State Historical Society of Missouri Hosts Talk on Statehood-Era Treaties with Indigenous Nations

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

COLUMBIA, Mo., Jan. 13, 2022—The State Historical Society of Missouri announces that Greg Olson, historian and 2020 Center for Missouri Studies Fellow, will give a free talk on Thursday, January 20 at 6 p.m. at the Center for Missouri Studies at 605 Elm Street in downtown Columbia.

Olson will expand on his July 2021 Missouri Historical Review article, “White Man's Paper Trail: Extinguishing Indigenous Land Claims in Missouri.” His talk is part of the signature Missouri Historical Review Author Series of public programs.

In his article, Olson examines the treaties with Native Americans that gave the United States legal claim to the land within the borders of present-day Missouri. He also highlights how the process of making treaties was intertwined with the military and commercial interests of some of those who negotiated the treaties.

“We are excited to have Greg Olson share his remarkable scholarship with new audiences,” said John Brenner, managing editor of the Missouri Historical Review. “His Review article is the first to consider all twenty-two treaties for the land that is now Missouri.”

“With the Center for Missouri Studies Fellowships, the Society underwrites important scholarship in underexplored areas of Missouri history and culture,” added Gary R. Kremer, SHSMO executive director. “The projects supported through the fellowships lead to new understanding of our state's past.”

Visitors to the Center can also explore Cultural Crossroads: Missouri in the Era of Statehood in the State Historical Society of Missouri Art Gallery. The gallery will have extended hours, from 4-6 p.m., on January 20. The exhibition features objects related to Olson's talk, including an original Missouri Petition for Statehood, hand-colored lithographs, Missouri banknotes, an Osage tomahawk pipe, and works by artists George Caleb Bingham, Karl Bodmer, and James Otto Lewis.

To learn more about the Missouri Historical Review Author Series, please visit: shsmo.org.

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About The State Historical Society of Missouri
Founded in 1898 and established as a trustee of the state a year later, SHSMO is the premier center for the study of Missouri state and local history. SHSMO collects, preserves, and publishes materials that enhance research and support learning opportunities in the study of the Midwest at six research centers around the state, with headquarters on the University of Missouri campus. Visit: shsmo.org.

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