

A large, light-colored stone equestrian statue of a man on a horse, likely a historical figure, set against a pale sky. The statue is mounted on a multi-tiered, classical-style pedestal. The man is wearing a crown and a long, flowing cape, and is holding a sword aloft in his right hand. The horse is depicted in a dynamic, forward-moving pose.

FINDING ANCESTORS IN ST. LOUIS

ANDY THEISING
JANUARY 15, 2023

JUST SCRATCHING THE SURFACE...

- New databases coming online all the time
- STL is working to digitize its **vital records**; using fidlar.com as a vendor—still minimal at this time, doesn't work well with Mac
- St. Louis University (Jesuit) houses the **Jesuit Archives** for the Midwest and has impressive digital holdings
- Washington University has a wonderful digital collection of **Freedom Suit records**, helpful for African American genealogy
- **St. Louis Probate Records** (via Ancestry.com) are great, but they are filed by settlement date rather than death date

ST. LOUIS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

- stlgs.org (also on Facebook)
- Lots of helpful folks
- Has subgroups: German, Irish, Jewish



St. Louis Genealogical Society
founded 1968

NEWSPAPERS.COM

- Missouri Republican (the oldest)
- Westliche Post (prominent German paper)
- Post-Dispatch (requires enhanced membership)
- Globe-Democrat
- Star-Times

Westliche Post.

DROUIN COLLECTION

- Awesome digitization of old French church records in Canada and early French settlements in the U.S. —like St. Louis!
- About 228K records from 1695-1954 from 11 states
- Only available through pay sites
- Ancestry.com or Familysearch.org are good entry points
- Drouin Institute of Quebec:
 - <https://www.genealogiequebec.com/en/>

ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

- Archstl.org
- Catholic Cemeteries of St. Louis has a great database
- <https://awaittheblessedhope.org>



CATHOLIC CEMETERIES
A MINISTRY OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

MISSOURI DIGITAL HERITAGE

- Missouri Secretary of State's Office in conjunction with the state archives and state library
- Unwieldy in my opinion; lots of tangents
- www.sos.mo.gov/mdh/

Missouri Digital Heritage

MISSOURI DEATH CERTIFICATES

- An arm of the Digital Heritage project
- Excellent database of PDF images
- Death Certificates 1910-1971, with 1972 being released soon
- s1.sos.mo.gov/Records/Archives/ArchivesMvc/

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS FILED MAY 20 1944		THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH OF MISSOURI STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH		16174 State File No.
Registration District No. 1818		Primary Registration District No. 1003		4337 Registrar's No.
1. PLACE OF DEATH:		2. USUAL RESIDENCE OF DECEASED:		
(a) County St. Louis, Missouri		(a) State Missouri (b) County		
(b) City or town St. Louis, Missouri <small>(If outside city or town limits, write "RURAL" and name of township)</small>		(c) City or town St. Louis, 18 19		

CITY DIRECTORIES

- The St. Louis Mercantile Library
- Enter through “UMSL Digital Library”
- umsl.edu/mercantile/research/research-guides/directories.html
- Affiliated with the Digital Heritage

UMSL DIGITAL LIBRARY

HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

- Missouri Historical Society (mohistory.org)
 - Focuses on STL History
 - Missouri History Museum
 - Lots of helpful staff
- State Historical Society of Missouri (shsmo.org)
 - Focuses on statewide history
 - Affiliated with the Digital Heritage project



MISSOURI HISTORICAL SOCIETY



A QUIRK OF STL HISTORY...

- St. Louis (the city) is not part of St. Louis (the county)
- City and suburbs have been separated since 1876
- Like Cincinnati, STL is a river city whose suburbs spill over into the neighboring state, so “East St. Louis” is in Illinois
- I find it more efficient when searching, say, findagrave.com or ancestry.com to simply enter “Missouri” rather than “St. Louis” or “Saint Louis”

THE END!

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