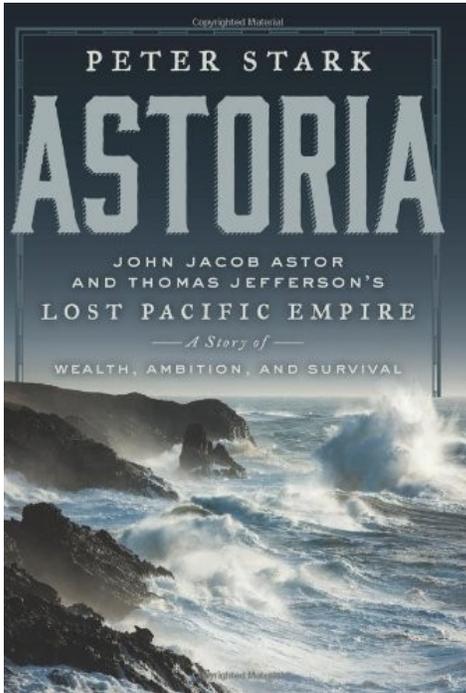


April 2014

## Peter Stark to Discuss *Astoria: John Jacob Astor and Thomas Jefferson's Lost Pacific Empire*



On **Wednesday, April 9 at 6:30 p.m.**, the National Archives will host **Peter Stark** for a discussion and signing of his book *Astoria: John Jacob Astor and Thomas Jefferson's Lost Pacific Empire – A Story of Wealth, Ambition, and Survival*. A 6:00 p.m. reception will precede the program.

Six years after Lewis and Clark began their journey to the Pacific Northwest, two of the Eastern establishment's leading figures, John Jacob Astor and Thomas Jefferson, turned their sights to founding a colony akin to Jamestown on the West Coast and transforming the nation into a Pacific trading power. Author and correspondent for *Outside* magazine Peter Stark recreates this pivotal moment in American history for the first time for modern readers, drawing on original source material to tell the amazing true story of the Astor Expedition.

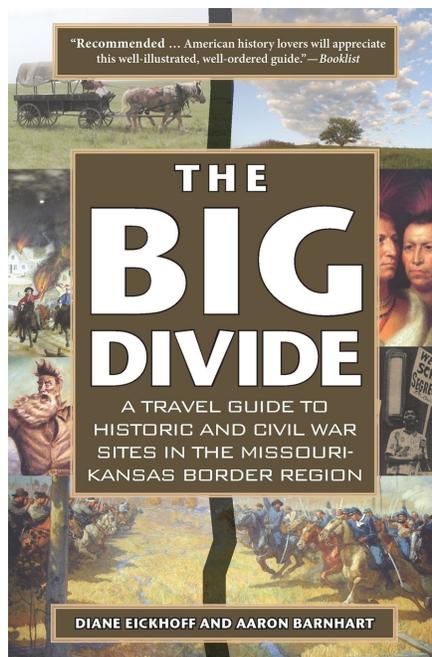
Copies of *Astoria* will be available for purchase after the program from **Rainy Day Books**. To make a reservation for this **free program** call 816-268-8010 or email [kansascity.educate@nara.gov](mailto:kansascity.educate@nara.gov).

## Aaron Barnhart and Diane Eickhoff to Discuss *The Big Divide*

On **Thursday, April 17 at 6:30 p.m.**, the National Archives will host **Aaron Barnhart** and **Diane Eickhoff** for a discussion and signing of their book *The Big Divide*. A 6:00 p.m. reception will precede the program.

Readers can plan to partake in a guided tour of the Missouri-Kansas border region. Discover the African-American soldiers who were the first to die for their freedom (months before the 54th Massachusetts of *Glory* fame took up arms); the ferocious battle to keep Missouri in the Union, with dueling governments, flags, and armies; and how the Civil War shaped future outlaw Jesse James and future president Harry Truman. Summer travel planning will be easy with this historical guide, which is packed with themed driving tours, kid-friendly sites, and tips from two experienced history travelers.

To make a reservation for this **free program** call 816-268-8010 or email [kansascity.educate@nara.gov](mailto:kansascity.educate@nara.gov). Copies of *The Big Divide* will be available for purchase after the program.



## Upcoming Events

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

- APRIL 4 - 10:00 A.M.  
GENEALOGY WORKSHOP:  
*BEHIND BARS*
  - APRIL 6 - 2:00 P.M.  
*RWANDAN GENOCIDE*  
LECTURE WITH MARK  
GUDGEL\*
  - APRIL 7 - 6:30 P.M.  
*HARLEM'S RATTLES* BY  
JEFFREY SAMMONS\*
  - APRIL 9 - 1:00 P.M.  
GENEALOGY WEBINAR:  
*DECIPHERING THE CODE*
  - APRIL 9 - 6:30 P.M.  
*ASTORIA* BY PETER STARK
  - APRIL 16 - 10:00 A.M.  
GENEALOGY WORKSHOP:  
*PROBLEM SOLVING USING*  
*FANS* WITH BETH FOULK
  - APRIL 17 - 6:30 P.M.  
*THE BIG DIVIDE* BY AARON  
BARNHART AND DIANE  
EICKHOFF
  - APRIL 19 - 1:30 P.M.  
*WORLD WAR II RECORDS*  
WITH JAKE ERSLAND
  - APRIL 29 - 6:30 P.M.  
*KANSAS CITY 1940* BY  
JOHN SIMONSON
- \* PROGRAM IS AT THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR I MUSEUM

# Gems for Genealogists

The National Archives will be offering two free genealogy workshops in April. The workshops will be held at 400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, Missouri.

## Workshop Descriptions:

**Behind Bars: Penitentiary Records on Friday, April 4 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary has an infamous past, leaving behind a paper trail of inmates that crossed its threshold. From bank robbers and bootleggers to fraudulent oleo manufacturers and revolutionaries, many men (and a few women) have called Leavenworth home. The inmate case files document the individual's life from arrival to departure. Learn about the contents and clues found in these files.



**Problem Solving Using FANS – Friends, Associates, and Neighbors with guest speaker Beth Foulk on Wednesday, April 16 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

Often the answer to climbing a genealogy brick wall is simply to go around it. By broadening our research to include our ancestors' friends, associates, and neighbors, we can find answers that were previously elusive. Foulk discovered her love of genealogy through her father, who built a 115-name family tree with every family member's name he knew. Visit her website to learn more at [www.genealogydecoded.com/](http://www.genealogydecoded.com/).

To make a reservation for these **free workshops**, please call 816-268-8000 or email [kansascity.archives@nara.gov](mailto:kansascity.archives@nara.gov).

UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY  
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

RECORD OF Samuel J. Rosenthal NO. 11436  
Alias \_\_\_\_\_ Color White  
Crime Conspiracy (the Bootlegging law) Military or Civil Civil  
Sentence 2 years, \_\_\_\_\_ months, \_\_\_\_\_ days.  
Fine \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \_\_\_\_\_  
Received at Penitentiary January 20, 1919 From S.D. Ill. Chicago  
Date of Sentence Jan 5, 1919 Sentence Begins Jan 5, 1919 Nov 23, 19  
Maximum term ends Oct 30, 1920 # June 8, 1920 June 8, 1920  
Good time allowed 144 days. Occupation merchant Age 36 yrs  
Eligible to parole Sept. 1, 1917 June 29, 1919  
Outside Trusty, Jun. 26, 1919. Released on bond January 27, 1919  
Returned from bond, Nov. 23, 1918  
Trustyship revoked, December 26, 1918 # Fatty Genl' directs 5 days  
Jail time credited 11436  
Outside Trusty ship restored... March 12, 1920 will not be released 6/2/20  
See letter in Jacket

DATE	VIOLATIONS	REMARKS
<u>May 17, 1919</u>	<u>Food and provisions taken from his cell to another prisoner in the cell above him (Fats). Reprimanded and by mail</u>	
<u>Dec 24</u>	<u>Having excess amount of tobacco and foodstuffs in his possession. This prisoner had about 150 bags of tobacco, bologna sausage, and hamburger cheese in his possession when searched. (North) Reprimanded and outside Trustyship revoked.</u>	

Above: This document is for inmate 11436, Samuel J. Rosenthal. It details his sentence and the violations he committed while in prison. Record Group 129, Records of the Bureau of Prisons, 1870-2009, U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Inmate File of Samuel J. Rosenthal.

## Genealogy Webinar Workshops Now Offered at the Archives

The Archives is pleased to announce that free online interactive workshops will be offered for the first time in 2014. To participate you will need internet and telephone access on the day of the presentation. Specific directions for access will be sent the week of the presentation via email. Reserve your "seat" early, as space is limited. All webinars will take place from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Central Standard Daylight Time. Below is a list of upcoming webinars. **Reservations are required** for these **free webinars**, call 816-268-8000 or email [kansascity.archives@nara.gov](mailto:kansascity.archives@nara.gov).

### April 9 - 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. - *Deciphering the Code*

Did grandma have lovely handwriting that seems illegible? Learn how to decipher the code! This course will teach you how to recognize and analyze old handwriting that may prove challenging to genealogists. Learn about common misconceptions and popular abbreviations.

### May 14 - 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. - *Alien Ancestors during Times of War*

The Federal government created documentation of aliens, immigrants living in the United States who were not naturalized, during times of war in the 19th and 20th century. Come learn about some of the applications, files, and lists used by a variety of Federal agencies during the Civil War, World War I, and World War II. This course will introduce underutilized records, highlight some of the most popular, and offer instructions for completing successful requests.

## John Simonson to Discuss *Kansas City 1940: A Watershed Year*



On **Tuesday, April 29 at 6:30 p.m.**, the National Archives will host **John Simonson** for a discussion and signing of his book *Kansas City 1940: A Watershed Year*. A 6:00 p.m. reception will precede the program.

1940: It is the year Nazis rain bombs on London and goose-step into Paris, when President Franklin Roosevelt wins an unprecedented third term and Kansas Citians finally run the corrupt Pendergast political machine out of power. The new reform-minded city government is bent on cleaning up the sinful "Paris of the Plains" and streamlining its future with wide, new miles of trafficways. Notorious nightclubs have closed. The City Market opens. Glenn Miller swings, Bojangles taps, and *Gone with the Wind* premieres.

Old buildings make way for parking lots. A dying meteor lights up the night sky above a racially segregated city, home to Charlie Parker, Thomas Hart Benton, Walter Cronkite, Satchel Paige, and Thomas J. Pendergast, ex-con. It is all on display in photographs taken by WPA workers and stories curated by Simonson.

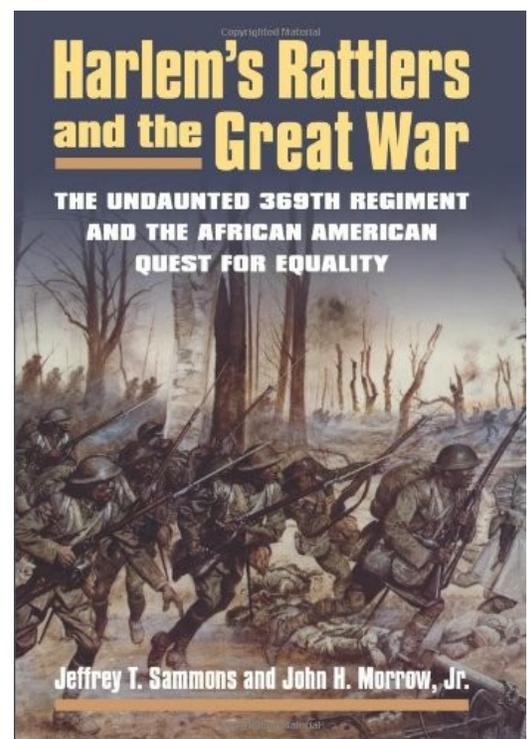
To make a reservation for this **free program** call 816-268-8010 or email [kansascity.educate@nara.gov](mailto:kansascity.educate@nara.gov). Copies of *Kansas City 1940* will be available for purchase and signing.

## National Archives and National World War I Museum Offer Spring Programs

The National Archives at Kansas City and the National World War I Museum have partnered to offer two public programs in April, **both programs will be presented at the National World War I Museum**. For more information or to make a reservation for either program below, call 816-268-8010 or email [kansascity.educate@nara.gov](mailto:kansascity.educate@nara.gov).

**Sunday, April 6 at 2:00 p.m.** - **Mark Gudgel** will discuss the 20th Anniversary of the Rwandan Genocide. Gudgel, co-founder and director of the Educators' Institute for Human Rights, will lead both a lecture at the National World War I Museum focusing on how the Rwandan genocide and the Great War intersect and why communities need to empower young people to repair the world. The Educators' Institute for Human Rights is a non-profit organization striving to help teachers in nations recovering from atrocities to address issues of human rights and genocide in their own classrooms. Presently, the organization is working with teachers in Kigali, Rwanda, where it hosts conferences annually. **This lecture is included with admission** to the National World War I Museum and is free to Museum members.

**Monday, April 7 at 6:30 p.m.** - **Drs. Jeffrey Sammons and John Morrow** will discuss *Harlem's Rattlers and the Great War*, a 6:00 p.m. reception will precede this **free program**. On May 15, 1918, a French lieutenant warned Henry Johnson of the 369th to move back because of a possible enemy raid, Johnson reportedly replied: "I'm an American, and I never retreat." The story, even if apocryphal, captures the mythic status of the Harlem Rattlers, the African American combat unit that grew out of the 15th New York National Guard, who were said to have never lost a man to capture or a foot of ground that had been taken. With historical precision and unparalleled research this book will likely stand as the definitive study of the 369th. Though discussed in numerous histories and featured in popular culture (most famously the film *Stormy Weather* and the novel *Jazz*), the 369th has become more a matter of mythology than grounded, factually accurate history.



## Citizen Soldiers on the Prairie Exhibit at the Johnson County Museum

*Citizen Soldiers on the Prairie* is an exhibit that focuses on the Sunflower Ordnance Works, later known as the Sunflower Army Ammunition Plant, located near present day De Soto, Kansas. The exhibit continues through August 23, 2014 and was curated by the Johnson County Museum.

Records from the National Archives at Kansas City and Johnson County Museum are featured. The exhibit focuses on the workers and artifacts from the onetime world's largest smokeless powder explosives plant. The following lectures will be presented in partnership between the National Archives and the Johnson County Museum and will take place at the National Archives.

**World War II Records at the National Archives on Saturday, April 19 at 1:30 p.m.** - presented by **Jake Erland**, archivist at the National Archives. Erland will highlight records found in the Archives that were created during war time. In addition, Erland will offer tips on how to research military records and other war-related information.

**Main Street America and the Cold War on Tuesday, May 13 at 6:30 p.m.** - presented by **Dr. Janet Valentine** of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. Dr. Valentine will discuss the effects of the Cold War in post-World War II America.

To make a reservation for either of these **free programs**, call 816-268-8010 or email [kansascity.educate@nara.gov](mailto:kansascity.educate@nara.gov). For more information about the *Citizen Soldiers on the Prairie* exhibit, hosted at the Johnson County Museum in Shawnee, Kansas, visit [www.jocomuseum.org](http://www.jocomuseum.org).



Above: This aerial image depicts the Sunflower Army Ammunition Plant and the thousands of structures that once occupied the property. Image courtesy of the Johnson County Museum.

## Spring Semester Intern at the National Archives



The National Archives hosted graduate intern **Kira Riddle** in January and February 2014. Kira is completing her Master of Library Science degree from Emporia State University this spring, including the archives studies certificate. Kira also holds a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from the University of Wyoming, and a Master of Music in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Oklahoma. She is a private piano instructor for Kansas City School of Music in Lenexa, KS. Her attention to detail and precision made her a great fit for archival work.

Interns at the National Archives contribute to all kinds of work, including holdings maintenance, arrangement and description of records, finding aids creation, digitization projects, educational outreach, and reference. We love the energy and enthusiasm they bring!

For more information about internship possibilities please visit [www.archives.gov/kansas-city/volunteer.html#intern](http://www.archives.gov/kansas-city/volunteer.html#intern).

# Hidden Treasures from the Stacks

## Deception and Decoys

“Things aren't always what they seem.”- *Aladdin*

Dating back to the ancient Greeks, famous for their use of wooden horse to conceal soldiers for ambush in the Trojan War, military forces have used the strategy of deceit and deception to mislead and trick their foes. Unlike the Trojan Horse, the realistic decoys used during World War II left military leaders doing a double-take as things were not always as they seemed.



Above: Soldier holds up a military vehicle decoy. Record Group 338, Records of U.S. Army Operational, Tactical, and Support Organizations (World War II and Thereafter), Department of Defense, Department of the Army, Ft Leavenworth, Signal Corps Photograph Collection, Equipment File, 1939 - 1965.

existent troops, ensured the operation's effectiveness as it provided a distraction away from the real invasion plans, D-Day with a landing in Normandy. Through this ruse and disinformation, German military officials failed to increase their troop presence in the necessary places. This weakened the defense capabilities of the German troops once the Allies launched their surprise attack on Normandy on June 6, 1944.

D-Day included a use of decoys as Allied troops dropped paratummies over Normandy in the early morning hours. Nicknamed “Oscars,” these paratroopers could easily be folded and packed for easy transportation between locations. Deception also helped to conceal individuals and units when landing on beachheads. The pneumatic Landing Craft Transport would draw enemy fire and relieve the pressure on real ones loaded with men, increasing their chances of landing safely on a beachhead.

These decoy devices, among others, were photographed during and after the war to help educate soldiers about the

Axis and Allied forces deployed tactics of deception through a series of decoys, or “spoofs,” to mislead enemy intelligence. More specifically, Allied forces applied this subversive tactic throughout European and Pacific theaters alike.

Under the codename *Operation Fortitude*, General Dwight D. Eisenhower and staff cleverly deceived the Germans by creating imaginary invasion forces poised to invade from the north in Norway and south in Pas de Calais. Mustering ghost units, staging inflatable tanks, trucks, and landing craft, and providing faux radio communications regarding these non-

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(continued from page 5)

equipment used in World War II. Department of Defense photographs from Department of the Army at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, provide a detailed look into these items. Air mattress fabric, foam, tubular frames, suspension cables, cotton fabric, rubber, and paint created impressive dummies. To deter the development of mildew, withstand nature's elements, and resist fire, the exteriors were sprayed with molten aluminum coating. Ingenuity turned these common materials into realistic-looking military equipment.

The decoys provided the necessary deceptions by mimicking the characteristics of actual military equipment and artillery. "Blue Boy" erected by a truck mounted winch replicated the Bailey Bridge through the use of tubular frames and fabric secured to suspension cables. Project "Lois" imitated a variety of mounted mobile artillery pieces and corresponding transport vehicles by using tailored-tube construction in 4-inch and 8-inch diameter tubes. In contrast, the "Long Tom" was only a 155mm Gun M1, made of rubber, weighed 250 pounds. Foliage and camouflage covered the dummy equipment while rubber soldiers in GI clothing stood guard, both methods helped to further the trick.

With the majority of the decoys being assembled in twenty minutes or less, the biggest challenge was distinguishing between it and the real thing. Aerial images demonstrate the decoys' effectiveness. These photographs taken from 1250 and 1500 feet reveal little to no indication to whether or not items pictures are in fact a ruse. The images' description on the reverse side explain which objects are real and which are simulators.



Above: A rubber soldier, attired in GI clothing, stands on guard, used as a deceptive measure during the past World War by the U.S. Army. Record Group 338, Records of U.S. Army Operational, Tactical, and Support Organizations (World War II and Thereafter), Department of Defense, Department of the Army, Ft Leavenworth, Signal Corps Photograph Collection, Equipment File, 1939 - 1965.

Strategic deception, along with swift and surprise attacks, played an important role in winning World War II. To learn more about decoy and deception during World War II, visit the Online Public Access catalog at [www.archives.gov/research/search/](http://www.archives.gov/research/search/).

# Alternative Spring Break Activities at the Archives



Above: Alternative Spring Break Program interns, Laura Gentry and Aubrey Maynard, from Wayne State University.

create a meaningful product that benefits researchers and staff.

Additionally, Gentry and Maynard emerged from this experience with a greater understanding of the National Archives digitization and indexing workflows and the behind the scenes planning required to hold such events. Skills such as record selection, project management, time management, resource allocation, and logistics, were refined through this process.

Right: Members of the Kansas City community participated in the Citizen Archivist events in March and helped to create over 1,300 index entries.

The National Archives hosted Alternative Spring Break Program interns **Laura Gentry** and **Aubrey Maynard**, Library and Information Science students from Wayne State University, to assist in planning and hosting two Citizen Archivist events during the week of March 10-14, 2014. The Citizen Archivist events focused on digitization and indexing of documents selected from: the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Selective Service System, and the Provost Marshal General's Bureau (Civil War). Collectively, the participants digitized 2,343 images and created 1,367 index entries.

In total eight members of the local community participated. Five members attended the first day and eagerly returned for the second day when offered the opportunity. An additional three joined on the second day. Participants were not required to attend both sessions, but several wanted to return to continue work on projects and sample other tasks.

The Citizen Archivist events illustrate the advantages of tapping into community interest in history. Though there is a time investment to prepare for and execute these events, they



## Are you on the National Archives at Kansas City electronic mail list?

If we don't have your address on file, please send an email with your preferred email address to [kansascity.educate@nara.gov](mailto: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.



The National Archives at Kansas City is one of 15 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](mailto:kansascity.educate@nara.gov) or visit [www.archives.gov/kansas-city](http://www.archives.gov/kansas-city). Find us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/ationalarchiveskansascity](http://www.facebook.com/ationalarchiveskansascity).

**HOURS OF OPERATION:** Tuesday through Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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