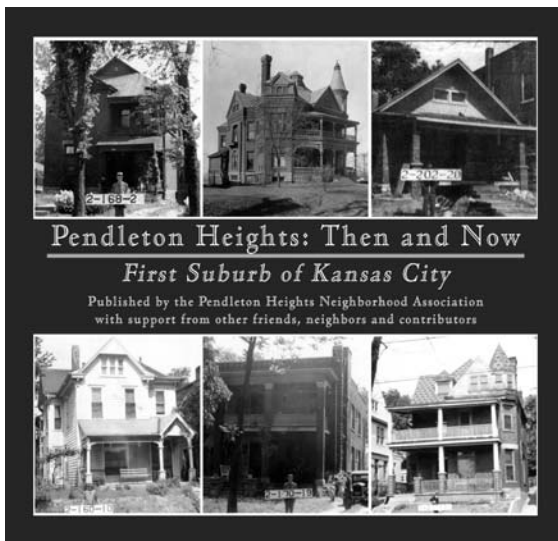


February 2012

February Author Events at the National Archives

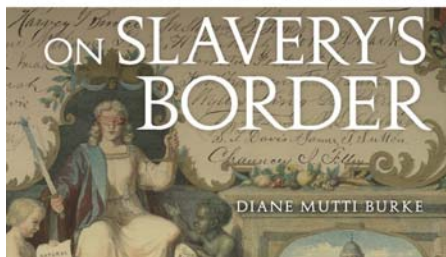
On **Wednesday, February 15, at 6:30 p.m.** the National Archives at Kansas City will host David Remley and Kent Dicus for a discussion and signing of their book *Pendleton Heights: Then and Now, First Suburb of Kansas City*.

Pendleton Heights: Then and Now, First Suburb of Kansas City published by the Pendleton Heights Neighborhood Association, takes an in-depth look and analysis into the area's historic architecture. Platted in the early 1880s, Pendleton Heights bears the distinction of being Kansas City's first suburb, being separated from town by few roads, deep gullies, and ravines. While the entrance ramp to I-35 North now serves Pendleton Heights from Columbus Park, it is hardly considered a suburb of the City. Included in *Pendleton Heights: Then and Now* are 83 vintage photographs of historic homes and other structures compared to as many images captured at today's same camera angle. While many of the homes reflect successes in the preservation of the neighborhood's original structures, other side-by-side comparisons boldly state the impact of neglected and abused property, as well as—in extreme cases—the brutality of the wrecking ball.



On **Wednesday, February 22, at 6:30 p.m.** the National Archives at Kansas City will host Diane Mutti Burke for a discussion and signing of her book *On Slavery's Border: Missouri's Small Slaveholding Households, 1815-1865*.

Mutti Burke focuses on the Missouri counties located along the Mississippi and Missouri rivers to investigate small-scale slavery at the level of the household and neighborhood. She examines such topics as small slaveholders' child-rearing and fiscal strategies, the economics of slavery, relations between slaves and owners, the challenges faced by slave families, sociability among enslaved and free Missourians within rural neighborhoods, and the disintegration of slavery during the Civil War. Mutti Burke argues that economic and social factors gave Missouri slavery an especially intimate quality. Owners directly oversaw their slaves and lived in close proximity with them, sometimes in the



same building. White Missourians believed this made for a milder version of bondage. Some slaves, who expressed fear of being sold further south, seemed to agree.

A **6:00 p.m. reception** will precede both events. Copies of both *Pendleton Heights: Then and Now, First Suburb of Kansas City* and *On Slavery's Border* will be available for purchase at The Kansas City Store onsite. Following the program the authors will sign copies of their books. **To register for these free events** call 816-268-8010 or email

kansascity.educate@nara.gov.

Inside this issue

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Upcoming Events

All events are held at the National Archives
400 West Pershing Road
Kansas City, MO 64108

- FEBRUARY 7 - 6:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M. ELECTION DAY: POLLING SITE
- FEBRUARY 7 - 9:00 A.M. EXHIBITION OPENING: "THEY'RE NOT GOING TO GET ME:" CRIME IN THE 1930S
- FEBRUARY 15 - 10:00 A.M. GENEALOGY WORKSHOP: NATURALIZATION RECORDS
- FEBRUARY 15 - 6:30 P.M. AUTHOR EVENT: KENT DICUS AND DAVID REMLEY, *PENDLETON HEIGHTS: THEN AND NOW*
- FEBRUARY 22 - 6:30 P.M. AUTHOR EVENT: DIANE MUTTI BURKE, *ON SLAVERY'S BORDER*
- FEBRUARY 24 - 1:00 P.M. GENEALOGY WORKSHOP: ALIEN CASE FILES (A-FILES)

"They're Not Going to Get Me:" Crime in the 1930s Opens February 7

The newest exhibit to open at the National Archives at Kansas City traces the rise and fall of the bank robbers and gangsters who became national icons in the 1930s. Named as public enemies, they became a target of J. Edgar Hoover's Federal Bureau of Investigation and the impetus for a national war on crime.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA
THIRD DIVISION.

The United States of America,
Plaintiff,
against
Evelyn Frechette, alias Billie Spark,
alias Ann Martin, alias Mary Evelyn
Frechette, alias Evelyn Spark, alias
Evelyn Faschetti, alias Evelyn Frisbette,
alias Grace Edwards, alias Mrs. John Dil-
linger, alias "Billie"; Clayton E. May;
Mrs. A. Salt, alias Mrs. A. LaBelle.
Defendants.

VERDICT
No. 6037

We, the jury in the above-entitled action, do find the defendant Evelyn Frechette, alias Billie Spark, alias Ann Martin, alias Mary Evelyn Frechette, alias Evelyn Spark, alias Evelyn Faschetti, alias Evelyn Frisbette, alias Grace Edwards, alias Mrs. John Dillinger, alias "Billie" guilty as charged in the indictment; do find the defendant Clayton E. May guilty as charged in the indictment; do find the defendant Mrs. A. Salt, alias Mrs. A. LaBelle, who declares her true name to be Augusta Salt not guilty as charged in the indictment.

Dated May 23, 1934.

Mrs. O. J. A. Groat
Foreman.

John Dillinger's girlfriend Evelyn "Billie" Frechette and doctor Clayton May were found guilty of conspiracy to harbor and conceal a fugitive on May 23, 1934. RG21, Records of the District Courts of the United States.

Visitors will encounter original records that trace the investigation and prosecution of these criminals and their associates: indictments, verdicts, wanted posters, prison records, arrest warrants, subpoenas, parole reports, photographs, and maps. Featured documents and artifacts include the:

- grand jury indictment of Adam Richetti for the Kansas City Massacre, a 1933 shootout with local and Federal authorities at Kansas City's Union Station;
- Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary inmate register showing George "Machine Gun" Kelly's transfer to Alcatraz Federal Penitentiary;
- verdict against George and Kathryn Kelly in the Charles Urschel kidnapping case;
- grand jury indictment of John Dillinger;
- bench warrant and mugshot for Homer Van Meter, Dillinger gang member;
- verdict against Evelyn "Billie" Frechette, John Dillinger's girlfriend;
- letters written by Minnesota banker Edward Bremer to his father and wife after being kidnapped by the Barker-Karpis gang;
- commitment form sending Alvin Karpis to jail for kidnapping Hamm's Brewery chairman William Hamm;
- and witness statement signed by Melvin Purvis, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Chicago office.

The rise of this new generation of gangsters, reminiscent of the bygone days of Jesse James, the Dalton Boys, and Butch and the Sundance Kid, came at a time when the nation was looking for an escape from the poverty of the Great Depression. Inspired by dime novels, movies, and legend, these new bandits did not ride horses and wield six-shooters—they escaped in Ford V-8s as sub-machine gun fire filled the air.

While many of these criminals thought they could stay one step ahead of the law, historical documents tell a different story. Drawn from the holdings of the National Archives at Kansas City, the exhibit features original records relating to the exploits and capture of notorious criminals, their gang members, and girls; including Pretty Boy Floyd, Machine Gun Kelly, Bonnie and Clyde, John Dillinger, Baby Face Nelson, and the Barker-Karpis Gang.

"They're Not Going to Get Me:" Crime in the 1930s will be on display at the National Archives at Kansas City from February 7 through August 18, 2012. To schedule a group tour call 816-268-8013 or email mickey.ebert@nara.gov.

Gems for Genealogists

The National Archives at Kansas City will be offering the following **free** Genealogy Workshops during February.

Wednesday, February 15 - 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Naturalization Records

Throughout American history, immigration and naturalization laws have ebbed and flowed with the political climate. Tracking documentation and evidence of our ancestor's paths to citizenship can be a challenge. Learn about the paperwork involved with the process and how naturalization encompassed a variety of individuals from immigrants to the native born. This course will be taught by Archives Technician Jennifer Audsley-Moore.

Friday, February 24 - 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Alien Case Files (A-Files)

Learn about the Alien Files (A-Files), a rich source of biographical information for family research and how to complete a successful request. The A-Files contain United States immigration documents generated and collected since the mid-20th century with a wealth of data, including visas, photographs, applications, affidavits, correspondence, and more. This course will be taught by Archivist Elizabeth Burnes.

These workshops are free, but reservations are suggested. For more information or **to make a reservation for these free events**, call 816-268-8000 or email kansascity.archives@nara.gov.

News and Notes

- **Election Day, Tuesday, February 7** - In 2012 the National Archives at Kansas City will be a voting location for those who live in Jackson County, MO, Ward 1, Precincts 6 and 7. Polling hours are 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- **Girl Scout Day, Saturday, March 3** - The National Archives at Kansas City will be hosting Girl Scout Day on Saturday, March 3. Troops from grades 4-8, are invited to participate in this free event and can sign up for one of the following time slots: 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.; 10:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.; or 1:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. Troops will learn about the National Archives and how they can use the records and photographs at the archives for family history research or studying the Federal government. Troops will tour two exhibitions, learn about genealogy, and participate in a hands-on educational activity. To register call 816-268-8013 or email mickey.ebert@nara.gov.
- **1940 Census Release, Monday, April 2** - On April 2, 2012, the National Archives will release the 1940 U.S. Census. In the past the National Archives has provided access to the Census on microfilm. For the 1940 Census the National Archives will be providing **free** online access. You will be able to search on the internet using the public computers in our research rooms or your own computer. More information about the release along with special workshops will be in the March and April newsletters.



“Preserve” the Date - Saturday, May 5 at the National Archives

The National Archives at Kansas City invites you to *Preservation Matters: Caring for Personal Papers, Pictures, and Paraphernalia*. *Preservation Matters* will feature a series of workshops highlighting practical preservation techniques you can perform to save your treasured memories. Presentations will focus on family keepsakes, photographs, electronic records, personal papers, and oral histories. There will be 10 presentations between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. There will also be a *Preservation One-on-One* clinic, attendees can bring in a single item and receive professional advice on how to preserve it. The clinic will be held from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Registrants can attend one event or stay for all. Detailed registration information will be in the March newsletter.

Hidden Treasures from the Stacks

Operation Alert: Testing Civil Defense during the Cold War

“...war no longer presents the possibility of victory or defeat, but only the alternative of varying degrees of destruction...” –President Dwight D. Eisenhower

During the height of the Cold War the threat of nuclear attack and its consequent fallout left America in a state of unrest. Leaders around the country expressed concern that their constituents were unaware of how to protect themselves in the case of radioactive fallout. Christian A. Herter, Governor of Massachusetts, stated, “For example, we have no idea whether or not raincoats are preferable to cloth coats, whether hands or faces should be kept covered, whether or not riding in an automobile with all windows closed provides a degree of protection, and whether or not radioactive particles permeate windows or the walls of buildings, or seep into cellars.” The question remained: how would the nation respond at the moment of attack?



Many wondered whether urban evacuation was a viable option. Beginning in June 1954 the Civil Defense Agency put this idea to the test through a civil defense drill called “Operation Alert.” Citizens within designated cities were required to take cover as local, state, and federal civil defense officials tested their readiness and communication systems, and federal officials evacuated the capital. Targeted cities were attacked under a variety of hypothetical scenarios, and the estimated level of devastation was reported to Washington, D.C., by federal officials and to the public the following day through local news sources. Annual “Operation Alert” exercises were held throughout the U.S. and its territories until 1962.

The exercises were intended to gauge U.S. preparedness while providing a realistic training environment for the individuals involved. Significant time was devoted to preparing plans and manuals each year in order to fine tune reactions and address concerns introduced during the evaluation period following each drill. Manuals contained an in-depth system of codes used by personnel to convey information during drill periods; tables to breakdown the projected deaths and injuries based on the number and type of weaponry that may be used in a given area; forms to enable quick reports of supply levels, sources of communication, numbers of personnel available, etc.; and charts of hypothetical fallout to convey the expanse of impacted areas.

Letters, memoranda, charts, circulars, and manuals related to “Operation Alert” for the years 1955-1958 can be found at the National Archives at Kansas City within Record Group 79, Records of the National Park Service (NPS). Region II of the NPS was based out of Omaha, Nebraska (a targeted city in “Operation Alert”) and was tasked with coordinating the response of park sites across the Midwest. The NPS was instructed to terminate nonessential activities and to be prepared to dispatch personnel to assist with emergencies at other locations throughout the region. Additionally contingency plans were established denoting various parks as evacuation points for both civilians and federal offices. To learn more about these records please visit Online Public Access (OPA):

<http://research.archives.gov/description/4709031>.

A House Divided: Your Ancestors in the Civil War

Saturday, March 24, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Union and Confederate soldiers and their families left behind a legacy in paper. In honor of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War and in conjunction with the exhibit *Divided Loyalties*, the National Archives at Kansas City will host a day of courses dedicated to records that can be beneficial to genealogical research. Please note these workshops will not address specific battles, politics, or strategies of engagements.

Sessions will be taught by National Archives staff members on the following topics:

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Draftees and Deserters: Your Ancestors in the Civil War

Was your ancestor a draftee, substitute, or deserter? The U.S. Provost Marshal General was responsible for collecting information on all men eligible to fight regardless of their political loyalties. Come learn what details these unique records contain and how to search them.

11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.

Military Records Online

Curious about what types of Civil War records are available online? This course will explore free and subscription-based websites with Civil War military record content, including: indexes, original images, and unit histories.

12:00 p.m. – 12:50 p.m.

Ordering Compiled Service Records and Pension Records

Did your ancestor serve in the Civil War? Did he or his widow apply for a pension? Come learn how to locate and order these records from the National Archives in Washington, D.C. This session will include a basic overview of the information needed to make a request via online or by mail.

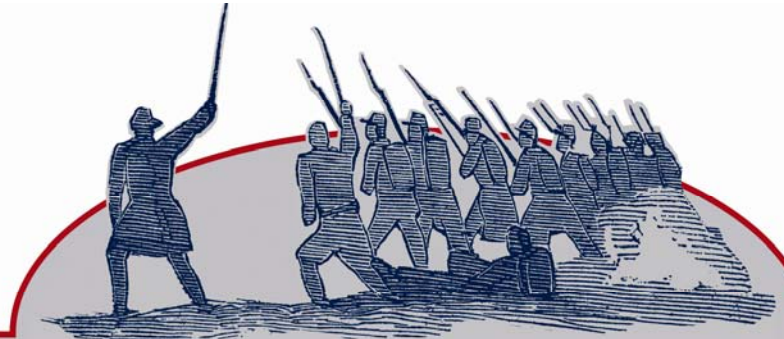
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Confederate Records Available through the National Archives

While the Civil War divided the nation, it also divided the records created about it. Confederate records were not created by the U.S. Federal government, but by both the Confederate government and states that joined the Confederacy. It can be difficult to locate records on ancestors who fought for the Confederacy. This course will help you discover what records can be found at the National Archives and how to order them.

All workshops are free and open to the public. Since some of these workshops will take place during the noon hour please feel free to bring a brown bag lunch to enjoy.

These workshops are free, but reservations are suggested. For more information or **to make a reservation for these free events**, call 816-268-8000 or email kansascity.archives@nara.gov.



DIVIDED LOYALTIES

CIVIL WAR DOCUMENTS FROM THE

MISSOURI STATE ARCHIVES

Are you on the National Archives at Kansas City mailing list?



If the answer is “no,” then send us an email with your U.S. postal mail information to kansascity.educate@nara.gov or call 816-268-8000. By providing your address, you grant the National Archives at Kansas City permission to send you information about upcoming exhibitions, special events, and programs. Per the Privacy Act of 1974, we will not share your personal information with third parties.

Divided Loyalties Exhibition at the National Archives

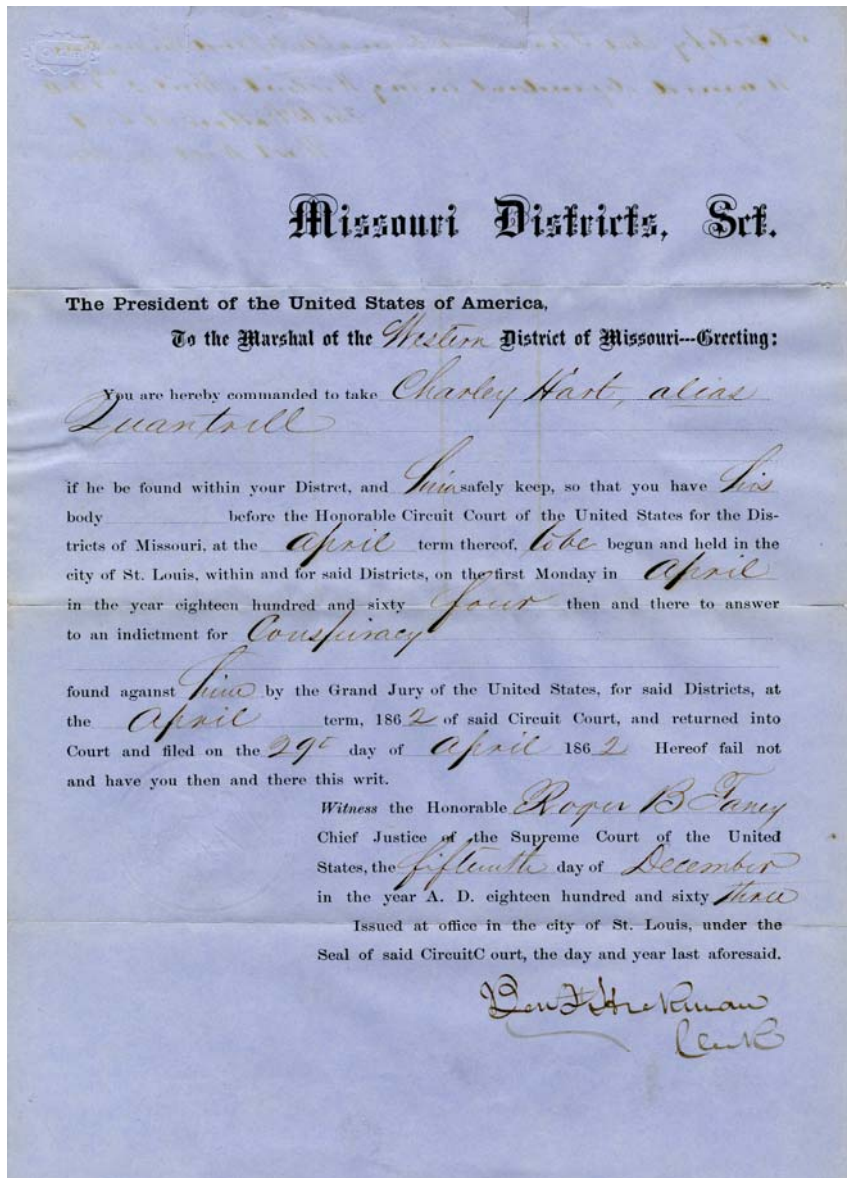
Charley or William? Quantrill's Alias Draws Questions!

In commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War, the National Archives at Kansas City is featuring *Divided Loyalties*, an exhibit exploring the role Missouri played in the war. The exhibit has been popular with visitors, especially one particular document on display - the arrest warrant for William Quantrill.

Quantrill's raiders were a pro-Confederacy guerrilla force operating along the Kansas-Missouri border. These guerrillas focused on disrupting Union supplies and terrorizing pro-Union civilians. The most famous action of Quantrill's raiders was the attack on Lawrence, Kansas, on August 21, 1863, which resulted in the death of more than 150 civilian men and the destruction of much of the town. Already well-known in the region for his guerrilla activities, Quantrill's arrest warrant was issued in 1862 - well before the Lawrence raid. Despite Union efforts, he was never arrested or tried for any of his crimes. Quantrill died in 1865 from wounds received in Kentucky.

So, who was Charley Hart? He was the alter ego of William C. Quantrill, adopted after being banished from Tuscarora Lake, Kansas, for stealing. When Quantrill signed on as a teamster with the U.S. Army at Fort Leavenworth in 1858, he gave his name as Charley Hart. Quantrill continued to use the alias sporadically throughout the late 1850s and early 1860s as he transformed himself from a schoolteacher and petty thief to one of the most notorious outlaws and guerrilla fighters of the Civil War.

This document and other original Civil War era documents are on display through April 28 at the National Archives in the *Divided Loyalties: Civil War Documents from the Missouri State Archives* exhibition. To schedule a group tour call 816-268-8013 or email mickey.ebert@nara.gov.



Arrest Warrant, U.S. v. Charley Hart alias Quantrill, April 29, 1862. Record Group 21, Records of the Circuit Courts of the United States.



The National Archives at Kansas City is one of 13 facilities nationwide where the public has access to Federal archival records. It is home to historical records dating from the 1820s to the 1990s created or received by Federal agencies in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. For more information, call 816-268-8000, email kansascity.educate@nara.gov or visit www.archives.gov/central-plains/kansas-city. Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity

HOURS OF OPERATION

RESEARCH ROOMS: Tuesday through Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

EXHIBIT GALLERIES: Tuesday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Closed on Federal holidays. Hours are subject to change due to special programs and weather.