



MCHS News

March 2015

Opening Doors to Madison County History

Vol. 3 No. 2

715 N Main Street
Edwardsville, IL
62025

Hours:
Wed-Fri 9 am - 4 pm
Sunday 1 pm - 4 pm
Group Tours Available

Free Admission

Museum Phone:
618-656-7562

Library Phone:
618-656-7569

Web Address:
madcohstory.org

E-mail:
info@madcohstory.org

About Us:
The MCHS museum complex, consisting of a modern archival library, a museum in the 1836 Weir House and the Helms Collection Center, is owned by the nonprofit Madison County Historical Society and operated jointly with Madison County.

The Madison County Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.



FINDING HISTORY IN MADISON COUNTY

Think you know where to find all the museums in Madison County? You might be surprised. There are a number of new museums and/or private museums that are unknown to many area residents.

In Madison County you can visit a restored one-room school, a home built only two years after Illinois became a state, or a haunted house, like the McPike Mansion pictured on this page. There are city and village museums celebrating local history from the mining industry to the manufacture of cow bells and museums celebrating the Mississippi River, Cahokian culture, or the expedition of Lewis and Clark. Many are located in historic buildings: a former city hall, fire station, or mansion.

With spring just around the corner, now is the perfect time to call your friends and make plans for a short road trip to get "up close and personal" with Madison County history. Since some of the smaller museums are "appointment only," some advance planning is required, but most have regular hours.

When you arrive, don't forget to sign the guestbook if they have one. When applying for grants, museum traffic is often a factor in deciding whether the museum should obtain funds. Your name in their book is important. And, since many have free admission, a donation is a great way to tell hard working volunteers that you appreciate their dedication to preserving our local history.

Beginning on page four is a list of Madison County museums as well as contact information and websites. Some also have a great deal of historical information on their web pages which are well worth browsing. We've tried to be all inclusive, but if we have missed a museum you know about, please let us know. Museums are listed by region moving from northwest to southeast.

Continued on page 4

MARCH - MAY CALENDAR

Exhibit

FIRST DO NO HARM

MEDICINE AND MEDICAL PRACTICES

Madison County Historical Museum

Program

LINCOLN PLACE HERITAGE

Sunday, May 17 - 2 p.m.

Speaker: Norma Asadorian

Madison County Archival Library

Special Saturday Hours

FAMILY HISTORY SATURDAY

April 11, May 2, June 6

1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Madison County Archival Library

HOLIDAY CLOSURE

Madison County Historical Museum and Archival Library will be closed for Easter
Friday-Sunday, April 3-5

ABOUT US

MCHS BOARD

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Archival Research Mgr.
LaVerne Bloemker
Archival Research Asst.
Carol Frisse
Archival Research Asst.
Jenn Walta
Curator

VOLUNTEERS

There are abundant and varied opportunities for volunteers at either the museum or the archival library. Please call if interested.

MEMBERSHIPS

Several membership levels are available to those interested in supporting the work of preserving Madison County history through an MCHS membership. Memberships run on the calendar year, Jan 1-Dec 31. Applications are available on our web site, at the MCHS Museum or at the Archival Library.

PUBLICATIONS

MCHS NEWS

6 issues annually
Cindy Reinhardt, Editor

WEB SITE

madcohistory.org

ARCHIVAL LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT

By Mary Westerhold, Archival Research Manager

LOCAL MUSEUMS

Working at the Archival Library is, for me, a dream job. I get to help people with their research including family history, house histories, local history, cemetery research, etc., while looking through old photos, books, and newspapers. My desire to know the stories behind everything is actually a job skill!

In addition, I get to work with a great staff and terrific volunteers who share my passion for research and preserving the stories. But it is not all work and no play. In June of 2014 the staff and volunteers loosely formed a group named "Lunch Plus" to visit other local museums and libraries. So far, we

have been to Bunker Hill, Alton, Collinsville, Glen Carbon, Mascoutah, Greenville, and Wood River. The staff at these facilities, whether paid or all volunteers, are friendly, helpful and dedicated. Their knowledge of local history is a great resource for researchers.

We always come away with a better understanding of the community along with new ideas for organization and displays. In addition, many of the libraries sponsor local genealogy discussion groups or programs open to anyone. I've attended some of these and always learn something new.

So check out your local museum and library and see what resources are available in your own backyard!

MUSEUM SPOTLIGHT

By Jenn Walta, Curator



Unidentified wooden object donated by Mr. Don Hastings, Sr. (Walta)

WHAT IS IT?

Every so often an artifact crosses my path that I have no clue as to its name or purpose. Some items I can identify after a bit of research, but others are a complete mystery. One such object came across my desk late last summer. The donor did not know the name of the object or its original purpose. He only knew that the wooden object belonged to James Hoxsey of Alhambra, and it was over 100 years old.

In an effort to discover the truth behind the mysterious object, I began by examining the object itself. Did it have any manufacturers markings or was it handmade? Unfortunately for me, the object appears to have been handmade. That rules out any help from magazines, books, or catalogs. If I had all of the time in the world,

I could scour the pages of images in Google or the previously mentioned records, but regrettably, I do not. I tried to compare the object sitting in my office to other farming tools; once again I hit a dead end.

You might now be wondering, "Why did she accept an object that does not have a known function?"

Because I saw all of the possibilities for the object and knew we could either figure out its function and place it in context of Madison County history, or it would be one of those objects that will be a puzzle. I see it as one of those brain teasers that you are never quite sure you have solved.

If you know anything about this particular object, please contact me at the museum. I would love to hear your thoughts on the origins of the object.

RECENT NEWS

FAMILY HISTORY SATURDAY

Date Changed in April

Due to the Easter holiday, the Archival Library's next family history day will be held April 11 instead of April 4 as previously announced. Those interested should come in any time between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.. The program was a success out the gate with 15-20 people seeking advice on starting or building their family trees on Feb 7.

If you're interested in your family tree, the staff at the archival library offers genealogical assistance during all working hours, but these extended hours have the full staff plus volunteers on-hand to assist.

HAYES MALLORY ARTIFACTS

In February MCHS accepted numerous items from Edwardsville Township's Hays Mallory Building including photographs, record items, etc. The building will no longer be used by the township.

MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

COLLABORATE WITH EDUCATORS

Library and museum staff are assisting educators with the task of teaching their students how to work with primary resources. A group of educators from Madison County took a tour of the MCHS facilities on February 27th as part of a two day workshop.

The workshop emphasized how to use historical resources found at the Library of Congress website and at local archival libraries. Primary Sources "promote inquiry and critical thinking in the classroom."

EDWARDSVILLE DEMOCRAT INDEXED

Mary Rottman, Highland, recently began volunteering at the Archival Library where she will be indexing vital records reported in the *Edwardsville Democrat* between 1880 and 1915. This much needed project was originally started by Anna Symanski.

As many genealogists have learned, the *Edwardsville Intelligencer* is digitized for easy searching except for certain blocks of time where the micro-film quality is poor and cannot be digitized. It so happens that most of the above time period is one of those missing spans. We are fortunate to have the *Edwardsville Democrat* available and volunteers, like Mary Rottman, who are willing to do the work that will save researchers hundreds of hours of searching in the years to come.

MEDICAL EXHIBIT OPENS

Due to inclement weather, the display on Madison County medicine and medical practices scheduled to open in February was postponed until March.

Artifacts are stored in the collections center and walked to the museum when a new exhibit is constructed. Our curator wisely decided to protect artifacts, by moving them on days without precipitation which delayed the opening of the exhibit. Now that artifacts have been safely moved and installed, please stop by Dr. Weir's former home (our museum) to learn more about long ago medical practices and some of our local physicians, including Dr. Weir.

NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

Mid-December - February ♦ Thank you for supporting MCHS!

James Madison \$100

Charlotte Johnson
Mary Ruth Kettenbach
Robert and Mary Madoux
Dr. Robert Malench
Ann D. Wagner

Family \$50

Sid and Jane Denny
Murray and Mary Harbke
David and Rita Jenkins
Mark and Jean Luchtefeld
Mark Lunsford and
Roberta Mueller
Madison Co. Farm Bureau

Russell and Gerri Marti
SJ and Emily Morrison
David Novak
Katharine Rapp
Luther and Charleen Statler
Kevin and Donna Wendel
Sue and Bob Wolf

Individual \$35

Jeff Alexander
Emogene Beck
Thomas Blixen
Carolyn Catalano
John Celuch
Judy Chapman

Arlene Eller
Viva Fisher
Suzanne Spilman Foster
Kathryn Genczo
Joyce Giaquinta
Janet Faires Hall
Judy Harris
Genevieve J. Hill
Jeanette Kampen
Rosalynn Kessler
Judith Leo
Robert Mallory
Dan McGuire
Linda Mizell
Ruth Murray
JoAnn Nabe

Diann Noll
Lois Noto
Rebecca Pinkas
Marty Porter
Joann Reitz
Rita Rivas-Pickering
Virginia Schlueter
Velma Schmidt
Sandy Stagelman
Beverly Stutz
Marilyn Sulc
Sarah Turner
Billie Mae Wilson
Dorothy Zwettler

ALTON MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND ART

Loomis Hall, 2809 College Avenue, Alton
618-462-2763

www.altonmuseum.com

Wed-Sat 10-4; Sun 1-4

\$5 adults; \$1 children 12 and under

Group tours available on request

Founded in 1971, this museum occupies Loomis Hall, one of the oldest educational buildings in the state. Built in 1832, Loomis Hall is located on the campus of the SIUE School of Dental Medicine. Exhibits cover the story of the world's tallest man, Robert Wadlow, explorers Lewis and Clark, the Wood River Massacre, Abraham Lincoln in Alton, the Alton Civil War Prison, area pioneers and more. There is also a gallery featuring the work of Alton area artists.

BEALL MANSION

407 E 12th Street, Alton

618-474-9100

www.beallmansion.com

Tours by appointment

\$12 Adults; \$9 Senior (60+);

\$6 Child (2-12); Free for children under 2

This beautifully restored Lucas Pfeifferberger designed mansion was built by railroad baron and entrepreneur Z. B. Job as a wedding gift for his son and his bride, Mary Drummond. Drummond was the heiress to the Drummond Tobacco fortune. The home is named for its second owner, Edmond Beall, a senator, industrialist and four-time mayor of Alton. The 10,000+ square foot mansion provides a glimpse into the lives of wealthy turn of the century Alton residents. In addition to tours of the historic home, the mansion is one of the finest bed and breakfasts in the St. Louis area. Narrated tours last 30-40 minutes.

HAYNER GENEALOGY AND LOCAL HISTORY LIBRARY

401 State Street, Alton

618-462-0677 ext 2865

www.haynerlibrary.org

Mon-Tues, Thurs-Sat 8:30 to 5

Wed Noon – 8 pm

Free Admission

Although primarily a library, the beautiful Hayner Genealogy and Local History Library also offers patrons a rotating schedule of museum exhibits on various aspects of local history. For example a visitor today would find exhibits on the

Hayner family, Walnut Grove Dairy, local cookbooks, Owens Illinois Glass, Western Military Academy, Agnes Richmond (local area artist), Elijah Lovejoy, Monticello College and a display of local postcards.

The brick and stone Romanesque Revival building with its stately hexagonal tower is worth a visit simply to admire the architectural design of Theodore Link who also designed St. Louis Union Station. When Jennie D. Hayner, an important director for the Alton Library Association, died in 1888, her husband John E. Hayner commissioned the library in her memory. The original building was completed in 1891.

HISTORIC MUSEUM OF TORTURE DEVICES

Mineral Springs Mall

301 East Broadway, Alton

618-465-3200

www.mineralspringshauntedtours.com

Sat-Sun Noon - 4 pm (*Advise calling first*)

\$5 Admission

This unusual museum is located in the Mineral Springs Mall near downtown Alton where visitors can also sign up for a haunted tour of Alton. Dozens of exhibits showcase devices of torture used around the world to terrorize, maim, coerce or punish those thought to have done wrong.

MCPIKE MANSION

2018 Alby Street, Alton

618-462-3348 or 618-830-2179

www.mcpikemansion.com

\$20 Adults; \$10 Age 13-17; \$5 Age 6-12
Under 5 Free;

Group tour registration is on-line

Designed by architect Lucas Pfeifferberger for Henry Guest McPike in 1869, this National Register property was neglected for decades until purchased by current owners Sharyn and George Luedke in 1996. Known as one of the most haunted houses in America, there are tours offered monthly that include: history and photographs of the mansion and paranormal happenings, tours of the grounds and crypt, conversations with the spirits with Dowsing rods, a visit to the cellar that includes a dark session with the house medium, Sandy Little Lizard. Tours last approximately 1 1/2 hours. Due to on-going restoration of the mansion, tours are limited to the cellar and grounds. Group tours by appointment.



This life-size statue of Robert Pershing Wadlow is located across the street from the Alton Museum of History and Art on College Avenue in Alton. (Reinhardt)

BETHALTO AND GODFREY

EVERGREENS MONTICELLO MUSEUM

5800 Godfrey Road, Godfrey
618-468-2370

www.monticellofound.org

Hours by appointment

Free Admission

The Evergreens, located on the LCCC campus, is the former Monticello College president's home. A visit to the home, which also serves as offices for the Monticello College Foundation, includes a short tour and a self-guided museum tour highlighting the history of Monticello College (1838-1970) and Captain Benjamin Godfrey. Godfrey, the father of eight daughters, founded the Monticello Female Seminary because he believed that "if you educate a man you educate an individual; educate a woman and you educate a whole family."

While on the Godfrey campus of LCCC, you might want to also stop by Reid

Hall which was built in 1890 as a chapel. The architecture of the building which now serves as a library is spectacular with a ceiling that resembles the inverted hull of a ship and beautiful 19th century stained glass.

BETHALTO HISTORICAL MUSEUM

124 West Main Street, Bethalto
618-975-0156

Wed 10 am – 12 pm & 1 pm – 3 pm
or by appointment

Free admission

Located in a beautiful 2-story brick Italianate building that previously served as the village hall, the Bethalto Historical Museum still has the original village jail cell along with exhibits on the history of the village. On the grounds of the museum is an 1850s era log cabin, moved to the site for preservation in 1998 and furnished with household items typical of a pioneer household.

HARTFORD

LEWIS AND CLARK STATE HISTORIC SITE CAMP RIVER DUBOIS

One Lewis and Clark Trail
(Route 3 at Poag Road)
618-251-5811

www.campbubois.com

Interpretive Center:

Wed-Sun 9 am - 5 pm

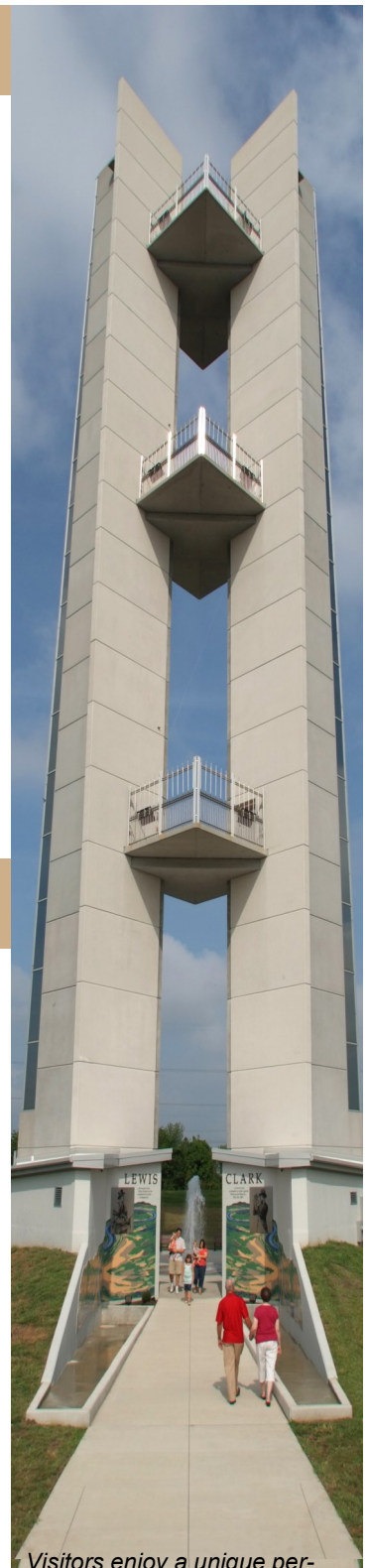
Camp Dubois

Wed-Sun 9 am - 4 pm

Free admission and parking

The story of the Lewis and Clark expedition is told in visual and written detail at the site's visitor's center. A scale replica of the 55-foot keel boat used by Lewis and Clark, a film on the expedition and dozens of hands on exhibits that are of interest to both adults and children make this an exceptional museum. Outdoors is a replica of the camp established on River Dubois by the explorers. Although the museum provides a great experience any time, call or check their website for a list of special events where dozens of reenactors are on hand to demonstrate life in the early 19th century.

Pictured below and at left are some of the many authentically attired reenactors that participated in a 2013 event at the Lewis and Clark State Historic Site. Reenacting is a family activity so even young children enjoy portraying characters from two centuries ago. (Reinhardt)



Visitors enjoy a unique perspective from viewing platforms at 50, 100 and 150 feet.

LOUIS & CLARK CONFLUENCE TOWER

435 Confluence Tower Dr,
Hartford
(618) 251-9101

www.confluencetower.com/

Saturday 9:30 am - 5 pm

Sunday Noon - 5 pm

Closed holidays

\$5 adults; \$2 Children

(Photo courtesy of John Metcalfe)

EAST ALTON - WOOD RIVER - ROXANA - COLLINSVILLE

NATIONAL GREAT RIVERS MUSEUM

2 Lock and Dam Way, East Alton
618-462-6979
Open daily 9 am - 5 pm
Closed Thanksgiving, New Year's
Day and Christmas; Free Admission

Located next to the Melvin Price Locks and Dam, this museum helps visitors understand the natural heritage of the Mississippi River and how the river has impacted the lives of those who live nearby, whether early Indian societies or present day residents. Aquariums and state of the art exhibits tell part of the story, but there is also a ranger talk, film, and tours of the locks and dam. A wildlife refuge across the river makes the picnic grounds along the entrance road to the museum an ideal place for bird watching. In particular, eagles tend to congregate below the locks and dam in winter looking for an easy food source. This museum is a regional visitor center operated by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers.

WOOD RIVER MUSEUM AND VISITOR'S CENTER

40 W Ferguson Avenue, Wood River
618-254-1993
www.woodriverheritagecouncil.org
Thu-Fri 1 pm - 4 pm
Sat 10 am - 4 pm
Closed January
Free admission

The Wood River Heritage Council (WRHC) established this museum in 1997 to celebrate and preserve the history of Wood River. Exhibits on the early history of Wood River, Standard Oil, Sears Kit Homes, Benbow City and more can be found at the museum. They also have an archive room with refinery newsletters, city directories, yearbooks, photographs and other documents. Among the most unusual items is a book from the former Wood River Hospital with baby pictures of children born at the hospital. The WRHC also owns the Historic Chapel of Wood River, Vaughn Cemetery, graveyard for the victims of the Wood River massacre, and Camp Du Bois.

WOOD RIVER REFINERY HISTORY MUSEUM

900 S. Central Ave.
Roxana, IL 62084
618-255-3718
www.wrrhm.org/index.htm
Wed-Thu 10 am - 4 pm
Free Admission
Group tours by appointment

Established in 1986 by a group of refinery retirees, the museum opened in its current location in 1993. This gem of a museum is a bit off the



beaten track, but worth a visit. A documentary film and well organized displays showcase over a thousand artifacts and photographs from the former Shell Refinery. An archive of refinery newsletters provides a record of employee accomplishments over the years for those interested in family history. A highlight of the museum is a modified 1924 Chevy (shown above) that for many years held the fuel mileage record in the Shell Mileage Marathon: 168 mpg.

CAHOKIA MOUNDS STATE HISTORIC SITE

Collinsville Road, Collinsville
618-346-5160
www.cahokiamounds.org
Hours vary by season and are different for the grounds and museum; Call or visit their website for complete information

The remains of one of the most advanced societies of native civiliza-

tion in America can be found at Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site. Visitors can explore a first class museum set on 2,200 acres of ground including mounds still being explored by archeologists today. The former city of Cahokia was occupied from A. D. 700 to 1400 with an estimated population of 10,000 to 20,000 residents and today is a World Heritage Site. Although Monk's Mound and numerous smaller mounds are located in Madison County, the Cahokia Mounds Interpretive Center is in St. Clair County.

COLLINSVILLE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

406 W. Main Street, Collinsville
618-344-1834
www.collinsvillemuseum.org
Tues-Thu 11 am - 3 pm
Fri-Sat 12 pm - 4 pm
Free Admission

Although the museum building is fairly new, the Collinsville Historical Society has been collecting artifacts since it was founded in 1965. The museum provides displays on Collinsville founders, its military men and women, local sports, and early industry, including the manufacture of cow bells, and coal mining. Displays tell the story of the lynching of Robert Praeger, the Miner's Theatre, bootlegging, and of course, celebrate Collinsville's famous Catsup Bottle water tower. The museum is well done, providing entertaining and educational information on the history of Collinsville. In addition they have an archive of materials that could prove helpful in researching your family tree.

WILLOUGHBY HERITAGE FARM & CONSERVATION RESERVE

631 Willoughby Lane, Collinsville
618-346-7529

www.collinsvillerec.com/willoughbyfarm.html

Open daily; 9 am - dusk

Historic structures, barnyard, gardens and more can be found at this restored farmstead environment representing a Midwest family farm 1930-1950.

GLEN CARBON - EDWARDSVILLE - MARYVILLE - TROY



The Col. Benjamin Stephenson House in Edwardsville.

(Reinhardt)

GLEN CARBON HISTORIC MUSEUM

124 School Street, Glen Carbon
618-288-7271

www.glen-carbon.il.us/891/Heritage-Museum-and-Log-Cabin

10 am – 2 pm (winter)

Private tours by appointment

Located in Glen Carbon's 1914 school house, the Glen Carbon Heritage Museum has a broad collection of artifacts, photographs and documentation of the history of the Village of Glen Carbon. Museum exhibits include agriculture, mining, government, schools, household items, clothing, military and even toys. They are especially proud of their large doll and arrowhead collections. They also have an archive of books and other materials to assist with genealogy or historical research.

Note: The Glen Carbon Heritage Museum is currently closed while they search for a new Museum Coordinator. Call 618-288-2612 for information while the museum is closed.

YANDA LOG CABIN

148 Main Street, Glen Carbon
618-288-2612

4th Saturday of month

Apr – Oct; 10 am – 2 pm

Private tours by appointment

Built by blacksmith William Yanda circa 1853, the cabin was discovered in 1989 beneath a clapboard house. Restoration was completed in time for Glen Carbon's centennial in 1992. Special events are scheduled at the cabin throughout the year.

MADISON COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

715 N. Main Street, Edwardsville
618-656-7562

www.madcohistory.org

Wed-Fri 9 am - 4 pm

Sun 1pm - 4 pm

Free Admission

Opened in the historic 1836 Weir House in 1964, MCHM displays artifacts donated by residents of Madison County since the establishment of the Madison County Historical Society almost a century ago. Permanent displays as well as rotating exhibits showcase some of the many items in the MCHS collection. Paper items, photographs, letters, books, and scrapbooks can be seen at the Madison County Archival Library adjacent to the museum.

The museum also provides rotating exhibits of Madison County artifacts in display cases at the Madison County Courthouse and Administration Building.

At left, Yanda Log Cabin. (Reinhardt)



COL. BENJAMIN STEPHENSON HOUSE

409 S. Buchanan. Edwardsville
618-692-1818

www.stephensonhouse.org

March-December

Thu-Sat 10 am - 4 pm

Sun Noon – 4 pm

\$6 Adults' \$3 (Age 6-12)

Free: Ages 5 & under

Group tours on request

The Stephenson House was built in 1820 for Colonel Benjamin Stephenson, "Receiver of Public Moneys," for the Federal Land Office in Edwardsville. His state and federal political influence and his success with the land office made him a wealthy man, as reflected in his beautifully appointed home.

Trained docents in period dress representing residents and neighbors of the Stephenson family provide an inspiring glimpse into the past. Visitors may find them baking bread in the kitchen, stitching in the parlor, repairing leatherworks, gardening, or working at any number of tasks that would have been witnessed in the 1820s.

Allow up to two hours to fully experience these entertaining and educational tours.

MARYVILLE HERITAGE MUSEUM

128 East Zupan Street,
618-541-9328 or 618-795-0846

Open by appointment

The new Maryville Heritage Museum preserves and interprets the history of the Village of Maryville through their collection and preservation of related artifacts and documents, programming and publications.

MERSINGER PIONEER CABIN

Highway 162, Troy
618-980-8298

troyhistoricalsociety.org

3rd Sunday of the month

Apr-Oct; 1 pm – 3 pm

or by appointment

Located in Bud Kaustermeier City Park this furnished replica of the Mersinger Pioneer Cabin (circa 1859) provides a glimpse into the past for visitors. Educational programs are offered in warmer months. The park is located on the National Road.



Madison County Historical Society

Opening Doors to Madison County History

715 N. Main Street
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Address Service Requested

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62025

HIGHLAND

GIGER SCHOOL AND SCHOTT BREWERY MUSEUM

Giger Road & 600 13th Street, Highland

618-654-2161 ext 468

Tours by appointment

Free admission

The legacy of Erwin and Louise Weder can be found at the beautifully restored 1880 Giger School House as well as at the former Schott Brewery (1866) on 13th Street. The Erwin H. Weder Deck's Prairie Historical, Educational and Research Foundation owns and maintains both properties.

Giger School restoration is complete with original furnishings. The brewery building, which was established as the Erwin H. Weder Museum in 1994, has two rooms of exhibits in an architecturally interesting building that includes an atrium as well as caves below which were originally used for beer storage. Both facilities may be toured by appointment, but groups are preferred.

ALBERT E. KAESER MEMORIAL PARK MUSEUM

Broadway, Kaeser Park, Highland

618-651-7281; www.highlandilhistory.org

First Sunday of the Month; May – September; 1 pm – 4 pm
or by appointment

\$3 suggested donation

This former stagecoach stop features four rooms of exhibits, two representing a kitchen and bedroom from the 1800s and the two rooms of Highland history told through exhibits of Highland artifacts and memorabilia.

LOUIS LATZER HOMESTEAD AND PET MILK MUSEUM

1464 Old Trenton Road, Highland

618-654-7957

www.highlandilhistory.org

Group tours by appointment; Eight or more preferred

Free Admission

Built in 1901 for Louis Latzer, the founder of what would become the Pet Milk Company, this home was donated in 1977 to the Highland Historical Society by the family, fully furnished. The home is open during Homestead Harvest Days on the second weekend in September.



Giger School. Photo courtesy of Brady Kesner (bradykesner.com)

MARY'S RESEARCH TIP

Did any of you attend the RootsTech 2015 Conference held recently in Salt Lake City? Neither did I. Did you know that some of the presentations were streamed live and are now available free at <https://rootstech.org/video/4050134760001>? There are a dozen sessions available and they include various topics such as tech tools, research toolboxes, new information

available at FamilySearch.org, writing your family stories, and more. So check it out for a taste of the conference!

Speaking of conferences, the National Genealogical Society 2015 Family History Conference "Crossroads of America" will be held in St. Charles, MO, May 13-16. For more information, visit www.ngsgenealogy.org.