

### Alton, IL

- **Rushmore Boutique – 11 E. Broadway, Alton, IL – 618-433-9623 – shoprushmore.com**  
**Purpose:** Interview business owner about history of 2nd street, saw potential tunnel leaving her store heading to the Mississippi River  
**Contact(s):** Business owner  
**Take-Aways:** Confirmed the original location of second street where Sheldon Peck had a studio in 1858
- **Alton Cemetery – 1205 E. 5th St., Alton, IL**  
**Purpose:** Visit the Elijah P. Lovejoy Monument
- **Museum of Art and History – 2809 College Ave., Alton, IL – 618-462-2763**  
Elijah Lovejoy and John Mason Peck Research  
**Take-Away(s):** This small Historical Society and Museum does not have accessible archives of relevant collections to our research. We talked about the impact of Elijah Lovejoy and much of the interpretation was about "Freedom of the Press."  
**Reference(s):**
  - Babcock, Rufus. *Memoir of John Mason Peck*. Carbondale, IL: Southern Illinois University Press, 1965.
  - Candela, Neta. "Church Saw Beginning of Slavery's End." *The Telegraph*. Alton, IL, September 2, 1992.
- **Alton Public Library – Genealogy and Local history – 401 State St., Alton, IL – 618-462-0677**  
**Purpose:** To find old maps  
**Take-Away(s):** Called ahead and arranged a Sunday meeting and when we arrived we were told that the Genealogy section is not open on Sundays. We were still able to find information on Madison County.  
**Reference(s):**
  - *Gazetteer of Madison County*. Alton, IL: James T. Hair, 1866.

### Ballwin, MO

- **First Baptist Church of Ballwin – 206 Reis Rd., Ballwin, MO 63021 636-227-3001**  
**1stbaptistballwin1@att.net**  
**Purpose:** Meet with the descendants of the church's African American founders  
**Contact(s):** Helen Fields, Church Administrator  
**Take-Away(s):** The Ballwin Baptist Church was formed by a group of enslaved people in 1828, under the grape arbor. The History of the church was written by Mildred Johnson who also wrote "Malindy's Freedom." Johnson's ancestors. Old Free Charlie Wilson and Malindy Wilson were 2 of the founders of the church.  
**Reference(s):**
  - Meszaros, Jessica. "Life on the Hill." *West Newsmagazine*. St. Louis, MO, January 9, 2019.

### Brooklyn, IL

- **Quinn Chapel, AME church – 108 N. 5th St., Brooklyn, IL 618-271-6917**  
**Purpose:** To try to meet with parishioners  
**Take-Away(s):** Made several attempts at contact, no response via phone or email. Not sure what was to be found. Looking for Pricilla Baltimore information

### Cairo, IL

- **Cairo Jr./Sr. High School and NAACP**

**Purpose:** Meet with Theresa Delsoin at MLK breakfast

**Take-Away(s):** Theresa is the G-G granddaughter of Old Free Charlie and Malinda Wilson and author of *Malindy's Freedom*. We met with Theresa to get more of her family story and what she knew about Old Free Charlie. She is an amazing resource of her family's oral history and the struggle of slavery in Missouri.

**Reference(s):**

- "Charles Wilson (1830-Unknown) - Find A Grave..." *Find A Grave*. Accessed February 6, 2020. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/141907476/charles-wilson>.
- Delsoin, Theresa, and Christopher Davis. Desloge. From ETC.: an Amazing Conversation between the Descendant of Slave Owner and Slave: a Chance at Healing and Reconciliation. Theresa Delsoin and Christopher D. Desloge, 2011.
- "Ellen Wilson Buckner Anderson (1843-1941) - Find..." *Find A Grave*. Accessed February 6, 2020. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/141902807/ellen-anderson>.
- "George Henry Buckner (1892-1965) - Find A Grave..." *Find A Grave*. Accessed February 6, 2020. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/67122733/george-henry-buckner>.
- Johnson, Mildred, Theresa Delsoin, Stuart Symington, and Anne W. Symington. *Malindy's Freedom: The Story of a Slave Family*. Missouri Historical Society Press, 2005.
- "Malinda Wilson (1820-1873) - Find A Grave..." *Find A Grave*. Accessed February 6, 2020. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/141907271/malinda-wilson>.
- "Mildred Johnson (1916-2008) - Find A Grave..." *Find A Grave*. Accessed February 6, 2020. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/37295789/mildred-johnson>.
- "Nelson Buckner (1843-Unknown) - Find A Grave..." *Find A Grave*. Accessed February 6, 2020. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/119518993/nelson-buckner>.
- "Samuel Anderson Wilson Burch (1840-1915) - Find A..." *Find A Grave*. Accessed February 6, 2020. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/141907618/samuel-anderson-burch>.

### Canton, MO

- **Lewis County Historical Society**

**Purpose:** Charlie/Durkee

**Take-Away(s):** Charlie lead pursued to Canton, MO. Nearby community of LaGrange historic Black population. Durkee family owned Charlie and family information found in files. Photo of Durkee taken at Forest Grove Cemetery.

**Reference(s):**

- Gandy, Mary. *Guide My Feet, Hold My Hand*. The Press-News Journal, 1987.
- George, Lee R. *Slavery North of St. Louis*. Lewis County Historical Society, n.d.

### Carlinville, IL

- **McCoupin Library – Carlinville Public Library, 510 Broad St., Carlinville, 217-854-5349**

**Purpose:** Research Ross Houk

**Take-Away(s):** Ross Houk, subject of Sheldon Peck Painting around 1848 was a student at the same college that John Mason Peck founded in Alton, IL

## Carthage, IL

- **Hancock County Historical Society, Kidde – info@hancockcountyhistory.com, 217-357-9552, 217-357-0043**  
**Purpose:** Looked for possible Peck Painting  
**Contact(s):** Kibbe Museum County Staff  
**Take-Away(s):** Kibbe museum found possible Peck painting. His. Soc. records indicate Eliaphat Strong Austin came from OH to IL and aided UGRR. Warsaw records "John Chase" and "Couchman". Possible site at 1375 Kind Road 1000 South, Hamilton, IL.  
**Reference(s):**
  - Gregg, Thomas. *History of Hancock County, Illinois: Together with an Outline History of the State, and a Digest of State Laws*. Chicago, IL: Chas. C. Chapman, 1880.

## Galesburg, IL

- **Knox College library – Galesburg, IL**  
**Purpose:** Archive first look  
**Contact(s):** Interim archivist  
**Take-Away(s):** We found Blanchard and John Cross and were at Knox college before they were at Wheaton College where Sheldon Peck's son attended.  
**Reference(s):**
  - Carter, Julia Wolcott. "The Underground Railroad." *Literacy Club*. Speech presented at the Literacy Club, September 1905.
  - Jeanne, Humphreys. *Mary Brown Davis, Journalist, Feminist, and Social Reformer*. Rep. Mary Brown Davis, Journalist, Feminist, and Social Reformer. Galesburg, IL, 1939.
  - Kirkland, Henry. Letter to Elias Kirkland. "My Dear Friend and Brother Kirkland." Clinton, NY: Hamilton College, September 15, 1838.
  - "An Illinois Martyrdom" (1938).
  - Tom Calarco and Cynthia Vogel, *Places of the Underground Railroad: a Geographical Guide* (Santa Barbara, CA, CA: Greenwood, 2011).
  - Tom Calarco and Cynthia Vogel, *Places of the Underground Railroad: a Geographical Guide* (Santa Barbara, CA, CA: Greenwood, 2011).
- **Knox College Alumni Hall – 2 East South Street, Galesburg, IL**  
**Purpose:** To meet with historian  
**Contact(s):** Owen Muelder  
**Take-Away(s):** We have found connections between the New York founders of the Oneida colony and the Peck's Trek to Illinois. Also, we found Old Charley in Western Illinois but no further information is known.  
**Reference(s):**
  - Muelder, Hermann R. *Fighters for Freedom*. New York, NY: Columbia University Press, 1959.
  - Muelder, Owen W. *The Underground Railroad in Western Illinois*. McFarland & Company, Inc., 2008.
  - Muelder, Owen W. *Theodore Dwight Weld and the American Anti-Slavery Society*. McFarland & Co., 2011.

### Jacksonville, IL

- **The Congregational Church – [www.jacksonvilleil.org](http://www.jacksonvilleil.org), 217-243-5678**  
**Purpose:** UGRR  
**Contact(s):** UGRR committee  
**Reference(s):**
  - Davis, Oneka. "The Underground Railroad in Southern Illinois." *The Underground Railroad in Southern Illinois*. Harrisburg, IL: USDA Forest Service, 2008.
- **Illinois College/The Khalaf Al Habtoor Archives – [www.ic.edu](http://www.ic.edu), 217-245-3595**  
**Purpose:** UGRR  
**Contact(s):** Archivist/Curator, 1101 West College Ave  
**Reference(s):**
  - Wilson, Art. "One of Jacksonville's Early Settlers Helped Free Slaves." *The Journal Courier*. Jacksonville, IL, February 1, 2004.

### Morrison, IL

- **Odell Public Library – 307 S. Madison St., Morrison, IL 815-772-7323**  
**Purpose:** Local history records  
**Contact(s):** Various librarians  
**Take-Away(s):** We were able to find many Whiteside county records including the wedding records of George Peck's Daughter and the Giffords moving to Whiteside County.  
**Reference(s):**
  - *Portrait and Biographical Album of Whiteside County, Illinois: Containing ... Portraits and Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative Citizens of the County ... Governors of Illinois, and of the Presidents of the United States. Also Containing a History of the County from Its Earliest Settlement up to the Present Time* (Chicago, IL: Chapman Bros., 1885).
  - Nancy Kolk, "Underground Railroad in Whiteside County," *Fulton Journal* (May 17, 1917), accessed 2010, [www.geneologytrails.com/ill/whiteside/underground.html](http://www.geneologytrails.com/ill/whiteside/underground.html).
- **Whiteside county court house – 200 E. Knox St. 815-772-5192**  
**Purpose:** Land records  
**Contact(s):** Whiteside County Recorder  
**Take-Away(s):** Found land records on John, George, Watson and Henry Peck  
**Reference(s):**
  - Multiple land records from the Records office

### Nauvoo, IL

- **General store by the Icarians and Community of Christ – [lmackay@cofchrist.org](mailto:lmackay@cofchrist.org)**  
**Purpose:** Search for Peck Paintings that rumor has that Sheldon Peck painted. Possibly a wife of Joseph Smith.  
**Contact(s):** Lachlin Mackay  
**Take-Away(s):** General store closed- paintings whereabouts unknown- woman passed away. Linda shared her research with local historians about early people of color involved in the Mormon religion- historians had no knowledge of this. Mr. Mackay could not find any paintings in the Mormon Collection that was painted by Sheldon Peck.

## Pekin, IL

- **Tazewell County, Library and Genealogical Society – [www.tcghs.org](http://www.tcghs.org), 309-346-1215, 309-477-3044**  
**Purpose:** Tharp Family  
**Contact(s):** County Museum Educational Center, 15 S. Capitol Street Suite 101  
**Reference(s):**
  - ———. “Blacks an Integral Part of City's Past.” *The Journal Courier*. Jacksonville, IL, February 22, 1995.

## Peoria, IL

- **Bradley University – W. Bradley Ave., Peoria, IL, 309-677-3763**  
**Purpose:** Research on UGRR and Blodgett Family  
**Contact(s):** Cullom Davis Library  
**Take-Away(s):** The Pettigrew

## Pittsfield, IL

- **Pike County Historical Society**  
**Purpose:** New Philadelphia  
**Take-Away(s):** Did not go here  
**Reference(s):**
  - Charlotte King. “New Philadelphia on the Route to Freedom.” *New Philadelphia on the Route to Freedom*. New Philadelphia Association, 2012.

## Princeton, IL

- **Owen Lovejoy Homestead – 905 East Peru St., Princeton, IL 815-879-9151**  
**Purpose:** Tour  
**Contact(s):** Docent  
**Take-Away(s):** Found no pertinent information to Sheldon Peck
- **Bureau County Historical Society – 109 Park Ave. W., Princeton, IL 815-875-2184, [curator@bureaucountyhistoricalsociety.com](mailto:curator@bureaucountyhistoricalsociety.com)**  
**Purpose:** Local history records  
**Contact(s):** David Gugerty, Curator  
**Take-Away(s):** Copied 1984 thesis of the Underground Railroad in Bureau County to come through for information.  
**Reference(s):**
  - Dunn, William Edwin. Letter to his son Charles Wyckoff Dunn. “The Underground Railroad by William Edwin Dunn.” Bureau County: Bureau County, OAD.
  - Bradsby, H. C., ed. *History of Bureau County, Illinois*. Chicago, IL: World Publishing Company, 1885.
  - Hayman, Susan C. “David Nelson: Frontier Evangelist and Abolitionist,” 1989.

### Quincy, IL

- **Historical Society of Quincy and Adams County – info@hsqac.org, 217-222-1835**  
**Purpose:** Old Charlie/Peck/Eells  
**Contact(s):** Staff/volunteers  
**Take-Away(s):** Many files in archive with regard to Mission Institute, Dr. David Nelson, Dr. Richard Eells, anti-slavery society, etc. Further contact needed with Heather Bangster about free Black population and abolitionists of Quincy- especially Barryman Barnett. Charlie connection researched remains unknown.  
**Reference(s):**
  - Gardner Museum of Architecture and Design. “Chronology of Events at Mission Institute #4.” Chronology of Events at Mission Institute #4. Quincy, IL: Gardner Museum of Architecture and Design, 1994.
  - Beadle, Melissa. “Mission Institute, Quincy, Illinois – Affiliated Names.” Melissa's World. Last modified 2017. Accessed February 6, 2020. <https://www.beadles.org/mcdonough-county-illinois-history/abolitionism-in-mcdonough-county-illinois/mission-institute-quincy-illinois-affiliated-names/>.
  - Stevens, George W. Catalogue of Mission Institute. Dansville, NY: George Stevens, 1841.
- **Dr. Eells House – 415 Jersey Street, Quincy, IL, 217-223-1800**  
**Purpose:** Charley story from Dr. Eells  
**Contact(s):** Board of Directors  
**Take-Away(s):** Met with John and Con for tour. Con relayed information about Dr. Eells incident with Charlie. Viewed folk art portraits determined not Peck. Con discussed meeting a Peck rep several years ago that claimed to have a letter from Peck to Eells- this is unknown to us. Connection between Peck and Eells still unclear.

### Rockford, IL

- **Rockford University – Howard Colman Library, 815-394-5043, Rockford.edu**  
**Purpose:** Staff and student records  
**Contact(s):** Electronic Resources Librarian & Archivist  
**Take-Away(s):** Searching for records for Charles and Susan Peck. Confirmed they did not go to school or teach at the Rockford Female Seminary but Harriet Ashbaugh Peck did.
- **Rockford Public Library – Hart Interim Library, 214 North Church Street, Rockford, IL, 815-987-6631, rockfordpubliclibrary.org**  
**Purpose:** Winnebago records  
**Contact(s):** Local History and Genealogy  
**Take-Away(s):** Found connections to sheep farming and John Brown and a reference that Elijah Lovejoy was an African American.  
**Reference(s):**
  - “Being a Boy in Old Rockford: The Underground Railway.” The Rockford Star, February 19, 1911. History of Ogle County. Chicago, IL: H. F. Kett & Co., 1878.
  - “Landmark of Civil War Era Dumped into Rock River.” Rockford Register Star. Rockford, IL, July 6, 1961.

### St. Louis, IL

- **St. Louis Public Library**  
**Purpose:** Genealogical research  
**Take-Away(s):** We received some handout literature to the Siebert index.  
**Reference(s):**
  - Frazier, Harriet C. *Runaway and Freed Missouri Slaves and Those Who Helped Them, 1763-1865*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, Inc., 2010.
- **Missouri State Historical Society – 225 S. Skinker Blvd. St. Louis**  
**Purpose:** Genealogical Research  
**Take-Away(s):** We accessed old Alton Maps  
**Reference(s):**
  - Beecher, Edward. *Narrative of Riots of Alton: in Connection with the Death of Rev. Elijah P. Lovejoy*. New York, NY: Haskell House Publishers LTD, 1970.
- **Mary Meachum Freedom Crossing**  
**Purpose:** To see the landscape

### Tampico, IL

- **Tampico Historical Society – 111-113 S. Main Street, Tampico, IL 61283**  
**Purpose:** To meet with historian  
**Contact(s):** Docent  
**Take-Away(s):** She was ill and sent a volunteer that knew little.

### Venice, IL

- **The McKinley Bridge Signage – St. Louis Riverfront Trail**  
**Purpose:** To see interpretive signage  
**Reference(s):**
  - Department of Transportation. *The McKinley Bridge Signage*. The McKinley Bridge Signage. Springfield, IL: State of Illinois, 2007.