



## **State Historical Society of Missouri Offers Free Virtual Programming while Facilities Remain Closed**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COLUMBIA, MO, May 6, 2020 – The public is invited to participate in a variety of free, virtual programs being offered by the State Historical Society of Missouri. Presentations include how to access and preserve digital archives for genealogy and other research. Staff archivists will explore how communities in Missouri responded to the 1918 Spanish flu pandemic using primary and secondary sources. Other programs will focus on various collections held within the State Historical Society, including its art collection featuring Missouri master artists George Caleb Bingham and Thomas Hart Benton, as well as the Society’s vast national collection of architectural and landscape architectural drawings and records held at the Kansas City Research Center and part of the digital collection. The Show Me Missouri Speaker’s Bureau events will continue online in May, as well.

For the safety of our patrons, visitors and staff, all SHSMO research centers, including the Center for Missouri Studies in Columbia, remain temporarily closed during the COVID-19 pandemic. News, updates and virtual program events are posted on the SHSMO website and we encourage patrons to use our digital resources at [shsmo.org](https://shsmo.org).

The Center for Missouri Studies is the State Historical Society’s vehicle for carrying out its mission to promote and disseminate study and teaching of the state’s past. Founded in 1898, the Society collects, preserves, publishes, and makes available material related to all aspects and periods of Missouri history. SHSMO also provides educational programs on the cultural heritage of the state through its research centers in Cape Girardeau, Columbia, Kansas City, Rolla, St. Louis, and Springfield.

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