



PRIMARY SOURCE DOCUMENTS AT THE MISSOURI STATE ARCHIVES

Relating to the 2026 National History Day Theme

Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History

The Missouri State Archives is the official repository for state records of permanent and historical value. It has many unique resources that are available to research Missouri topics for National History Day projects. Below are just a few suggestions to help select a project. Not all of the resources available on a specific topic may be included.

Finding aids are available for many resources at the Missouri State Archives. They are online at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/findingaids/default>.

When citing records from the Missouri State Archives, please use the following link for reference: <http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/citations>.

Missouri Digital Heritage (MDH) is a collaborative portal that allows access to over 9 million digitized records from Missouri's historical collections. You can find MDH at <https://www.sos.mo.gov/mdh>.

For more information on the collections contact Missouri State Archives reference at archives@sos.mo.gov or call (573) 751-3280.

Always check your public library for secondary sources on any topic you choose to research.

Contents:

African American History // The Civil War // Courts and Constitution // Human Rights //
Missouri History // Native American History // Natural Resources // Women's History

Key: **BROAD TOPIC** SUB-SECTION Subject Resource

- Revolution
- Reaction
- ◆ Reform

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

CIVIL RIGHTS

Desegregation ●◆

After school segregation was declared unconstitutional in *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), Missouri's schools were integrated. All children have an equal right to a quality public education.

- Kansas City, MO Public Schools
<https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/findingaids/RG747.01KCMSDCourtRecords.pdf>
- Public Schools desegregation
<https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/findingaids/RG105.01KansasCityPublicSchoolsDesegregation.pdf>
- SEE "COURTS AND CONSTITUTION" FOR RELEVANT CASES

The Murder of Cleo Wright ◆

Cleo Wright was lynched in Sikeston, Missouri during the afternoon of January 25, 1942. His death led to the first federal investigation into a civil rights case.

- MSP records (Register book and mugshot) available in Reference
- Books on subject in reference library

Urban League of Kansas City Photograph Collection

The Urban League of Kansas City was founded in 1919 and is part of the National Urban League, a community-based organization promoting civil rights and educational, personal and economic development for African Americans. The 91 photographs in this collection illustrate the early years of the Urban League of Kansas City, ca. 1922-1959. Subjects include conventions and meetings, training and education, health services, summer camps and athletics.

- Online Database:
https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/mdh_splash/default.asp?coll=kcurbanleague

See "Civil War" for topics related to *SLAVERY*

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Walthall Moore ●◆

Elected as a Representative from St. Louis, Moore became the first African American to serve in the Missouri legislature in 1920. He served two additional terms.

- Missouri Blue Book, 1921-1922, Portrait -
<https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/bluebook/id/11611/rec/23>
- Missouri Blue Book, 1921-1922, Biography -
<https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/bluebook/id/11614/rec/23>
- Dictionary of Missouri Biography
- Death Certificate
https://www.sos.mo.gov/images/archives/deathcerts/1960/1960_00017162.PDF
- 1920 Election Results -
<https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/bluebook/id/12031/rec/23>

DeVerne Calloway ♦◆

Became the first African American woman elected to a state office when she was elected to the Missouri House of Representatives in 1962.

- Blue Book Biography:
<https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/bluebook/id/35497/rec/44>
- Declaration of Candidacy – Available in person at MSA
- 1962 Election Results (Blue Book):
<https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/bluebook/id/36565/rec/44>

THE CIVIL WAR IN MISSOURICivil War in Missouri ♦◆

This collection combines non-governmental resources from several manuscript collections at the Missouri State Archives. The items vary from original correspondence and documents to photographs, newspapers and illustrations that represent both civilians and soldiers. Elements of the following manuscript collections are included:

- MS014 United Daughters of the Confederacy Winnie Davis Chapter Collection
 - https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/manuscripts/RG998_MS014.pdf
- MS107 Weller Family Letter
 - https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/manuscripts/RG998_MS107.pdf
- MS169 Confederate Currency
- MS247 Edward Newton Civil War Correspondence Collection
 - https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/manuscripts/RG998_MS247.pdf
- MS368 State Archivist Collection
 - https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/manuscripts/RG998_MS368.pdf
- MS404 Civil War Reunion Photographs
 - https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/manuscripts/RG998_MS404.pdf
- MS456 James Sullivan Civil War Collection
 - https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/manuscripts/RG998_MS456.pdf
- MS469 Civil War Portrait Collection
- MS482 Miscellaneous Missouri Photograph Collection
 - https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/manuscripts/RG998_MS482.pdf
- MS505 Dennis W. Belcher Civil War Collection
 - https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/manuscripts/RG998_MS505.pdf
- MS515 Frank Wallemann Civil War Collection
 - https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/manuscripts/RG998_MS515.pdf
- RG133 Adjutant General
 - <https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/findingaids/default#133>
- Link to the online database:
<https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p16795coll39>

Missouri's Union Provost Marshal Papers: 1861 – 1866

- Records of the Provost Marshal
 - The collection details how the provost marshal affected the lives of citizens who came into contact with the Union Army. In addition to a resource for military research, the provost marshal papers provide information about the role of women

during the war, its effect on slavery, and the difficulties experienced by war refugees. The documents include correspondence, provost marshal court papers, orders, passes, paroles, oaths of allegiance to the United States, transportation permits, and claims for compensation for property used or destroyed by military forces.

- Records of the Adjutant General's Office
 - Consisting exclusively of bound volumes, these records document the recruitment of African Americans for the United States Colored Troops (USCT) under General Order 135, November 14, 1863. This order authorized the provost marshals throughout Missouri to recruit slaves and free blacks and to compensate loyal slave owners up to \$300 for each slave they allowed to enlist.
 - Descriptive Lists for USCT (indexed in Provost Marshal database):
<https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/provost/provostPDF>
- Missouri Provost Marshal Database:
<https://s1.sos.mo.gov/Records/Archives/ArchivesDb/provost/>
- Provost Marshal Files of Individual Citizens (available for free with a free account via FamilySearch): <https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1834304>
- Provost Marshal Files of Two or More Citizens (available for free using the Frame and File number from the Provost Marshal's database):
<https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/provost/provostPDF>
- Courts Martial Records, Missouri State Penitentiary:
<https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/findingaids/rg213.03.pdf>
 - Records of (primarily civil war related) military prisoners held at the Missouri State Penitentiary

Reconstruction ●■◆

Following the Civil War, the Missouri General Assembly was controlled by members of the Radical Republican party. When a new constitutional convention was called in 1865, Radical Republican Charles Drake persuaded delegates to include a loyalty oath to the union in their new constitution. On April 8th, 1865, the Drake Constitution was adopted, calling for all public officials to swear they were never disloyal to the Union.

- Darke Constitution
- Delegation ballots from the Constitutional Conventions
- Ordinance of Confiscation

SLAVERY

The Dred Scott Decision (1857) ●■◆

Dred Scott, a slave, who had lived in the free state of Illinois and the free territory of Wisconsin before returning to the slave state of Missouri, sued for his emancipation (freedom). The case, which started in the Old Courthouse in St. Louis, went all the way to the US Supreme Court, where in 1857, Chief Justice Roger B. Taney declared that all blacks -- slaves as well as free -- were not and could not ever become citizens of the United States. The court also declared the 1820 Missouri Compromise unconstitutional, thus permitting slavery in all of the country's territories. This case deepened the conflict between free and slave states, and helped to move the country toward the Civil War.

- Case File and related information - Vertical Files – Reading Room
- St. Louis Circuit Court Case
 - <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/Records/Archives/ArchivesDb/JudicialRecords/Detail.aspx?id=523866>
 - <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/Records/Archives/ArchivesDb/JudicialRecords/Detail.aspx?id=523867>
- MO Supreme Court Case
 - 1848 Case – Emerson, Irene v. Scott, Dred and Scott, Harriet - <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/Records/Archives/ArchivesDb/supremecourt/Detail.aspx?id=13560>
 - 1852 Case – Scott, Dred v. Emerson, Irene - <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/Records/Archives/ArchivesDb/supremecourt/Detail.aspx?id=13567>
- U.S. Supreme Court Case - <https://www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/dred-scott-v-sanford>
- Missouri's Dred Scott Case, 1846-1857, Missouri State Archives - <https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/africanamerican/scott/scott>
- *Slavery, Law and Politics: The Dred Scott Case in Historical Perspectives*, Dan E. Fehrenbacher (R346.7301 F322) – Archives Reading Room
- *They Have No Rights: Dred Scott's Struggle for freedom*, Walter Ehrlich (R346.73 Eh89) – Reading Room
- *Dred Scott: A Brief History with Documents*, Paul Finkleman (R342.73 F4957) – Reading Room
- *Old Courthouse* web page on Dred Scott case *Library of Congress* web page – Primary documents – Dred Scott v. Sanford <https://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/DredScott.html>

Freedom Suits ●■◆

The Missouri State Archives has many freedom suits that occurred before Dred Scott. Information about these lawsuits may be accessed through the Supreme Court database (<https://s1.sos.mo.gov/Records/Archives/ArchivesDb/supremecourt/>) and the Judicial Database (<https://s1.sos.mo.gov/Records/Archives/ArchivesDb/JudicialRecords/>). Using “freedom” as a keyword will bring up many cases statewide.

- Winnie v. Whitesides, 1824 - 1st Freedom suit case heard by the Missouri Supreme Court. <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/Records/Archives/ArchivesDb/supremecourt/Detail.aspx?id=2849>
- Freedom Suits Memorial Foundation - Information on St. Louis Freedom suits including list of plaintiffs and links to the St. Louis Circuit Court case files: <https://stlfreesuits.org/>
- Washington University Freedom Suits Project (<https://library.wustl.edu/research-support/digital-projects/stl-circuit-court-records/>)

Missouri Compromise ■◆

In 1820, amid growing sectional tensions over the issue of slavery, the U.S. Congress passed a law that admitted Missouri to the Union as a slave state and Maine as a free state, while banning slavery from the remaining Louisiana Purchase lands located north of the 36° 30' parallel. The

Missouri Compromise would remain in force for just over 30 years before it was repealed by the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854. In 1857, the Supreme Court ruled the compromise unconstitutional in the Dred Scott case, setting the stage for the nation's final path toward the Civil War (see "The Dred Scott Decision," listed above).

Missouri's 1820 Constitution:

<https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p16795coll1/id/41/rec/1>

- **MISSOURI COMPROMISE REMONSTRANCE:** A grand jury of the St. Charles Circuit Court was one of seven in Missouri that protested Congressional restriction of state's rights in the Missouri Compromise by citing a "declaration of American rights, the constitution of the United States, the treaty of Cession [Louisiana Purchase], and the blood of our fathers who achieved our independence."

Missouri-Kansas Border War

The struggle over the fate of slavery in Kansas Territory and erupted into partisan bloodshed in 1856. The rising number of fugitive slaves and tensions fueled by vengeful irregular violence swept across the border and threatened to push the leaders of Missouri and Kansas toward open warfare. The start of the national Civil War in 1861 brought even greater devastation, wrought less by the scattered battles between Union and Confederate armies than the widespread guerrilla war that raged through 1865, destroying several communities and displacing thousands of families showing the breakdown of diplomacy and its consequences. (SEE "MISSOURI HISTORY" FOR *VIGILANTES*)

- Special Collections RG 5.32 MO-KS Border War, 1858-1862 (on disk)
- Papers of Governor Robert Marcellus Stewart:
https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/mdh_splash/default.asp?coll=rmstewart
- Civil War on the Western Border, Kansas City Public Library (has some individual items from cases relating to the Border War held at MSA) -
<https://civilwaronthewesternborder.org/>
- Wyllys C. Ransom vs. George C. Bingham (available in person at MSA)
 - Wyllys C. Ransom vs. George C. Bingham: These documents, created between 1866 and 1867, relate to the Jackson County, Missouri court case Wyllys C. Ransom vs. George C. Bingham. Ransom accuses Bingham of slander, asserting that Bingham publicly and repeatedly said he was a "murderer, robber, thief and a house burner" during the Civil War. Portions of testimony are from Ransom's fellow officers in the Kansas Volunteers. Ransom seeks \$30,000 in damages.
- John C. Caldwell vs. Richard H. Porter (available in person at MSA)
 - John C. Caldwell vs. Richard H. Porter: These documents, created between 1855 and 1857, relate to the Jackson County, Missouri court case John C. Caldwell vs. Richard H. Porter. On January 1, 1855, Caldwell purchased a slave named Eliza for \$800 from slave dealer Clifton R. Barnes with plans to sell her for a profit in Louisiana. Caldwell later discovered that Eliza was "unsound both in body and mind" and accused Barnes of "fraud and willful misrepresentation." Caldwell took Eliza back to Missouri but Barnes refused to rescind the sales contract.

- State vs. Thomas Brown (available in person at MSA)
 - State vs. Thomas Brown: These documents, created between 1855 and 1856, relate to the Jackson County, Missouri court case State vs. Thomas Brown. Brown is accused of attempting to take four slaves out of Missouri with the intention of procuring their freedom. The slaves were caught in DeKalb County, Missouri in November 1855; a witness recounts that “Brown stated he took those Negroes for the love he had for them.” In a signed statement dated November 28, 1855, Thomas Brown pleads guilty to the charges.
- Southwest Expedition
 - In 1860, Governor Stewart received calls for aid and protection along the Missouri/Kansas border. He sent a force of Missouri militiamen called the Southwest Expedition to Vernon County.
 - Muster Rolls, 1860-1862, S934
 - Account Book, 1860-1862, S1021

COURTS AND CONSTITUTION

SEE “CIVIL WAR – SLAVERY” FOR *DRED SCOTT* AND *OTHER FREEDOM SUITS*

The Missouri Plan ■◆

In reaction to the corruption in Kansas City government caused by the Pendergast Gang, The Missouri Plan was created. This revolutionary system reformed the judicial system for non-partisan judges, and has become a model for other states.

- Missouri Courts State Docs
- Kansas City Charter/county charters for counties w/non-partisan court plan (RG 5)
- Supreme Court orders

US SUPREME COURT CASES ORIGINATING FROM MISSOURI

Shelley vs. Kraemer (1946) ■◆

Missouri Supreme Court Case that involved the Shelley family who bought a home in a neighborhood in which a majority of the property owners had signed a restrictive covenant. The covenant stated that no home was to be sold to any person who was black, which led to the suit by the neighborhood to undo the sale of the property to Shelley. The case went to the United States Supreme Court.

- Missouri Supreme Court – September 1946: Shelley vs. Kraemer SC40692, available in person at MSA
- Department of Natural Resources – National Historic Register Places: NRSLC151 – Shelley House – St. Louis
(<https://mostateparks.com/sites/mostateparks/files/Shelley%20House.pdf>)
- Vertical File – Archives Reference: Shelley vs. Kraemer, available in person at MSA

Jones v. Mayer (1968) ■◆

Jones, a black man, charged that a real estate company in Missouri's St. Louis County refused to sell him a home in a particular neighborhood on account of his race.

The Court sided with Jones and held that Section 1982 of the congressional act was intended to

prohibit all discrimination against blacks in the sale and rental of property, including governmental and private discrimination. Furthermore, the Thirteenth Amendment's enforcement section empowered Congress to eliminate racial barriers to the acquisition of property since those barriers constituted "badges and incidents of slavery."

- U.S. Supreme Court, 392 US 409 (1968) - <https://www.loc.gov/item/usrep392409/>

Wheeler vs. Barrera (1974) ■◆

Regarding use of Title I funds for special instruction programs, such as remedial reading, in nonpublic schools.

- RG105.03 DESE Division of Instruction:
<https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/findingaids/RG105.03.pdf>

Cruzan v Director, Missouri Department of Health ●◆

United States Supreme Court case that led to the creation of advanced health directives. It was a landmark decision in the "right to die".

- Missouri Supreme Court – SC70813, available in person at MSA
- U.S. Supreme Court, 439 U.S. 357 - <https://www.loc.gov/item/usrep497261/>

Duren v. Missouri (1977) ◆

United States Supreme Court case related to the Sixth Amendment. It challenged Missouri's law allowing gender-based exemption from jury service.

- Missouri Supreme Court – SC59914, (556 S.W.2d 11 (1977), available in person at MSA
- U.S. Supreme Court, 497 U.S. 261 - <https://www.loc.gov/item/usrep439357/>

MISSOURI SUPREME COURT CASES

Ester vs. Clamorgan (1809) and Ester vs. Carr – Missouri Supreme Court (Territory of Missouri)



Jacques Clamorgan gave Ester, a freed slave, land in and around the area of Laclede's Landing. He took the land from Ester, when Missouri became a territory. Ester sued Clamorgan and won the return of her land in a series of court cases.

- Ester v. Clamorgan, Territorial Court Case Files, RD24, Folder 14 – available in person at MSA
- Esther v. Carr, Missouri Supreme Court, 1842 –
 - <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/Records/Archives/ArchivesDb/supremecourt/Detail.aspx?id=1190>
 - <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/Records/Archives/ArchivesDb/supremecourt/Detail.aspx?id=11102>
- Corbett, Katharine T. *In Her Place: A Guide to St. Louis Women's History*. St. Louis: Missouri Historical Society Press, 1999. (Located in the Archives Reading Room)

Standard Oil v. Missouri (1912) ■◆

Anti-trust case

(STATE ex inf. HADLEY, Atty. Gen., v. STANDARD OIL CO. et al.)

- Missouri Supreme Court – 218 Mo. 1 -
<https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p16795coll33/id/148782/rec/219>

- US Supreme Court – 224 U.S. 270 (1912) - <https://www.loc.gov/item/usrep224270/>

Gaines vs. Canada (1937) ●■

Missouri Supreme Court Case - University of Missouri denied Lloyd Gaines admission to the University's law school because he was black. The case went to the United States Supreme Court.

- Missouri Supreme Court – September 1937: Gaines vs. Canada SC36235
- Vertical File – Reference: Gaines vs. Canada
- Circuit court case file (Boone County Circuit)
- Supreme Court Opinion: <https://tile.loc.gov/storage-services/service/ll/usrep/usrep305/usrep305337/usrep305337.pdf>

Bluford vs. Canada (1941) ●■

Missouri Supreme Court Case - University of Missouri denied Lucille Bluford to the University's School of Journalism because she was black.

- Missouri Supreme Court – May 1941: Bluford vs. Canada SC38316
- Vertical File – Archives Reference: Bluford vs. Canada

HUMAN RIGHTS

Commission on Human Rights ■◆

- The Missouri Commission on Human Rights is charged with providing equitable and timely resolutions of discrimination claims through enforcement of the Missouri Human Rights Act. It was instrumental in documenting the reality of racial discrimination in Missouri and contribution to the Civil Rights movement. Established in 1957, the Commission is under control of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.
 - RG 328 Missouri Commission on Human Rights
 - Minutes of Commission Meetings, December 6, 1963—May 26, 1979
 - Publications and Legislation, 1960—1972
 - Scrapbooks, 1958—1975
 - Labor and Industrial Relations
 - Untitled Series
- RG 108 Labor and Industrial Relations, Missouri Commission on Human Rights, boxes 1-4. Materials from MCHR created during Richard J. Chaumier's term 1968 – 1972; there are some restricted Files.
- RG 3.46 Office of Governor, Warren Eastman Hearnes, 1965-1973, box 118. Human Rights Commission, 1965-1972.
- Human Rights Commission Annual Reports, available in person at MSA or for some earlier editions available online via HathiTrust: <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/mb?a=listis;c=2002322129>

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Child Labor ◆

Throughout history, children have found themselves in the position of caretaker to their family. Restrictions on child labor has led to improvements in Rights and advocacy for children, as well as improvement of safety measures in the workplace.

- Children's Code (Laws, General Assembly, 1919 petition)
- Children's Code Commission Reports (1918, 1939, 1945) – Office of the Governor State Documents Collection
 - 1946 Report – Miscellaneous Commissions State Documents Collection
 - 1919 Report – Missouri General Assembly State Documents Collection
- Office of the Governor State Documents Collection
 - Missouri Laws Affecting Children and Youth (1973, 1982, 1986)
- Annual Bureau of Labor statistics and reports (“Red Book”) - <https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/redbk>

Foster Care and Welfare ■◆

The state plays a roles in the protection of children from harm, including: crime, abuse and neglect, and maltreatment.

- Department of Social Services state documents, annual reports
- Department of Corrections state documents
 - State Board of Charities
 - Corrections biennial reports, bulletins, and conference reports
- MS 278 Urban League of Kansas City Collection
 - https://sl.sos.mo.gov/archives/mdh_splash/default.asp?coll=kcurbanleague
- RG 225-227 Missouri's Training Schools for Boys and Girls
- Missouri State Home for Neglected Children/Children's Bureau Reports to General Assembly, SJ 1935, SJ 1937
 - 1935 Report: <https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/senatej/id/132340/rec/1>
 - 1937 Report: <https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/senatej/id/126647/rec/1>

Juvenile Justice Reform

See Prison Reform Section

HEALTH

Disability Advocacy ●◆

The Americans with Disabilities Act guarantees that people with disabilities have the same opportunities as everyone else to: be employed, purchase goods and services, and participate in state and local governments. These records demonstrate the attitude and responsibility of the state toward disabled individuals, and the reform of facilities for the disabled over time:

- Governor's Council on Disability
- State Hospital Annual Reports
- Marshall State School biennial reports and newsletters
- Missouri School for the Deaf, and Missouri School for the Blind newsletters and biennial reports

- Some early state school and state hospital reports included in the appendices to the House and Senate Journals:
https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/mdh_splash/default?coll=housesenatejrnl
- MO Commission on Human Rights (see above)

Mental Health

Missouri State Hospital ■◆

In 1847, the Missouri General Assembly voted to establish an asylum for the mentally ill in Central Missouri. Callaway County won the bid to build the hospital, and in 1851, the Fulton State Hospital opened as the first public mental hospital west of the Mississippi River.

- Governors Papers – Gov. Thomas Reynolds and Gov. Meredith M. Marmaduke
 - Thomas Reynolds:
https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/mdh_splash/default.asp?coll=treynolds
 - Meredith Marmaduke:
https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/mdh_splash/default.asp?coll=marmaduke
- House and Senate Journals:
https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/mdh_splash/default?coll=housesenatejrnl
- *Evolution of a Missouri Asylum* Presentation
 - https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/presentations/ap_transcripts/sthosp
- Photograph Collections – Missouri Digital Heritage
- State Hospital Annual Reports
 - Some early state hospital reports included in the appendices to the House and Senate Journals:
https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/mdh_splash/default?coll=housesenatejrnl

PRISON REFORM

Missouri State Penitentiary

- Katherine Richards O'Hare ●◆◆
 - Katherine (Kate) Richards O'Hare worked to improve prison conditions after spending time in the Missouri State Penitentiary for violating the Espionage Act after giving an anti-war speech in 1919
 - Digital photos in Criminals and Inmates (Kate Richards O'Hare)
 - Missouri State Penitentiary Database (Kate Richards O'Hare)
<http://s1.sos.mo.gov/records/archives/archivesdb/msp/Detail.aspx?id=42503>
 - Books in Reference
 - Collection of Kate's letters available for view in Reference
- State Penitentiary Riot ●◆◆
 - Interview between Blunt and Kramer discussing the riot (1989)
 - Report and Recommendations from Governor's office
 - Highway patrol footage from riot
- Department of Corrections Collection
- Department of Corrections State Documents Collection:

<https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/findingaids/RG000.114.pdf>

- Mark Schreiber Collection (modern historic records):
<https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p16795coll31>
- Missouri State Penitentiary Collection

Juvenile Penal Reform ●■◆

Missouri was one of the first states to move away from the high-security, strict detention of juvenile offenders. The model of rehabilitation and community building among incarcerated minors has been applied to several states. Missouri was also one of the first states to create statewide juvenile courts.

- *A Very Special Place in Life: The History of Juvenile Justice in Missouri* by Douglas E. Abrams,
https://scholarship.law.missouri.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1000&context=fac_books
- *Celebrating 100 Years of Juvenile Justice in Missouri 1903-2003* -
<https://mija.org/images/resources/publications/100Years.pdf>
- *Facing Problems, Missouri revamped juvenile justice*, Dec. 18, 2016, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Article - <https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/investigations/2016/12/18/facing-problems-missouri-revamped-juvenile-justice/95395960/>
- *Laws of Missouri* - <https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/molaws>
 - 1903 – Missouri’s first Juvenile Court created in St. Louis and Jackson County only
 - 1911 - added juvenile courts to all counties
 - 1917 – Juvenile court law – all remaining counties get juvenile courts
 - 1957 – created a unified courts system so all juvenile courts around the state operate the same.
- Children’s Code Commission Reports (1918, 1939, 1945) – Office of the Governor State Documents Collection
 - 1946 Report – Miscellaneous Commissions State Documents Collection
 - 1919 Report – Missouri General Assembly State Documents Collection
- Office of the Governor State Documents Collection
 - Missouri Laws Affecting Children and Youth (1973, 1982, 1986)
- Missouri General Assembly State Documents Collection
 - Justice for Children: The Interim Report of the Judiciary Subcommittees on Juvenile Justice, March 1979
- Department of Public Safety State Documents Collection
 - Juvenile Justice in Missouri: A Report of the Task Force on Juvenile Delinquency, 1972
 - First Governor’s Conference on Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency, 1972
 - Second Governor’s Conference on Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency, 1973
 - A Selected Bibliography: Police Work with Juveniles, 1974
 - Missouri Conference on Juvenile Justice (1974-1975)
 - Survey of Juvenile Detention in Missouri, 1977
 - Missouri Juvenile Justice Review Committee (1980s)
- Missouri Courts State Documents Collection
 - Missouri Juvenile and Family Division Annual Reports, 2013-2023

- Report of the Juvenile Court and Probation Office, St. Louis, 1930
- Annual Report: Juvenile Court, 26th Judicial Circuit, 1984
- Department of Corrections State Documents Collection
 - State Board of Charities and Corrections Biennial Reports, 1899-1932 (including juvenile courts and state training and industrial Schools)
 - State Board of Training Schools Annual Reports (1947-1973)
 - Boonville Training School for Boys Publications (1897-1989)
 - Chillicothe Training School for Girls Publications (1890-1963)
- RG 225 Missouri Training School for Boys (Boonville)
- RG 226 Missouri Training School for Girls (Chillicothe)
- RG 227 State Home for Negro Girls (Tipton)
- Supreme Court Cases
 - Ex Parte Loving ([178 Mo 194](#)) – 8 year old James Loving, sentenced to two years at Boonville for petit larceny, challenged the new juvenile court law, but it was upheld by the Supreme Court.

Capital Punishment ■◆

Capital punishment is a contentious issue in the United States, with laws and methods varying across the United States. It is a penalty that provokes reactions and has seen levels of reform. In Missouri, capital punishment predates statehood. Per capita, Missouri performs the third most executions, behind Oklahoma and Texas. (Some of our records below may be restricted)

- Capital punishment register
- Record of executions (1938-1982)
- Case files of death row inmates (1938-1965)

WORKER'S RIGHTS

Bureau of Labor and Statistics - The Red Book

First published in 1879, the Bureau of Labor and Statistics Annual Report serves as a resource for providing information about Missouri's history of industry and labor. This collection is comprised of annual reports dating from 1879 to 2004. These reports detail the history of labor in the state of Missouri. Information on a wide variety of subjects including child labor, convict labor, unionized labor, coal mining, and statistics relating to labor during the World Wars can be found in these reports.

- Link to the online collection: <https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/redbk>

MISSOURI HISTORY

Hyatt Skywalk Collapse ■◆

On July 17th, 1981, two overhead walkways in the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Kansas City collapsed, killing over 100 people and injuring 200+ more. People operate under a presumed right to safety, and it is the responsibility of construction/architecture and corporations to maintain that safety.

- MS 519 Hyatt Skywalk Collapse:

https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/manuscripts/RG998_MS519.pdf

The Mormon War ●■◆

Commonly – and incorrectly – referred to as Executive Order 44, the Mormon Extermination Order was issued in 1838 by Governor Lilburn Boggs in response to clashes between the Mormon community of Caldwell County and the state militia for years leading up to the order. The modern consensus is the order was used by the state to justify the violent actions of that time period.

- Order - https://www.sos.mo.gov/cmsimages/archives/resources/findingaids/miscMormRecs/eo/18381027_ExtermOrder.pdf
- Online collection: <https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/mormon.asp>

James Brothers ●■

Jesse and Frank James are two of the most prolific criminals in American history. The James-Younger gang terrorized citizens by committing train robberies, looting banks, and committing murders.

- Governor Crittenden's proclamation calling for the capture of the James brothers dead or alive
- Frank James pardon
- Frank James death certificate

Good Roads Movement ■◆

Following the invention of the automobile, citizens began to negatively react to the quality of the roads in Missouri. In response, the Good Roads Movement revolutionized transportation and left long-term impact on the development of roads and highways in America.

- John Mark Graham Highway Department photographs
- Missouri Good Roads Association Report (Dept. of Highways)
- Missouri Department of Transportation photographs
- State Road Surveys

Prohibition In Missouri ●■◆

Beer and wine have long been a part of Missouri's economy and cultural history. During prohibition, some businesses pivoted to creating other beverages like soda and non-alcoholic or less-alcoholic beer. Other business and citizens ignored laws all together and continued to illegally produce and consume alcohol.

- Trademarks related to soda and near-beer
- Red letters related to the 18th and 21st amendments

VIGILANTES ●■

Vigilantism is action which violates social norms with the intent to protect values or resources.

- Bald Knobbers: A group of vigilantes from the Ozarks from 1885-1889 that formed in response to raiding in Taney County. They wore black horned hoods and painted faces.
 - Books in reference.
 - Adjutant General Reports, 1885-1886, 1889-1890
- Bushwhackers: Pro-Confederate secessionist guerillas. They committed several atrocities

across Missouri, including the Lawrence Massacre and the murder of Sheriff Robert Boone Harris.

- Percy Green: Civil rights activist based in St. Louis. Active 1962-Present.
 - Books on his protests of the Veiled Prophet and others are available in reference.

MADE IN MISSOURI

Kindergarten ◆◆

The concept of kindergarten was developed by a German teacher, Friedrich Frobel, in the 18th century. The first kindergarten in America was opened by Elizabeth Peabody in Massachusetts in 1860. In 1873, St. Louisan Susan Elizabeth Blow opened the first publicly financed kindergarten in the country. Within a decade every public school in St. Louis had a kindergarten.

- Susan Elizabeth Blow Vertical File
- Official Proceedings of the St. Louis Public Schools, Assigning the classroom, Aug 26, 1873.
- Annual Reports of Public Schools:
<https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p16795coll16>
- Susan Blow and Her Children's Garden, 1971-1972 Blue Book (includes picture of mural from State Capitol):
<https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/bluebook/id/41377/rec/48>
- National Register Nomination, DNR, Des Peres School:
<https://mostateparks.com/sites/mostateparks/files/Des%20Peres%20School.pdf>

Aunt Jemima ◆◆◆

Pearl Milling Company revolutionized baking when they created their ready-make flour mix, which allowed home chefs to cook pancakes using only the mix and water. Over 130 years of business later, their mascot, Aunt Jemima, would attract both negative and nostalgic feelings from customers nationwide. In 2020, the company redesigned themselves, detaching from Aunt Jemima and the racist imagery attached to the character.

- Trademarks related to Aunt Jemima dating to the early 1900s.

Missouri Mule ◆◆◆

A revolutionary animal, perfect for transversing trails westward, created here in Missouri. The Missouri Mule was a staple beast of burden along the California, Oregon, and Sante Fe trails. In World War I, Missouri sent mules to the frontlines in Europe, helping haul wagons and artillery.

- Department of Agriculture reports

NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY

LAND GRANTS AND TREATIES ◆◆◆

Documentation of the land grants between the Shawnee and Delaware and the Spanish are available in our collection. More treaties and records related to annexing land and the formation of Missouri as we know it today will be found in the National Archives.

- Land Grants - available in Reference

- National Archives Treaties: <https://www.archives.gov/research/native-americans/treaties>
- Indigenous Digital Archives Treaty Explorer: <https://digitreaties.org/>

THE TRAIL OF TEARS ◆◆

This is the name given to the forced removal of the Cherokee people from their homelands in the southeastern United States to Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma). Even though the tribes had adopted many practices of the white culture, and had used the court system in two major Supreme Court cases, they were unable to halt the removal process. Thousands of these people lost their lives during their steamboat or overland journeys.

- Department of Public Safety - Office of the Adjutant General: Missouri National Guard, Muster Rolls for the Indian Wars – Box 19294 (96)
- Department of Public Safety - Office of the Adjutant General: Missouri National Guard, Indian Wars – Box 192
- National Register Files
 - Historic and Historical Archaeological Resources of the Cherokee Trail of Tears (Multistate) - Boxes 1 and 2 (NR 0007)-
<https://mostateparks.com/sites/mostateparks/files/Historic%20and%20Historical%20Archaeological%20Resources%20of%20the%20Cherokee%20Trail%20of%20Tears.pdf>
 - Indian Ford (NRR1009) – Box 6
 - Bainbridge Ferry (NRCG048) - Box 1 -
<https://mostateparks.com/sites/mostateparks/files/Bainbridge%20Ferry.pdf>
 - Bainbridge Ferry Road (NRCG049) - Box 1 -
<https://mostateparks.com/sites/mostateparks/files/Bainbridge%20Ferry%20Road.pdf>
 - Green's Ferry (NRCG051) - Box 1
 - Snelson-Brinker House (NRCR005) - Box 1 -
<https://mostateparks.com/sites/mostateparks/files/Snelson-Brinker%20House.pdf>
- *Trail of Tears in Southeast Missouri* - Map circa 1994, Department of Economic Development, Division of Tourism, Box 33.
 - Map shows the three trails through Missouri and provides background history.
- Vertical File – In Reading Room
 - Native Americans – Missouri and Tribe Histories
 - Trail of Tears
- Commerce and Industrial Development and Tourism Photo collections – These collections include many modern photographs of the current Trail of Tears State Park. Indexes and images available in Reading Room.
 - Division of Tourism Collection:
<https://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/divtour>
- *Trail of Tears: The Rise and Fall of the Cherokee Nation*, John Ehle (R970.004 Eh52) – Reading Room
- *Cherokee Sunset: A Nation Betrayed, a Narrative of Travail and Triumph, Persecution and Exile*, Samuel Carter III (R970.004 C2467) – Reading Room

NATURAL RESOURCES

Mining in Missouri ◆◆

Rich deposits of lead are what first attracted French settlers to Missouri in the 18th century. Whole

communities across the bootheel were constructed to support mining Missouri's natural resources. Historically, Missouri has been at the forefront of mining, and the methods of mining, and the rights of miners, has seen great reform in the past 200 years.

- Land records showing location of mines
- DNR records related to mining

MO Department of Conservation ●◆

Missouri voters passed Constitutional Amendment No. 4 by initiative petition on November 3, 1936, creating the Missouri Conservation Commission and the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). The Conservation Commission is a four-person board appointed by the Governor of Missouri. The Commission, in turn, appoints a director of the MDC. The MDC operates solely by monies gathered through sales of hunting, fishing, trapping and other licenses and a 1/8th of 1% sales tax, which was approved in 1976 with Constitutional Amendment 1.

- Department of Conservation – Initiative Petitions and Resolutions – Sample of 1936 Initiative Petition ballot language
- Office of the Secretary of State – Elections: Election Returns for November 3, 1936 General Election: Constitutional Amendment 4, Adair – Wright and City of St. Louis
 - <https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/bluebook/id/19029/rec/31>
- Office of the Secretary of State – Elections: Election Returns for November 2, 1976 General Election: Constitutional Amendments and Propositions Amendment No. 1
 - <https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/bluebook/id/47262/rec/51>
- Missouri Department of Conservation Photograph Collection (Missouri Digital Heritage)
 - <http://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/p16795coll24>
- *Missouri Conservationist* (Missouri Digital Heritage)
 - <http://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/moconserv>
- Missouri Department of Conservation – Annual and Biennial Reports, 1881 – Present
 - Available in person via MSA Reading Room
- Annual reports from 2002 to present
 - <https://archive.org/search?query=creator%3A%22Missouri+Department+of+Conservation%22+AND+description%3A%28conservation+annual+report%29>
- Conservation Topical Research Reports

Design for Conservation

- MDC State Docs
- Initiative petitions
- MDC correspondence, reports, strategic plans

PROTECTION OF SPECIES

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 ●◆

Lawyer Louis Marshall argued before the United States Supreme Court that the federal government has the right and responsibility to protect and conserve the environment. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act protected the hunting, killing, capture, and sale of nearly 1,100 birds between the United States and Canada.

- State Game and Fish Commissioners annual reports
- Conservation State Documents (*Game & Fish News*)
 - Finding Aid: <https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/findingaids/RG000.103.pdf>
- Game and Fish Law of Missouri Wildlife Code Books
 - Part of the Code of State Regulations, available here: <https://www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp>
 - Regulation Summaries, Department of Conservation: <https://mdc.mo.gov/about-us/about-regulations/regulation-summaries>
- State of Missouri v. Holland –
 - Opinion, U.S. Supreme Court: <https://tile.loc.gov/storage-services/service/l1/usrep/usrep252/usrep252416/usrep252416.pdf>
- U.S. Supreme Court - 252 US 416 (1920) - <https://www.loc.gov/item/usrep252416/>
 - In December 1916, the United States and Great Britain entered into a treaty to protect a number of migratory birds in the U.S. and Canada. Congress passed the Migratory Bird Treaty Act in 1918 in order to facilitate enforcement of the treaty. When Ray P. Holland, the U.S. Game Warden, threatened to arrest citizens of Missouri for violating the Act, the state of Missouri challenged the treaty. The state argued that the constitution gave Congress no enumerated power to regulate migratory bird hunting, and thus the regulation of such hunting was the province of the states according to the Tenth Amendment.

Clean Water ■◆

Everyone deserves clean water. Industrial waste and other types of pollution in riverways, lakes, and other bodies of water have resulted in massive consequences for not just humans, but the animals and ecosystem surrounding these waterways.

- Summary of the Clean Water Act, Environmental Protection Agency: [https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/summary-clean-water-act#:~:text=33%20U.S.C.%20%C2%A71251%20et%20seq.%20\(1972\)&text=%22Clean%20Water%20Act%22%20became%20the,for%20pollutants%20in%20surface%20waters](https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/summary-clean-water-act#:~:text=33%20U.S.C.%20%C2%A71251%20et%20seq.%20(1972)&text=%22Clean%20Water%20Act%22%20became%20the,for%20pollutants%20in%20surface%20waters)
- Clean Water Commission: <https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/findingaids/RG110.07.pdf>
- Soil and Water District Commissions: <https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Archives/resources/findingaids/rg110.06.pdf>

WOMEN'S HISTORY

SUFFRAGE ●◆

In 1867, 355 St. Louis women petitioned the Missouri General Assembly to obtain voting rights for persons of color and women. Virginia Minor led the effort. The petition was published in the house journal.

- 1867 House Journal, Regular Session, Appendix - <https://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/housej/id/9645/rec/3>
- In 1873, Virginia Minor Court Case- Minor et al. v. Happersett, Missouri Supreme Court, 1873
 - <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/Records/Archives/ArchivesDb/supremecourt/Detail.aspx?id=9337>

- The General Election on November 3, 1914 contained a ballot initiative (Amendment 13) asking for women's right to vote. The referendum failed by a vote of 182,257 to 322,463. Election results were printed in the Missouri Blue Book.
 - Missouri Digital Heritage, Official Manual of the State of Missouri, 1915-1916, <https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/bluebook/id/9968/rec/1>
- Governor Gardner signs Senate Bill 1 into law on April 5, 1919 allowing women to vote "for electors for president and vice-president of the United States."
 - Missouri Digital Heritage, Laws of Missouri, 1919, <https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/molaws/id/22591/rec/58>
 - Original Signed Bill available in Reference
- Marie Byrum of Hannibal, Missouri becomes the first woman to cast a vote in a Missouri election on August 31, 1920. Harriet Hampton was the first black woman to cast a vote, also in Hannibal.
 - Marie Byrum poll book in Reference
 - Pictures from poll book including votes from Marie Byrum and Harriet Hampton included in Blue Book "Missouri Almanac" section: https://www.sos.mo.gov/cmsimages/bluebook/2019-2020/1_Almanac.pdf

Annie White Baxter ●◆

In 1890, she was elected as Jasper County Clerk making her the first woman elected to any office in the State of Missouri and the first female county clerk in the United States.

- Register of Civil Proceedings
- Bond of Civil Officers
- Civil Officers Elected
- Death Certificate, 1944, Cole County - https://www.sos.mo.gov/images/archives/deathcerts/1944/1944_00024453.PDF

Mary L. Gant ●◆

Became the first woman elected to the Missouri Senate in 1972. She is notable for being outspoken against the Equal Rights Amendment.

- Mary Gant Papers
- 1972 Election Results from Official Manual (Blue Book): <https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/bluebook/id/44254/rec/49>
 - Description + photo from Blue Book: <https://mdh.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/bluebook/id/42961/rec/49>

Lemma Barkeloo ●◆

The first female lawyer in Missouri, the first female trial lawyer in the US, and the first female lawyer to try a case in federal court, all in the same year (1870)

- Funeral record
- Attorney books