pictured are State Archivist Kenneth H. Winn, left center; St. Louis Circuit Court Clerk Mariano Favazza, center; and U.S. Representative William L. Clay, right center.

Summer 2006
From the State Archivist

A Document That Changed My Mind

The Missouri State Archives has more than 336 million pages of documents in its active collection, making it one of the largest repositories of historical records in the world. These records date from 1770 and boast records from Daniel Boone, Jesse James, Ernest Hemingway and Harry Truman.

The most famous names do not always make for the most interesting documents, however. I am frequently asked if I have a favorite document within the collection. That is, perhaps, like asking someone to name their favorite song, which, for most people, is impossible to do. I can, however, think of a document that had a profound effect on me. About twelve years ago, I saw for the first time an 1863 poster of a sheriff’s slave sale in Boone County that listed two-year-old children for auction—Jack and Lizzie, along with the farm animals. I had once taught a class on antebellum slavery at Washington University, and had long since been aware of the break-up of slave families when white owners died. Finding this poster, as part of an ordinary probate estate file, made slavery seem much more immediate and heart-rending than the abstract discussions I read about in books. It also led me to appreciate the richness in probate records that I had largely ignored—something I discovered every genealogist already knew. Up to that point the Missouri State Archives had only peripherally worked on making court records available to the public. That quickly began to change—and court records, whether “humble” probate, circuit court or those of the Missouri Supreme Court, now make up the largest single documentary area in which we work.

We have other documents that might change your mind too. Why don’t you come and take a look?

See you in the Reading Room,

Kenneth H. Winn

State Archivist
Opening of Archives’ St. Louis Branch

The first branch of the Missouri State Archives to be located outside the capitol city was officially dedicated in St. Louis on June 26, 2006. The facility, professional staff, student interns and volunteers, outside funding, and legislation authorizing the Secretary of State to open the archives has been driven by the compelling nature of the St. Louis Circuit Court records. The documents – mostly from the nineteenth century and numbering four million pages – comprise Missouri’s largest collection of historically valuable records previously unknown by contemporary historians.

The documents take St. Louis from a small village on the edge of the American frontier through the city’s emergence as a Midwestern metropolis. Topics range from ordinary debt and land disputes to steamboats and immigration, slavery, the Civil War and Reconstruction. While the bulk of records range from 1804 to 1875, some documents predate 1800 and many reach to 1900. Records provide important information on the lives of several famous Missourians, such as St. Louis fur barons Auguste and Pierre Chouteau, U.S. Senator Thomas Hart Benton, Missouri Botanical Garden founder Henry Shaw, Civil War politicians Frank and Montgomery Blair, bridge builder James B. Eads and entrepreneur Adolphus Busch, Sr.

The collection’s Civil War records have recently received significant support with a $300,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to make cases related to the war available to the public prior to the war’s 2011 sesquicentennial. Additionally, preservation of these cases has been named a NEH “We the People” project — a special designation for efforts that significantly advance the study, teaching and understanding of American history. The initiative includes more than 230,000 pages of material. This enormous volume demonstrates how litigation exploded during the period with citizens suing over property confiscated or damaged by troops and bushwhackers. Other individuals fought for rights and liberties in response to the required administration of loyalty oaths.

Since 2001, many significant cases have been placed online. The first was the original Dred Scott case, followed by ninety-eight cases related to Meriwether Lewis, William Clark and additional members of the Corps of Discovery. The online availability of the Lewis & Clark records earned a “Legacy Award” from the Missouri Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission in 2002. Also, nearly three hundred cases involving slaves suing for freedom went online in 2003. This group of records is the largest single collection of freedom suits in the nation and has already proved an invaluable discovery by changing our understanding of slavery in St. Louis.

An annotated guide — only recently completed

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— is now available for the collection’s earliest records; with some 80,000 documents dating from 1804 to 1830. This tool, which will greatly enhance access, was made possible through the multi-year Save America’s Treasures grant, awarded for preservation and access of these early records.

The St. Louis Circuit Court Historical Records Project originated in 1999 as a partnership between the Office of the Secretary of State and St. Louis Circuit Clerk Mariano Favazza. The Circuit Clerk’s office has continually provided access to the records and made possible the recently-renovated space that houses the MSA-St. Louis. Over the years, additional institutions have joined the effort, largely through an Academic Advisory Committee with scholars and administrators from nine academic institutions helping to determine which records should be highlighted and assisting with general operations for the project. Washington University’s American Culture Studies Program works to maintain the project website; and Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, St. Louis University, the University of Missouri-St. Louis, and Washington University all encourage students to serve the project as interns. Early funding was provided by UMB Bank and the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, along with grants from the White House Millennium Council and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The collections held by the Missouri State Archives-St. Louis are limitless in their ability to teach us about the past. With “new” information being uncovered, long-held positions and opinions will be altered.

For more information about the Archives in St. Louis, please contact Supervising Archivist Michael Everman at (314) 588-1746 or michael.everman@sos.mo.gov.

Death Records Database

On April 6, 2006, the Archives unveiled its largest online project - more than two million death certificates dating from 1910 through 1955 - searchable by name, county, or month and year. The public response to this e-collection has been highly rewarding for Archives staff and volunteers, and the debut brought near staggering numbers of research and photocopy requests. Since then, the database has been accessed over two million times, and Archives reference staff have processed more than six thousand pieces of mail requesting copies of over twenty-four thousand records.

Offering more than the final sentiment of a relative or parent, death certificates can reveal valuable information for genealogists and historians on topics such as lineage and community, geography, movement and related occupations, and aid construction of the larger social history through individual records. For example, the death records reveal the year with the highest number of Missouri deaths to be 1918 – the same year as the world-wide influenza pandemic. Access and review of a certificate listing this cause of death for a relative alters what might have been only a heading in a history book to more realistic and immediate comprehension of such an event.

In addition to conclusions that can be drawn from crunching the numbers, the death records also reveal biographical details on famous individuals such as the notorious Frank James and James Gang outlaw Cole Younger, Kansas City political boss Tom Pendergast, St. Louis civil rights attorney Homer G. Phillips and past Missouri governors.

This project was made possible by over six hun-
dred volunteers from across the United States and around the world who contributed more than 27,000 hours to successfully complete extensive data entry. In addition to the index, digital images of certificates from 1910-1925 have been made available, and subsequent years will be added on a regular basis. The ability to access individual certificates will greatly benefit genealogists and scholars.

An important note to those seeking certified copies of birth and death records: please contact the Missouri Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Vital Records at (573) 751-6400. The Bureau has certificates of Missouri births from 1910 to present and maintains certificates of Missouri deaths less than fifty years old. The Archives holds death certificates that date more than fifty years, but cannot issue certified copies.

Visit the Missouri Death Certificates Project at: www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/deathcertificates/.

(TAH) grants support projects that raise student achievement by improving teachers' knowledge, understanding and appreciation of American history. Awards help local districts develop partnerships with organizations that have extensive content expertise – such as the Missouri State Archives – to design and implement professional development for teaching in new, exciting and engaging ways.

The Chillicothe TAH grant focuses on the study of World War II. Teachers have explored documentary evidence of the experience in Missouri through governors’ proclamations, executive orders, speeches and correspondence, and by reviewing several cases heard by the Missouri Supreme Court during war years.

In July, Archives staff members also supported a “Teaching American History” grant for educators in Cape Girardeau County. Senior Archivist Patsy Luebbert traveled to Southeast Missouri State University to work with teachers from the Jackson School District on research of Missouri and American history up to 1830. Patsy shared with grant recipients the multitude of Archives collections that can be used to enhance study of this period and also focused on available web-guides and indexes that are easy to use and supply a near endless quantity of historical material.

Missouri students can look forward to being the beneficiaries of their teachers’ increased knowledge levels and research skills developed through these Teaching American History grant projects.

Chillicothe Educators visit the Archives for “Teaching American History”

Teachers from the Chillicothe R-II School District visited the Archives in June as a grant-funded activity from the U.S. Department of Education’s “Teaching American History” program. “Teaching American History”
Report of the Annual Meeting

The Friends of the Missouri State Archives held their Annual Meeting on June 10, 2006 at the State Information Center. Attendees and supporters expressed enjoyment at being able to meet “at the Archives” and reviewed accomplishments of the past year while looking forward to upcoming projects. 2005-2006 was a very good year for the Friends with significant increases in the number and contributions of members. The trend appears solid for the future as more Missourians understand and appreciate the mission of the Friends’ organization.

Highlights included an appreciation of Ethel Hartman, who received the Volunteer Award for her work with the Death Records Project. Mrs. Hartman was the first in-house volunteer to work with the records and has given over two hundred hours to the project in the last year alone.

The Jonas Viles Award was presented to St. Louis Circuit Clerk Mariano Favazza for his enthusiastic support of the St. Louis Circuit Court Historical Records Project since 1999. This year, Mr. Favazza added to his record of generosity by providing renovated space suitable for the proper storage, treatment and study of this rich collection by professional archivists and historians. Recently, the location was designated a formal branch of the Missouri State Archives for continued preservation and access of the circuit court records, as well as additional state and local government collections from the St. Louis area.

The featured speaker was Robert Unger, a recipient of numerous awards and a Pulitzer Prize for investigative journalism. Unger discussed his book, The Union Station Massacre: The Original Sin of J. Edgar Hoover’s FBI. He has reported for both the Kansas City Star and Chicago Tribune, and currently serves as director of the Urban Journalism Program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Mormon History Conference and Commemoration in September

The Missouri State Archives and the Columbia Missouri Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will co-sponsor The Missouri Mormon Experience: From Conflict to Understanding on September 8 and 9 in Jefferson City. This event will bring together leading scholars of early Mormon history to offer insight into the conflicts that existed between Mormons and Missourians during the 1830s. Presenting scholars will include Brigham Young University faculty members Susan Easton Black, Grant Underwood, Richard Cowan and Alex Baugh, as well as well-known non-Mormon historians such as Jan Shipps of Indiana University, Missouri State Archivist Kenneth H. Winn and Ron Romig, archivist for the Community of Christ and specialist on Far West, Missouri. Secretary of State Robin Carnahan will also speak during the conference.

The conference is complemented by an Archives digitization project of numerous Mormon documents that will be unveiled this fall. The commemoration will also honor U.S. Senator Christo-
pher (Kit) Bond, who, while serving as governor, signed a proclamation rescinding the Extermination Order issued against Mormons in 1838.

September 1, 2006 is the deadline to register for this special academic and commemorative conference. Visit www.mormonhistory.org or call (573) 445-3239.

Donations to the Missouri State Archives

January – June 2006

Immigration, Family History and County Records

Arndt, Jean Dunbar:
Asaph Dunbar Travels, by Baxter Dunbar.

Callaway, Russell:
Callaway Family Research Data CD, by Russell Callaway.

Daniel, Karen Stein:
Three Generations of Descendants of Shapley Ross, by Karen Stein Daniel.

Davis, Patricia Schlabach:
The Life and Times of the Youngbloods, by Patricia Base Schlabach Davis.

Greene County Archives & Records Center:
Black Families of the Ozarks, Greene County.

Hankey, Roy W.:
The Family Hood, by Roy W. Hankey.

Henson, Alice:
Dating Old Photographs 1840-1929, by Family Chronicle.

Olson, Greg:
From Village to Neighborhood: A History of Old North St. Louis, by Miranda Rabus Rectenwald.

Orscheln, Frank:
The Orscheln Family Heritage, by Frank Orscheln.

Strickland, Leland:
The Low German Language of Concordia, Loose Creek and Westphalia, Missouri, compiled by Leland Steinkuehler.

Tilton, Elizabeth Foster:
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The Ancestry of David Foster II, by Elizabeth Foster Tilton.

Young, J.E.:
Index to the History of Henry and St. Clair Counties, Missouri 1883, compiled by The Printery.

Missouri/United States History

Stevens, Robert C.:

Thompson, Julius E.:

Worley, Ramona Cameron:
Sacajawea, 1788-1884, by Ramona Cameron Worley.

Donations to Friends of the Missouri State Archives

Contributions

Clara M. Bryant, Jefferson City
Faye Carter, Jefferson City
Richard and Laura Conley, Lohman
Dorothy H. Glassner, Jefferson City
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Charles and Gail Kulp, State College, PA
Eugene and Jane Schaub, Jefferson City

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Josephine Baker Patron 500 +
John M. Robinson III, St. Louis

Thomas Hart Benton Associate 100 +
Steve and Deborah Biermann, Sedalia
Gary B. Cowles, Pasadena, CA

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Summer 2006
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Victoria Myers, Jefferson City
Thelma S. Peters, Coolidge, AZ
Bob Snyder, Jefferson City
Mrs. Russell W. Sublette, Jefferson City

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Rosemarie Turner, Jefferson City
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Institutional Donor
Powers Museum, Carthage
Recent Accessions
February 2006 - June 2006

This accession listing is provided to the research community to advise it of recent Archives accessions of state and local government records. More detailed listings of the Missouri State Archives holdings are available at the Archives facility.

Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Branch Records

*Department of Corrections.*

*Department of Economic Development.*

*Missouri Court of Appeals.*

*Secretary of State.*
Records from the Administration of Secretary of State Rebecca McDowell Cook (1996-2000). 10 videotapes

*Elections*
State Board of Canvassers Reports. 2005-2006. 0.2 cubic ft.
Elections returns. Special elections returns for April 4, 2006 for Missouri State Senatorial District # 2 in St. Charles and Lincoln counties. 2006. 0.1 cubic ft.
Constitutional amendment re: sales and use tax. 2006. 0.1 cubic ft.

*Supreme Court of Missouri.*
Case Files (82279-86504). September 2004. 29 cubic ft.

County and Municipal Records

*Adair County.*
Circuit Court. Case Files. 1870-1873. 13 reels

*Barton County.*
Circuit Court. Case Files. 1978-2004. 13 reels

*Bates County.*
Circuit Court. Case Files. 1858-1871. 6 reels

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<td>Circuit Court. Naturalizations and Index. 1824-1905.</td>
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<td>Dent County</td>
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<td>Franklin County</td>
<td>City Clerk. Records. 2001-2002.</td>
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<td>Lafayette County</td>
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Summer 2006

Linn County.
Circuit Court. Records. 1838-1933. 53 reels

Macon County.

Madison County.
Fredericktown R-1 Public School District. School Board Minutes. 1884-1960. 4 reels

Mercer County.

Mississippi County.

Montgomery County.

Morgan County.

Osage County.
Circuit Court. Case Files. 1841-1980. 14 reels

Pemiscot County.

Platte County.
Probate Court. Wills. 1842-1971. 5 reels

Putnam

Ripley County.
Probate Court. Guardianship Files. 1876-1900. 82 reels
Register’s Office. Ordinances. 1968-2000. 83 reels

Saint Louis City.
Circuit Court. Case Files. 1980. 33 reels

Saint Louis County.
Circuit Court. Case Files and Index (Civil/Criminal). 1804-1830;
Case Files and Index (Chancery). 1811-1830. 116 reels

Sainte Genevieve County.

Stoddard County.
Circuit Court. Records (Little River Drainage District). 1903-1906. 89 reels

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Summer 2006
Reference (New Book) Accessions
January – June 2006

**Immigration, Family History and County Records**

*Joseph Robidoux The Family Patriarch*, by Clyde M. Rabideau.
*Tracing Ancestors Among the Five Civilized Tribes*, by Rachal Mills Lennon.

**Missouri/United States History**

*Becoming Laura Ingalls Wilder: The Woman Behind the Legend*, by John E. Miller.
*Black Life on the Mississippi; Slaves, Free Blacks, and the Western Steamboat World*, by Thomas C. Buchanan.
*Bulwark of the Republic: The American Militia in Antebellum West*, by Mary Ellen Rowe.
*Slave Narratives Missouri*, prepared by the Federal Writers Project of the Works Progress Administration for the State of Missouri.
*Take Up the Black Man’s Burden*, by Charles E. Coulter.

**Military History**

*History Wars: The Enola Gay and Other Battles for the American Past*, by Edward T. Linenthal.

**Miscellaneous**

*Managing Archives and Archival Institutions*, edited by James Gregory Bradsher.
*On the Road Again: Developing and Managing Traveling Exhibitions*, by Rebecca A. Buck.
*Public History: An Introduction*, edited by Barbara J. Howe and Emory L. Kemp.
*The Evolution of an Exhibit: Community Museums and Traveling Exhibits*, by Ruth Freeman.
The 2006 African American History Intern is Marlin Christopher Barber. Marlin received a B.A. in History and an M.S. in Mass Communication from Murray State University in Kentucky. He also earned an M.A. in History from the University of Houston-Clear Lake, where he wrote his thesis on free blacks in St. Louis and Philadelphia during the period 1850-1860. He is currently in the doctoral program at the University of Missouri-Columbia and is concentrating on 19th century United States and African American History.

The 2006 Supreme Court of Missouri Historical Society Interns are Ryan Stockwell and William M. (Mike) Snodgrass. Ryan is a doctoral student at the University of Missouri-Columbia where he is researching Missouri farmers, technological changes, and cultural and political response to change in the post World War II period.

Mike is also a doctoral student in American History at the University of Missouri-Columbia; his Master’s thesis focused on the Panic of 1819.

Archives’ Traveling Exhibits Schedule

The following Archives’ exhibits, previously opened at the Kirkpatrick State Information Center, are now traveling to locations as noted. Please contact the host facility for specific days and times when exhibits will be accessible for viewing.

Mapping Missouri

Henry County Library—July through August 2006
123 East Green Street
Clinton, Missouri 64735
(660) 885-2612

Current River Heritage Museum—September through October 2006
101 Washington
Doniphan, Missouri 63935
(573) 996-5298

St. Louis County Public Library—November 2006
Headquarters Branch
1640 South Lindbergh Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63131
(314) 994-3300

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Verdict of History: Examining Missouri’s Judicial Records

*Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse— mid-August through mid-November 2006*
111 South 10th Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63102
(314) 244-2727

Ticket to the Past: The First 25 Years of the Missouri State Fair

*Little Dixie Regional Library— September through November 2006*
Moberly Branch
111 North Fourth Street
Moberly, Missouri 65270
(660) 263-4426

Hannibal Free Public Library— December 2006 through February 2007
200 South 5th Street
Hannibal, Missouri 63401
(573) 221-0227

Lewis & Clark Across Missouri: Mapping the Historic Landscape

*Sweet Springs Historical Society— mid-July through mid-August 2006*
104 Ray Street
Sweet Springs, Missouri 65351
(660) 335-6862

Summer-Fall Program Calendar

**September 21, 2006, 7:00 p.m.— In the Spirit of Yellow Eyes, A Cultural Legacy**
Dorothy Éiken, an enrolled member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, will discuss the many ways she connects with her past as an artist, through traditional Sioux history, Lakota culture and Native American spirituality. Special focus will be given to the memory of her great, great grandmother, Yellow Eyes, who was with Sitting Bull at the Battle of Little Bighorn, fled with him to Canada in 1877 and accompanied him on his return to this country and subsequent surrender in 1881. Tribal historians describe Yellow Eyes as an informant for Sitting Bull and as a colorful and important character of the Hunkpapa band of the Sioux tribe.

Éiken has had numerous showings of her art and has received awards for her work in photojournalism and documentary productions. She often speaks throughout Missouri to promote greater understanding of Indian Culture in North America prior to European influence.

**October 14, 2006, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**  
**Summit Lake Winery— Antiques Appraisal Show**

The Friends of the Missouri State Archives will host an antique appraisal with the aid of experts from Ivey-Selkirk Auctioneers and Appraisers. As the second oldest auction house in the United States – a St. Louis tradition since 1830 – Ivey-Selkirk enjoys a reputation for personal attention, international exposure and midwestern sensibilities. So bring your antiques, collectibles, works of art or mystery items to receive a professional opinion on their worth from some of the best in the business. Fees for appraisal will run $5 per item or two items for $8, with a limit of two items per person. Please bring a photograph of very large...
pieces. All proceeds benefit the Friends.

Through the generosity of Summit Lake Winery, a free wine tasting will be offered with wine and lunch specials for purchase.

November 16, 2006, 7:00 p.m.—Reflections on the Kansas City Riot of 1968

The Reverend David K. Fly was ordained to the Episcopal priesthood in 1966 and began his ministry as Canon Pastor of Grace and Holy Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Kansas City, Missouri. Fly served in urban, rural and campus ministries throughout the Midwest, and, since his retirement in 1998, has been writing about his experiences. Fly’s article, “An Episcopal Priest’s Reflections on the Kansas City Riot of 1968,” was recently published in the January 2006 Missouri Historical Review, and this work will be the topic of his presentation. He has also completed a full memoir, Faces of Faith—Reflections in a Rearview Mirror. A resident of Rolla, Missouri, Rev. Fly and his wife currently lead national pre-retirement conferences for Episcopal clergy and their spouses.

December 7, 2006, 7:00 p.m.—Missouri Memories: A History in Photographs

A permanent display of eighty historic images has been installed throughout the Kirkpatrick State Information Center. The official opening of this exhibit on December 7th will include remarks by State Archivist Kenneth Winn, Visual Image Archivist Laura Jolley and Curator of Exhibits and Special Projects Greg Olson and will include guided tours and refreshments. Images focus on Missouri’s old-time agricultural practices and charming photographs of small-town life. Other themes include the building of Bagnell Dam, the emergence of Lake of the Ozarks as a recreational and tourist attraction and a history of transportation in Missouri, from steamboats to the “modern” automobile assembly lines of the 1950s. Images were selected from the Archives’ collection of more than 400,000 photographs covering over one hundred years of Missouri history. Each exhibit piece is sure to show the viewer something new, reminding us of the way life used to be.
Become a Member of the Friends of the Missouri State Archives!

With the support of its "Friends," the Missouri State Archives fosters an appreciation of Missouri history with educational and entertaining programs, and makes available materials from the state's largest collection of original documents, maps, and photographs to the public. Members receive Missouri State Archives: Where History Begins.

Yes, I want to support an appreciation of Missouri's heritage by assisting the Friends of the Missouri State Archives

☐ $25 Lewis and Clark Friend

☐ $50 Mark Twain Contributor
   Membership benefits: One set of Historical Trademarks Notecards

☐ $75 Daniel Boone Supporter
   Membership benefits: The above, plus a "Care of Photographs Kit"

☐ $100 Thomas Hart Benton Associate
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   ○ Jesse James and the Civil War in Missouri by Robert L. Dyer OR
   ○ German Settlement in Missouri: New Land, Old Ways by Robyn Burnett & Ken Luebbering

☐ $500 Josephine Baker Patron
   Membership benefits: All of the above plus two tickets to Wine by the Fire

☐ $1000 Alexander McNair Society
   Membership benefits: All of the above plus the Dictionary of Missouri Biography and
   a behind-the-scenes-tour with the State Archivist

Instead of a membership, enclosed is my tax-deductible donation:

☐ Contribution Only

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"Where History Begins"

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