



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Greene County Archives and Records Center endorsed as part of the Missouri 2021 Bicentennial Celebration

Missouri 2021 has endorsed the Greene County Archives as part of that organization's official Missouri 2021 Bicentennial Celebration.

The Greene County Archives staff is developing a digitization project that will scan and place Greene County documents of local and statewide significance online. It is this project, and its contributions to the efforts to celebrate Missouri history, that is now endorsed as part of the Missouri 2021, an initiative coordinated by the State Historical Society of Missouri to build a statewide bicentennial commemoration of both rural and urban communities through projects, programs and events. Further, the mission of Missouri 2021 is to promote a better understanding of Missouri and its regions, communities and people. The Missouri Bicentennial Celebration is designed to provide even greater opportunities for citizens to celebrate, explore and share perspectives on the state's rich history and culture.

This endorsement of the Greene County Archives digitization project includes an acknowledgement from SHSMo, permission to use Missouri 2021 logos and a link to the Greene County Archives' project on the Missouri 2021 website. Read more at: <https://missouri2021.org/endorsed-projects>.

Several of the items currently being digitized by the Greene County Archives include photos, diaries, newspaper accounts and legal documents related to:

- Millie Sawyers – a slave who filed a freedom suit in Greene County in 1834
- The Wild Bill Hickok shootout on the Springfield square

- The case of Lloyd Keet, the infant who was abducted and killed in Springfield in 1917
- The 1888 murder trial of Nat Kinney, the leader of the vigilante group the Bald Knobbers
- The 1916 Springfield Streetcar strike

“Some people call the Greene County Archives the best kept secret and we really want to change that. We want the information out there, accessible and utilized,” said Greene County Archives Supervisor Connie Yen. “This Missouri 2021 Celebration is a great way to further promote the work we do here at the Archives and it will also give a wider audience to the rich information and items we have available at our building.”

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Greene County is the State of Missouri’s fourth most populous county, serving more than 275,000 people (2010 census). Its mission is to provide all citizens of Greene County, including those in its cities, a safe and thriving community through excellent customer service, unparalleled dedication, and the efficient use of taxpayer dollars. The Greene County Commission is the executive body of Greene County operating under guidelines established in the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri. Within that authority the Commission enacts ordinances, resolutions and policies, supervises the activities of county departments, fixes salaries, adopts the annual budget, provides for construction and other services, and conducts hearings on planning and zoning matters.

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