

Missouri Civil War Museum Opens at Jefferson Barracks Historic Site



Civil War museum opens at Jefferson Barracks.

Coreen Savitski, KSDK 3:01 p.m. EST November 14, 2013



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"It's the most popular military topic of all American history," said Mark Trout, Missouri Civil War Museum Director.

The Missouri Civil War Museum is new to the Jefferson Barracks Historic Site.

"It's really one of a kind in the St. Louis area even in the state. There's not a large collection like this that interprets or tries to interpret the whole states role in the Civil War."

Even the site of the museum has ties to the Civil War.

"Most notably there was 240 civil war generals that were here before during or after the war."

Though Jefferson Barracks is the oldest active military instillation west of the Mississippi, this building sat vacant for 60 years prior to re-opening as a museum.

"We started a grassroots movement to not only save the building, but actually put it back into use for something good in memory of soldiers of the past," said Trout.

The founder of the Dred Scott Heritage Foundation and the Great Great Granddaughter of Dred Scott, Lynne Jackson, is inviting everyone out to tour the museum Saturday for an educational field trip.

"This building is very significant to us because first of all the Dred Scott decision, which was in 1857, was a catalyst for the Civil War in fact a major catalyst and since this is the Civil War Museum it would be very good for us to study and see what the outcome of that Dred Scott Decision on individual lives," said Lynne Jackson, Dred Scott Heritage Foundation.

It's taken more than a decade to revitalize the historic building. This is the first of many the museum foundation plans to bring back to life.

The Missouri Civil War Museum is open daily from 9am-5pm. General Admission is \$7. The museum is located near Jefferson Barracks at 222 Worth Road. For more information head to www.mcwm.org or call 314-845-1861.

The Dred Scott Heritage Foundation is inviting you to tour the new museum with them Saturday, November 16 at 10am. You can sign up online at the www.dredscottfoundation.org

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