

Spring 2016

# THE MISSOURI STATE ARCHIVES . . .

*Where History Begins*



## *Missouri Maps*

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## Where History Begins

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On the Cover

1868 Birdseye view of Jefferson City. Library of Congress.



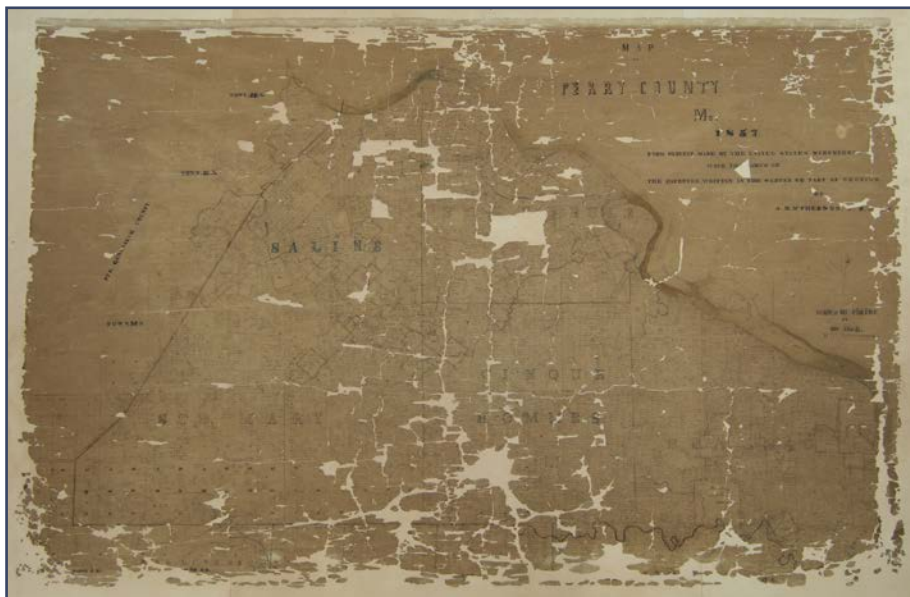
# From the State Archivist

*By John Dougan*



At the Missouri State Archives, very few things are truly “new,” particularly our most sought after maps and land records. Although we recently celebrated our 50th anniversary, the Office of the Secretary of State has maintained Missouri’s official records since 1820, with many of the state’s early land surveys and records of ownership simply transferring to the Archives after its creation in 1965. Our conduit to county and municipal land records, the Local Records Program, also continues to identify and preserve historical treasures such as the City of St. Charles plat map and Perry County recorder’s map discussed in this edition.

In terms of online land resources, this past year was an exciting and productive time for the Missouri State Archives, with various materials becoming digitally accessible to genealogists and other researchers through our expanded land records database (<http://s1.sos.mo.gov/records/archives/archivesdb/land/>). This tool enables researchers to search images of original records by criteria including section, township, range, record type, name and county. Images are now available for U.S. Land Sales and Missouri Township School Land Patents, as well as the French and Spanish Papers of Original Claimants and Land Commissioner’s Certificates. Also accessible through the database are the earliest Land Title and Survey Book indexes. For questions about these resources, please contact Reference Services at (573) 751-3280 or [archives@sos.mo.gov](mailto:archives@sos.mo.gov).



Thank you to all of our land records project partners—volunteers, government officials and institutional co-sponsors, both large and small, from across the state—without whom we could not have built and reclaimed such wonderful resources. We can only hope that all our future digitization endeavors are as productive.

*Perry County Recorder’s Map, 1857. See page 4 for details about its treatment in the Local Records Program conservation lab.*

Everyone loves a good map—especially an old one—because they tell you a lot about a place, including what it looked like at a certain point in time. Some can even transport us back to share a story, as was the case with an “Old Map” I found in 2010 when working as an archivist for the St. Charles County Historical Society.

The society’s secretary at the time, Cleta Flynn, introduced me to the crinkled and faded document when she noticed me going through some of the more reclusive collections tucked away in the corners of their facility. She steered me towards a case with an understanding that inside were a number interesting items. Included was a historic map covered in tape, creased and folded (things us archivists truly hate). It also appeared to have not seen the light of day in more than a hundred years!

Although the *Old Map* was not dated or signed, the street names and paper and ink used made us think it was an early rendering of the City of St. Charles. This led to many questions, including just how old was it? Who drew it? And why?

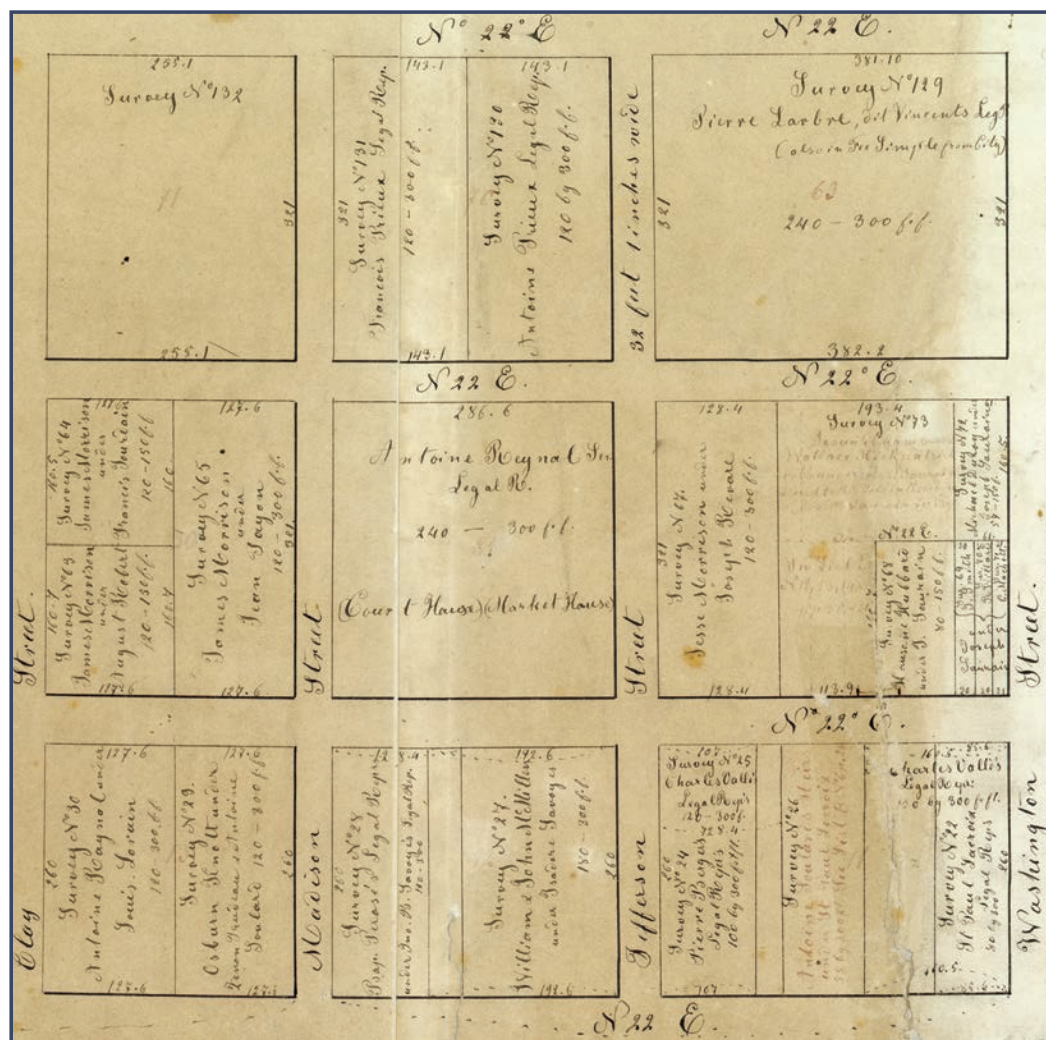
The *Old Map* appeared to lay out St. Charles as a grid of streets and cross streets with historic area names, such as Barbour, Chauncey, Pike and Clay—names that would have meant something to early 19th century inhabitants. Also listed were the landowners in each block, as well as survey numbers and lot sizes, providing important clues about the map’s purpose.

After its rediscovery, the society kept the *Old Map* handy for questions about early St. Charles, until one day in 2013 a local historian visited the facility wanting to research historic area families. By identifying names on the map from his prior research, we came to believe it was created sometime between 1817 and 1822, making it an important record of the city’s early history.

Missouri State Archives’ field staff were then called in to authenticate the *Old Map* and evaluate its condition before it was sent to their conservation lab in Jefferson City for preservation treatment. In the lab, Head Conservator Lisa Fox’s team carefully removed the old tape, creases and dirt to reveal a remarkable piece of history measuring approximately 14 inches by 72 inches.

Following treatment, the restored *Old Map* was digitally scanned for access purposes prior to being returned to the society.

Through this great work, the *Old Map* was preserved and made available to everyone, but the questions remained. When exactly was it drawn? For what purpose and by whom? Pursuing these answers has been quite a journey, leading to wonderful new discoveries about St. Charles and its past.



Town of St Charles Plat 1817 (detail).

To start, I looked at the information conveyed by the map: the layout of the streets, as well as their names and measurements; the names of landowners inside the blocks; the block dimensions given in the old French foot; and survey numbers. Curiously, the Missouri River and other geographic landmarks are absent, as are any buildings. These clues all seemed to indicate that the *Old Map* was used to show property divisions, an assumption later confirmed when Lynn Morrow, former

(Continued on page 10)

# Inside the Conservation Lab: Perry County Recorder's Map

By Erin Kraus, Conservator

The Local Records Program conservation lab, opened in 1991, treats paper-based records created by the state of Missouri and its various local governments. As conservators, our goal is to stabilize items that enter the lab both physically and chemically. In most instances, they look better after treatment, too, as was the case with a recently treated 1857 map of Perry County from the Perry County Recorder's office.

There were two major challenges when working with this map. First, it was huge, measuring 51 inches by 75 inches. Second, it was extremely fragile.



Above: Before treatment (detail). Below: After treatment (detail).



The hand drawn map had long ago been adhered to a textile lining and varnished. Although it was unclear whether the varnish was original or applied at some later point, it had turned brown and become brittle with age, making it extremely difficult to see the map's surface and causing the paper to crack and fall apart. It was also rolled around a wooden rod attached to the top edge with nails.

To start, I gathered the detached pieces and removed the wooden rod. I then began cleaning the map by gently brushing the loose soil into a low suction vacuum. Once this was done, I went back over the map with a sponge eraser to remove any remaining soil.

Up next was the removal of the varnish that had discolored the map so significantly. Extensive testing led to the identification of a chemical solvent that would remove the varnish but not affect the inks and paints on the map's surface.

The map was already fractured into 35 sections, each small enough to fit into our fume hood (a device that pulls away noxious gases) for a chemical bath. As I treated the first section, I discovered the answer to a question long asked: did the map originally come with a layer of varnish, or was it applied later? As the surface of the varnish started to dissolve, I found more soil and insect droppings beneath. Eureka! The varnish was a later addition.

Removing the old varnish and soil was just the second step in bringing the Perry County Map back to life.

We next washed the 35 map pieces in an alkaline bath to remove the acids produced by degradation—a lengthy undertaking given the map's large size. While the pieces were still wet, we removed the filthy original lining from each before reassembling them on a polyester sheet. There was nothing holding the pieces together at this point, so we relined it with a large sheet of stable, handmade Japanese paper.

All was successful in the end, as the map was made stronger, more flexible and lighter in color. Beautiful hand drawn lines and accompanying text could finally be seen as originally intended, as could bodies of water painted in a lovely blue and some land plots outlined in vivid colors, including yellow and pink. We were truly fortunate to treat such amazing works of art and history. In this profession, you just never know what will come through the door next!

For more information on the Local Records Program and its conservation lab, visit: [www.sos.mo.gov/archives/localrecs/conservation/](http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/localrecs/conservation/).



Conservators transfer the map from a polyester sheet to a new handmade Japanese paper lining.

# Picture This

By Amy Moorman, Visual Materials Archivist

## Missouri Maps

In the simplest of terms, maps are a way to convey geographic information; they define boundaries and interpret selected features. Maps have been a part of the human record for thousands of years, and their usefulness crosses cultural and language barriers.

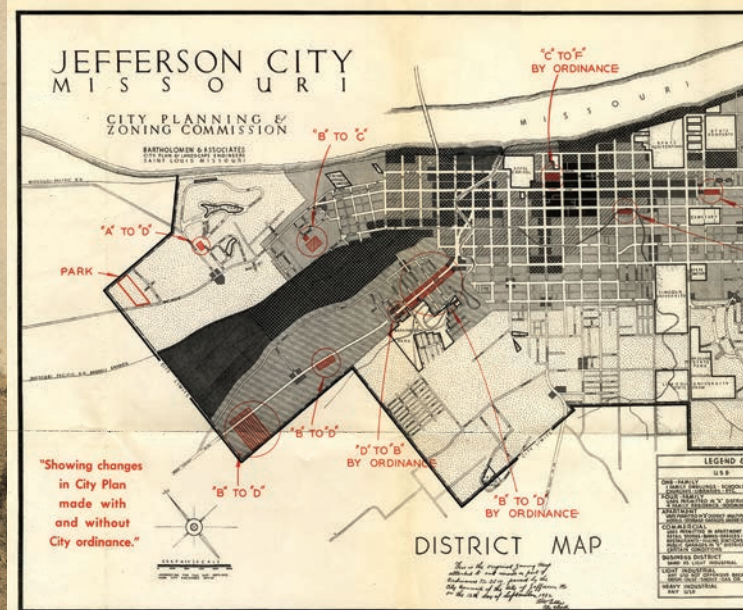
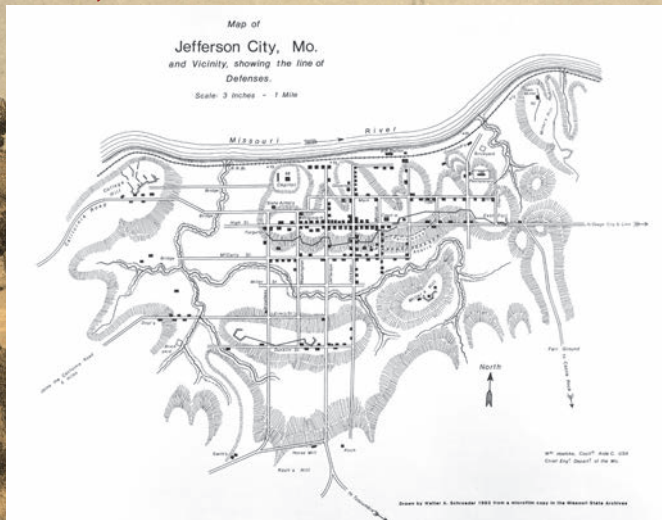
The Missouri State Archives map collection contains a wide variety of map types. Land survey maps, for example, illustrate division and ownership of the land while geologic maps describe natural land features. The Archives' holdings also include flood maps, plat maps, highway maps, aerial photographs and many more.

Looking at a variety of maps of the same geographic location can illustrate change over time, whether naturally occurring or manmade. Also important is how mapmaking technology and cartographic trends have altered what is viewed and how. For example, the Missouri State Archives holds many maps of Jefferson City, due to its role as the seat of state government. These maps show the expansion and evolution of the city throughout its history. Expanding city boundaries, zoning changes and street relocation and renaming are just a few of the differences that can be noted in this map series. The maps of Jefferson City can also provide a fascinating glimpse into a particular period, such as an 1865 hand drawn map of the city's line of defense during the Civil War.

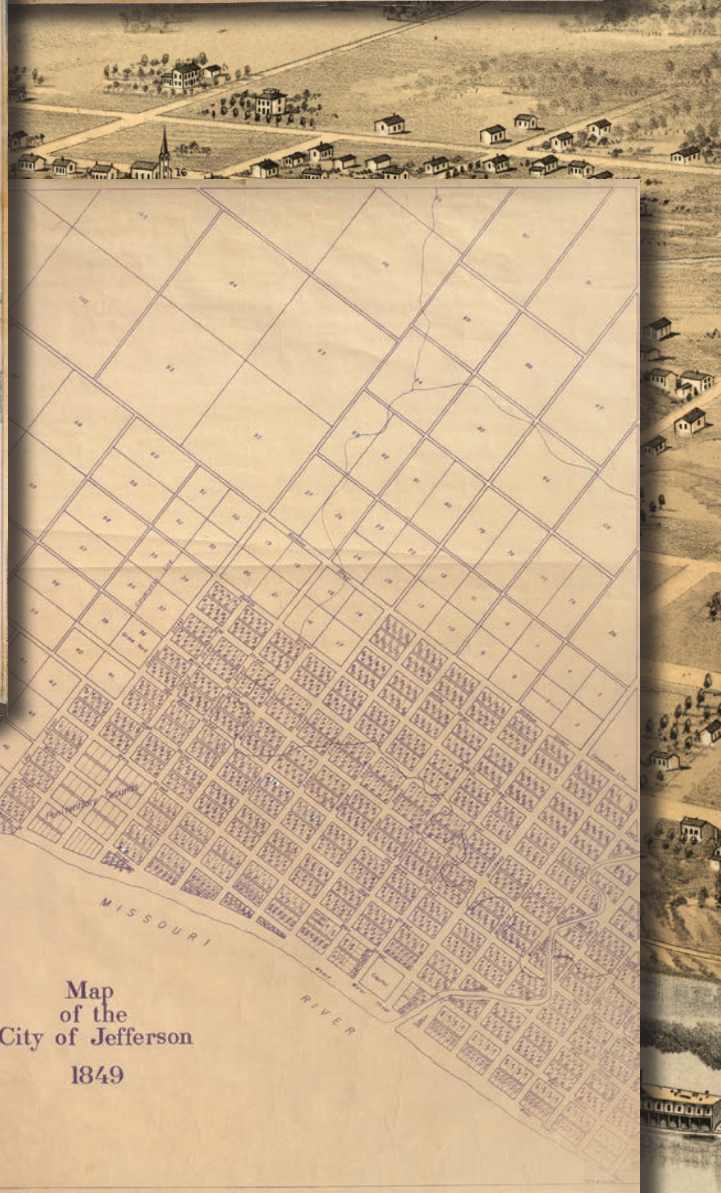
The Missouri State Archives map collection contains more than 3,000 items dating from pre-statehood to the present day, with a limited number also available in a digitized format. For additional information, please contact the Archives at (573) 751-3280 or [archives@sos.mo.gov](mailto:archives@sos.mo.gov).



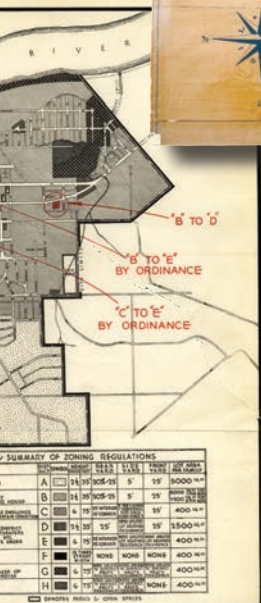
*"Civil War era map of Jefferson City and vicinity, showing the line of Defenses."  
Redrawn by Walter A. Schroeder in 1983.*



Left: City of Jefferson map by Nelson C. Burch, 1913.  
Right: Sewer Map of Jefferson City, 1907.



Left: Jefferson City Planning and Zoning Map, 1932.  
Above: Map of Jefferson City, 1925.  
Right: Map of the City of Jefferson, 1849.  
Background: 1868 Birdseye view of Jefferson City.  
Library of Congress.  
All maps from the collection of the Missouri State Archives except where noted.



# Summer 2016 Program Calendar

## ***It Ends Here:***

### ***The Last Missouri Vigilante***

**Thursday, June 16, 2016, 7 p.m.**

In early January 1904, a reporter from the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* traveled to Oklahoma City to meet with washed-up relic of the Wild West, Edward Capehart O'Kelley. During their meeting, O'Kelley struggled to stay sober while discussing his relationship with the outlaw Jesse James, a childhood friend. He described how he once had an opportunity to join the James gang, but declined, opting instead for a career as a Colorado lawman. During his career, his violent tactics earned him the reputation of a man with a quick temper, ready gun and penchant for bending the law to suit his needs. It was there, in Creede, Colorado, that O'Kelley met Robert Ford, known to all as the assassin of Jesse James. Egged on by local miners, O'Kelley murdered Robert Ford to avenge the death of his old friend. In *It Ends Here*, author Joe Johnston draws on the reporter's accounts to tell O'Kelley's tragic story. Join us as he unravels this circular tale of frontier vigilantism and ponders America's progress beyond such violence.



## ***For Home and Country: World War I Propaganda on the Home Front***

**Thursday, July 14, 2016, 7 p.m.**

In the United States, World War I prompted the first massive organized propaganda campaign of the 20th century. Posters, pamphlets and other media spread fear about the German "Hun," who was often depicted threatening families in their homes. Many civilians—namely women and children—became tools of social manipulation. In *For Home and Country*, the new book by Celia Malone Kingsbury, associate professor of English at the University of Central Missouri, she examines the propaganda directed toward Allied noncombatants during World War I. Cookbooks, popular magazines, romance novels and government food agencies targeted women in their homes, pressuring them to change their domestic habits. Children, meanwhile, were taught to fear the enemy and support the war through propagandistic toys, games and books. And when propaganda targeting men was created, women and children were frequently used to play on their emotions. By examining a diverse collection of literary texts, songs, posters and toys, Kingsbury will reveal how these pervasive materials were used to fight the war's cultural battles on the homefront.

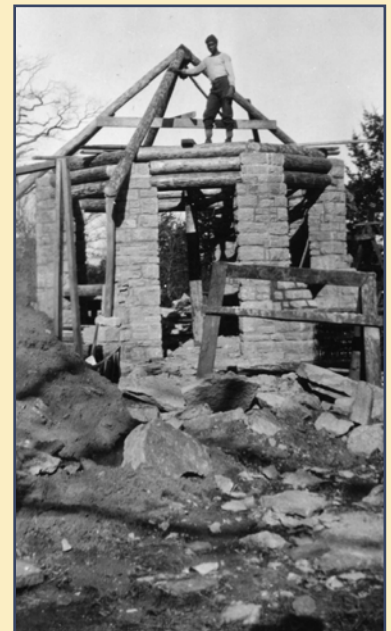


## ***The Civilian Conservation Corps in Missouri State Parks: A Lasting Legacy***

**Thursday, August 11, 2016, 7 p.m.**

During the Great Depression of the 1930s, with unemployment approaching 25 percent, masses of people were out of work and families were suffering. To address the underlying economic problems, President Franklin D. Roosevelt created a variety of government relief programs. Just 37 days after he signed the Emergency Conservation Work Act of 1933 the federal government recruited 250,000 men between the ages of 18 and 25, placed them in Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camps and began work on an assortment of construction and conservation projects. Within one year, Missouri had more than 4,000 men working in the state parks system. The rustic style of architecture that was the hallmark of the CCC's park development projects is still the standard in state parks and many of their structures remain in use today. John Cuning, director of resource management and interpretation programs for Missouri State Parks, will highlight the work of the CCC in the state and explore the legacy left by these young men.

Right: A member of Company 1743 building a trail shelter at Washington State Park. Courtesy of Missouri State Parks.



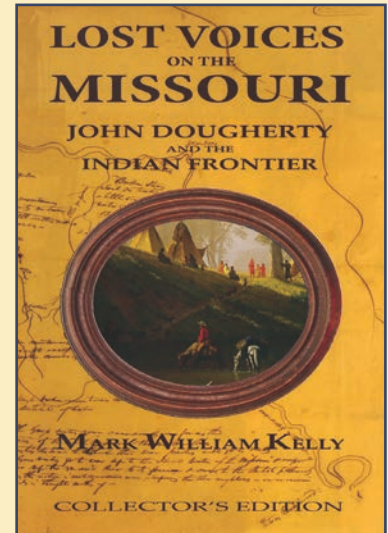
# Summer 2016 Program Calendar

## ***Lost Voices on the Missouri:***

### ***John Dougherty and the Indian Frontier***

**Thursday, September 15, 2016, 7 p.m.**

John Dougherty participated in every notable aspect of life on the western frontier and made significant contributions to the fur trade of the upper Missouri River Valley. He was an interpreter and natural historian on the first federally sponsored scientific expedition to the interior of the continent and facilitated the U.S. Army's reach up the Missouri River to establish the remote outposts of Martin's Cantonment in 1818, Fort Atkinson in 1819 and then Fort Leavenworth in 1827. Dougherty was later appointed Indian agent for the tribes of the upper Missouri River and served as a Whig Party congressman from Clay County in the 1840 Missouri state legislature. He established the town of latan on the Missouri River, in modern day Platte County, to facilitate westward expansion and, in company with Robert Campbell, was a successful trader along the Oregon Trail. Of lasting import, John Dougherty constructed Multnomah, arguably the grandest Little Dixie plantation home in the state, near Liberty in 1856. Join Mark W. Kelly, professional archaeologist and historian, as he shares his research into the life and times of a remarkable Missouri frontiersman.



## **Friends Annual Meeting**

### ***Cathy Barton & Dave Para: Hand-Me-Down Music*** **Saturday, June 11, 2016, 11:30 a.m.**

The 2016 Friends of the Missouri State Archives annual meeting will be held Saturday, June 11 at the James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center (600 W. Main St.) in Jefferson City. The business portion will begin at 11:30 a.m., followed by a noon luncheon and performance by musicians Cathy Barton and Dave Para.

For 30 years, Dave and Cathy have studied and presented traditional and contemporary folk music from Missouri and the Ozarks. Their dynamic performances feature instrumental work inspired and energized by the dance music of the Missouri fiddling scene and vocal music drawn from a variety of sources and subjects. Well known for their skill with traditional instruments, the duo plays everything from the banjo to the hammered dulcimer!

This limited space event is open to the public, but there is a cost of \$25 per person. To reserve a place, contact Brian Rogers by Monday, June 6, at (573) 526-1981 or [brian.rogers@sos.mo.gov](mailto:brian.rogers@sos.mo.gov). Payment should be mailed to the Friends of the Missouri State Archives at P.O. Box 242, Jefferson City, MO 65102.

## **Other 2016 Programs:**

***Cole County at War: 1861-1975, with Jeremy Amick. Thursday, October 13, 2016, 7 p.m.***

***Osage Sites and Archaeology, with Larry Grantham. Thursday, November 17, 2016, 7 p.m.***  
***In Recognition of American Indian Heritage Month***

***(Continued from page 4)***

Because the script on the *Old Map* was very distinctive, I next tried to identify to whom it belonged. By consulting with several handwriting experts and local historians, many possibilities were ruled out, including well-known area figures Nathan Boone, Auguste Chouteau and Antoine Soulard. I then turned to the records of the St. Charles City Clerk, which

*The Board met pursuant to adjournment, present 5 members, having passed an ordinance [sic] for Surveying the Town & Commons.*

While it appears Prospect K. Robbins and Charles Peck were the surveyors, it remains unclear who drew the *Old Map*. Several deeds from the county recorder's office refer to "a plat done by Finley," but to date, this survey has not been located. Could he be the third person on the original survey team? Although this mystery remains, the great work done by the Missouri State Archives preserved the *Old Map* and made it accessible to the public, ensuring that it will be available to future generations to see what they can discover!

[illegible]

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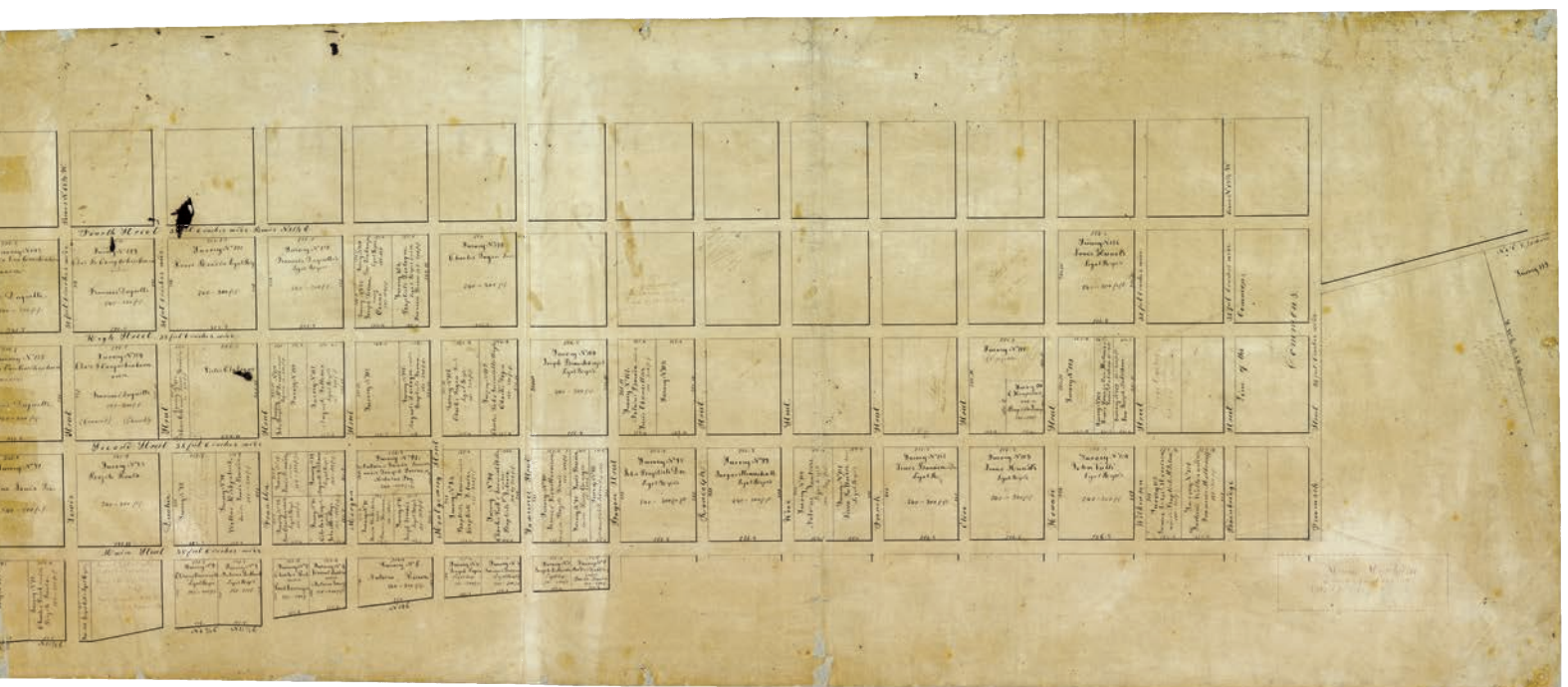
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