

St. Louis is nationally recognized for many features of its urban life; one of the most interesting of these is the rich history and renewed vitality of its neighborhoods. With their distinctive traditions, landmarks and community spirit, St. Louis neighborhoods make the city an interesting and varied place to live, work, visit *or* study. This guide is designed to help you get started researching them. If you need further assistance, please visit or call the St. Louis Mercantile Library Reference Desk at: 314-516-7247.

Newspapers:

St. Louis Globe-Democrat Newspaper Archives. *A unique and valuable resource on the people, history and places of St. Louis. Includes hundreds of thousands of clippings and photographs arranged by subject, company or personal name from the 1920s to the newspaper's closing in 1986. Ask at the Mercantile Library's Reference Desk for assistance with this collection.*

http://www.umsl.edu/mercantile/special_collections/directory/slma-112.html

St. Louis Post-Dispatch. *Search this newspaper full-text from 1989 – current, via the Library's Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe database. A paper copy index is also available covering 1980-current (TJ REF INDEX AI 21 .S22x).*

Index to St. Louis Newspapers, 1975-79. *Provides subject indexing to Metro-East Journal; St. Louis Argus; St. Louis Commerce; St. Louis Globe-Democrat; St. Louis Magazine; St. Louis Post Dispatch; and the St. Louis Sentinel. (TJ REF INDEX AI 21 .S22)*

Riverfront Times. *Search St. Louis's alternative newspaper full-text from November 25, 1998 – current on the Worldwide Web at: <http://www.riverfronttimes.com>*

St. Louis Business Journal. *Search the archives of St. Louis's business newspaper from 1996 – current on the Worldwide Web at: <http://stlouis.bcentral.com/stlouis> (also on microfilm, 1982-1997 TJ: Microfilm HF5001 S22x).*

Maps:

Atlas of the City of St. Louis, 1905. *These city plat maps show property owners, streets, and businesses. Ask at the Mercantile Library's Reference Desk for assistance with this collection.*

Pictorial Saint Louis, the Great Metropolis of the Mississippi Valley: a Topographical Survey, by Camille Dry. *Detailed views of St. Louis in 1875 including streets, buildings, businesses and industry. (MERC REF & TJ FOLIO G4164 .S4 1875 D7x).*

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps - Saint Louis, 1895-1983. *Produced originally for insurance companies to help assess risk in insuring buildings, these detailed maps show houses, factories,*

shops and other structures. They can be used to trace the growth and development of communities over the years. (TJ: Microfilm G4163.S35 1895)

Journals and Magazines:

Missouri Historical Review, 1906-current. *Scholarly articles with an emphasis on biographical history; also included are many articles on St. Louis history. Indexes issued approximately every 25 years.* (MERC: 1906-1981 & TJ: F461 .M59).

General Books and Information Sources:

Community Information Network: Official Website of the City of St. Louis – Neighborhoods provides useful introductions and maps to St. Louis neighborhoods including promotional brochures from over 70 communities and reprints of Norbury Wayman's 27 neighborhood histories written for the Community Development Agency in the 1970s and early 1980s. This site also offers demographic data and a listing of neighborhood associations. ([www.http://stlouis.missouri.org/neighborhoods](http://stlouis.missouri.org/neighborhoods))

St. Louis: Its Neighbors and Neighborhoods by Robert E. Hannon. *Historical sketches of neighborhoods in the city of St. Louis and nearby Missouri and Illinois.* (MERC NONCIRC; TJ REF F474.S257 S8 1986).

Where We Live: a Guide to St. Louis Communities by Tim Fox. *Concise background information and maps on 30 St. Louis area neighborhoods. Includes authoritative bibliographies.* (TJ, TJ REF: F474.S23 W48 1995).

Sources on Specific Neighborhoods:

Be sure to consult Merlin, the Library's online catalog, for books, restoration plans, reports, or other material about your specific neighborhood.

Lafayette Square Restoration Committee Records. *An extensive collection of reports, photos, clippings, and other documents about this historic Victorian neighborhood. Ask for assistance with this collection at the Mercantile Library Reference Desk.*

History of St. Louis Neighborhoods by Norbury Wayman. A series of booklets published in the late 1970s and early '80s on individual neighborhoods covering their history, topography, parks, schools, and industries. (These are cataloged individually, search Merlin by author or by name of neighborhood; or see #10, this guide).

Ethnic Groups:

Carondelet: Ethnic Heritage of an Urban Neighborhood by Carolyn H. Toft, 1975 (MERC: F474.S2 V66). *An insightful analysis of the importance of neighborhoods to ethnic groups and ethnic groups to neighborhoods. See also the author's similar books on the Hill (MERC: F474.S2 H44); Soulard (MERC: F474.S2 S68); and the Ville (MERC: F474.S2 V66).*

Discovering African American St. Louis: a Guide to Historic Sites by John A. Wright. (MERC REF; TJ REF; TJ F474 .S29 N4 1994).

German-American Heritage of St. Louis: a Guide. (TJ REF: F474 .S29 G33 1991).

Hyphenism in St. Louis, 1900-21: the View From Outside by Margaret Lo Piccolo Sullivan (MERC: F474 .S29 A27 1990).

Immigrants on the Hill: Italian Americans in St. Louis, 1882-1982 by Gary Ross Mormino (MERC and TJ: F474 .S29 I86 1986).

Materials Relating to the Ethnic Heritage of St. Louis in the Washington University Libraries. *A bibliography compiled in 1975 of books and articles; arranged by ethnic group.* (TJ REF: F474 .S2 W65x).

St. Louis Germans, 1850-1920: the Nature of an Immigrant Community by Audrey Olson (TJ: F474 .S29 G36 1980).

Zion in the Valley: the Jewish Community of St. Louis by Walter Ehrlich (TJ: F474 .S29 J53 1997).

Use these and similar search terms on Merlin, the Library's online card catalog, to identify and locate additional material:

African Americans – Missouri – Saint Louis
Italian Americans – Missouri – Saint Louis
German Americans – Missouri – Saint Louis
Ethnic Relations – Missouri – Saint Louis

General Bibliographies:

A Guide to Resources on the History of St. Louis by Selwyn K. Troen, 1971. *A bibliography of over 2,000 books, articles, and dissertations on St. Louis from 1900-1970 indexed by general subject.* (TJ REF F474 .S2 T695x).

Saint Louis: an Annotated Bibliography on the City and Its Area by Jean E. Meeh Gosebrink, 1991. *References over 275 books (most published or re-issued between 1960-1990) on St. Louis history, culture and society.* (MERC REF & TJ REF F474.S2 G67 1991).