

St. Louis Resources for Genealogy Online

Ilene Murray, StLGS Publications Director
publications@stlgs.org

Many St. Louis-area repositories have robust websites, allowing for meaningful research from home.

St. Louis Genealogical Society: <https://stlgs.org/>

- Databases with actual records
- Online store
- Marriages, maps, naturalizations, deaths, congregations, biographies, cemeteries, and much more
- Members only area
- Current information on meetings, events, classes, and workshops

Using the website:

- Log in with your membership ID and password.
- Start on the home page and explore.
- Use the tabs in the Menu Bar to access pages; records are under the Research tab.



- Join StLGS on Facebook, Instagram, Threads, and/or X (Twitter).
- Register at stlgs.blogspot.com to receive our weekly blog, *StLGS News Flash*.



Emerson History & Genealogy Center at the Clark Family Branch, St. Louis County Library:

www.slcl.org

- Department houses many collections, both reference and circulating
- Staff members are genealogists
- Library is an authorized repository for the FamilySearch Library
- Access the online resources from the *Research & Learn* tab and then "History & Genealogy."
- Look for "View Collection Details," and "Featured Resources—All Resources."
- Online databases require your library card and PIN number.
- Check out *PastPorts* and the many indexes, finding aids, and research guides.

History & Genealogy Department at St. Louis Public Library: www.slpl.org

- Especially strong on maps and St. Louis history
- On the website, go to the *Digital Content* tab and then “Genealogy.”
- Some databases are open to all; some require a library card, which you can apply for online, if you qualify.
- Don’t miss the Digital Collections and, especially, the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* Obituary Index.
- Also of interest may be the “Maps of Missouri” collection.
- On the home page, way down at the bottom, find links to the Archival and Special Collections, many of which have finding aids.



Missouri History Museum’s Library and Research Center: <https://mohistory.org/library>

- Much of the LRC’s collection is fragile and must be researched on site.
- However, a major feature of the website is the “Genealogy and Local History Index,” accessed from the “Genealogy and Family History” button.
- Look at the Guides to the Archival Collections and then the Genealogy Resources page, which has links to some excellent websites.



St. Louis Mercantile Library: www.umsl.edu/mercantile/index.html

- Art, antiques, maps, rare books, prints, massive amounts of St. Louis history
- Many collections within the library
- Special Collections
- Herman T. Pott National Inland Waterway Library: steamboats and river history
 - Explore the research guides and links to other sites.
 - Look at the set of collections within the Pott Library.
- John W. Barriger III National Railroad Library
 - Explore the research guides and links to other sites.
 - Look at the set of collections within the Pott Library.
- Digital Collections
 - Links to the above libraries as well as to a fabulous collection of directories, gazetteers, rosters, and guides
 - Collection M-112: *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* clippings/morgue



National Archives-St. Louis: www.archives.gov/st-louis/research

- Most of their records are not online, but instructions for what is available through the National Personnel Records Center, plus appropriate forms for ordering records are online.
- Of note is the St. Louis Catalog Holdings with some actual records and many descriptions of other available resources



Missouri Digital Heritage, Missouri Secretary of State: www.sos.mo.gov

- Use the *Records and Archives* tab to access “Missouri Digital Heritage” and a large selection of available databases.



- Among the most useful databases for most genealogists:
 - Missouri Birth and Death Records, Pre-1910
 - Missouri County History Project
 - Missouri County Plat Books Project
 - Missouri City Directories
 - Missouri Death Certificates, 1910–1973 (adding one additional year every year)
 - Missouri Digital Heritage: photos, newspapers, booklets, etc.
 - Missouri Coroners’ Inquest Database
 - Missouri Naturalization Records, 1816–1955
 - Missouri Soldiers’ Database: War of 1812–WWI
 - Missouri State Penitentiary Records, 1836–1931
 - St. Louis Circuit Court Historical Records Project, 19th Century
 - Supreme Court of Missouri Historical Records
 - Missouri Census Records and Tax Lists

Illinois State Archives: <https://www.ilsos.gov/departments/archives/databases/home.html>

- Few actual records are on the site but there are many indexes.
 - Illinois Servitude and Emancipation Records
 - Public Domain Land Tract Sales Database
 - Databases of Illinois Veterans: Black Hawk War, Civil War, Mexican War, Spanish-American War, War of 1812, and more.
- Illinois Statewide Vital Records Databases:
 - Death Indexes, pre and post 1916 (to 1972)
 - Marriage Index
- IRAD: Illinois Regional Archives Depositories
 - Spread throughout the state
 - Contents vary by geographic location



Remember to cite your sources!

Find a free citation guide on the StLGS website: <https://stlgs.org>

- On the home page, go to the *Resources* tab, then “On This Site” and then “Citations.”