



# National Archives at Kansas City Newsletter

## National Archives Facility Information Regarding COVID-19 (updated as of June 30, 2020)

The National Archives is committed to the health and safety of our visitors and staff. We are continuing to monitor the situation regarding COVID-19. National Archives staff will continue to serve the public remotely by responding to emailed requests for records and [History Hub](#) inquiries. While we are closed, we invite the public to explore our online resources by visiting [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov) and viewing our [online exhibits](#) and [educational resources](#) and participating in our [Citizen Archivist Missions](#).

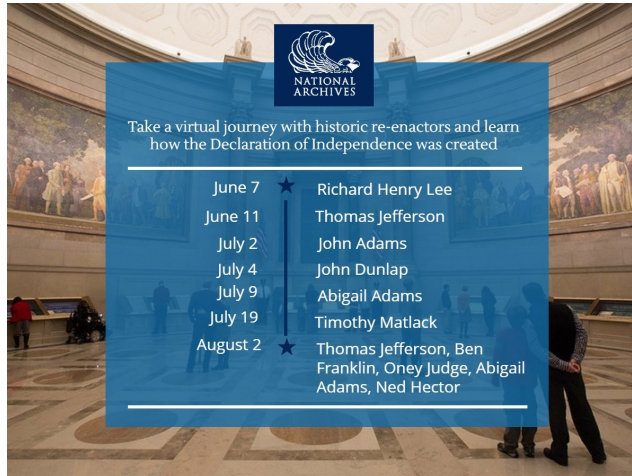
Finally, all public programs and events are canceled until further notice. We will continue to update the public as agency guidance becomes available. Follow the National Archives at Kansas City on [Facebook](#) or on Twitter [@KCArchives](#).

## Upcoming Virtual Programs at the National Archives

**Virtual July 4 Celebration** - The National Archives will host a [virtual Independence Day celebration](#) on July 4, 2020, in partnership with the nonprofit National Archives Foundation. The event will take place at 4:00 p.m. EDT on the [National Archives Facebook](#) page and [YouTube channel](#). For the full schedule of programs, visit [www.archivesjuly4.org/schedule/virtual-journey](http://www.archivesjuly4.org/schedule/virtual-journey).

**Declarations Journey** - Throughout the summer, the National Archives will be featuring historical re-enactors who explain their role in how the Declaration of Independence was developed. Each session will be posted at 1:00 p.m. EDT on the [National Archives Facebook](#) page. Upcoming sessions include:

- July 2 - John Adams
- July 4 - John Dunlap
- July 9 - Abigail Adams
- July 19 - Timothy Matlack
- August 2 - Thomas Jefferson, Ben Franklin, Oney Judge, Abigail Adams, and Ned Hector



**Young Learners Series** - This summer, the National Archives will be highlighting several famous women through the Young Learner Summer Series Program. Two more of these sessions will be offered:

- Thursday, July 16 - Amelia Earhart, first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean solo
- Thursday, August 20 - Elizabeth Cady Stanton, women's rights and suffrage advocate

*Special Note: These are LIVE interactive performances that will begin at 11:00 a.m. EDT. Space is limited; advance registration is required for this event. Email [education@nara.gov](mailto:education@nara.gov) to reserve your space.*

## July 2020

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### Upcoming Events

Unless noted, all events are held at the National Archives 400 W. Pershing Road Kansas City, MO 64108

NOTE: All in-person public events at National Archives facilities nationwide are cancelled until further notice. This includes in-person public programs, tours, school group visits, public meetings, external conferences, and facility rentals.

# Highlights from the National Archives Catalog

Normally our staff archivists feature interesting or unique materials from the archival stacks for a section titled Hidden Treasures from the Stacks. Given the pandemic, onsite access to records for the public and staff has been suspended as National Archives facilities are not open. However, we are constantly working to add new materials and records to the catalog. The following is a sample of some treasures from our holdings.

**National Park Service Historic Register Nominations** - These records were recently added to the [National Archives Catalog](#) and feature the National Historic Register Nominations and the National Historic Landmarks from across the country - specifically over 90,000 Historic Register locations and 2,600 Historic Landmarks. All 50 states have materials included in the collection. Each nomination gives not only a physical description/detail of the site but also the historical significance of why it was being granted historic status. Most of the nominations also include photographic materials of the location. In some cases, the nomination materials also include correspondence in support of the nomination whether it be from local residents or elected officials.

Of the thousands of nominations, some examples include: Chilkoot Trail (Skagway, AK); Manzanar War Relocation Center (Independence, CA); Pearl Harbor, U.S. Naval Base (Honolulu, HI); Marshal Field Company Store (Chicago, IL); childhood home of Malcom X (Omaha, NE); and Eastern State Penitentiary (Philadelphia, PA). More information on how to search the National Archives Catalog for these records can be found at the National Register of Historic Places and the National Historic Landmarks Program [website](#). (Continued on next page.)

Right and Below: This is the Livestock Exchange Building located at 1600 Genessee in Kansas City. It was built from 1909-1911 and served as the central headquarters for the Kansas City stockyards. The building was designed by the architectural firm of Wilder and



Wright and built by Swenson Construction. The building was used heavily from 1911-1951 as the stockyards sold millions of cattle, hogs, sheep, horses and other livestock. By the 1980s the buying/selling process had changed drastically and in 1991 the last auction was held at the stockyards. The building underwent a massive renovation in the early 1990s. Today it houses a variety of small businesses, artist studios, and services. The Livestock Exchange building was granted national historic status in 1984.

Left: Image courtesy of Google Maps.

Above: Record Group 79: Records of the National Park Service 1785-2006, National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmarks Program Records 2013-2017, Missouri SP Kansas City Live Stock Exchange. National Archives Identifier 63819042

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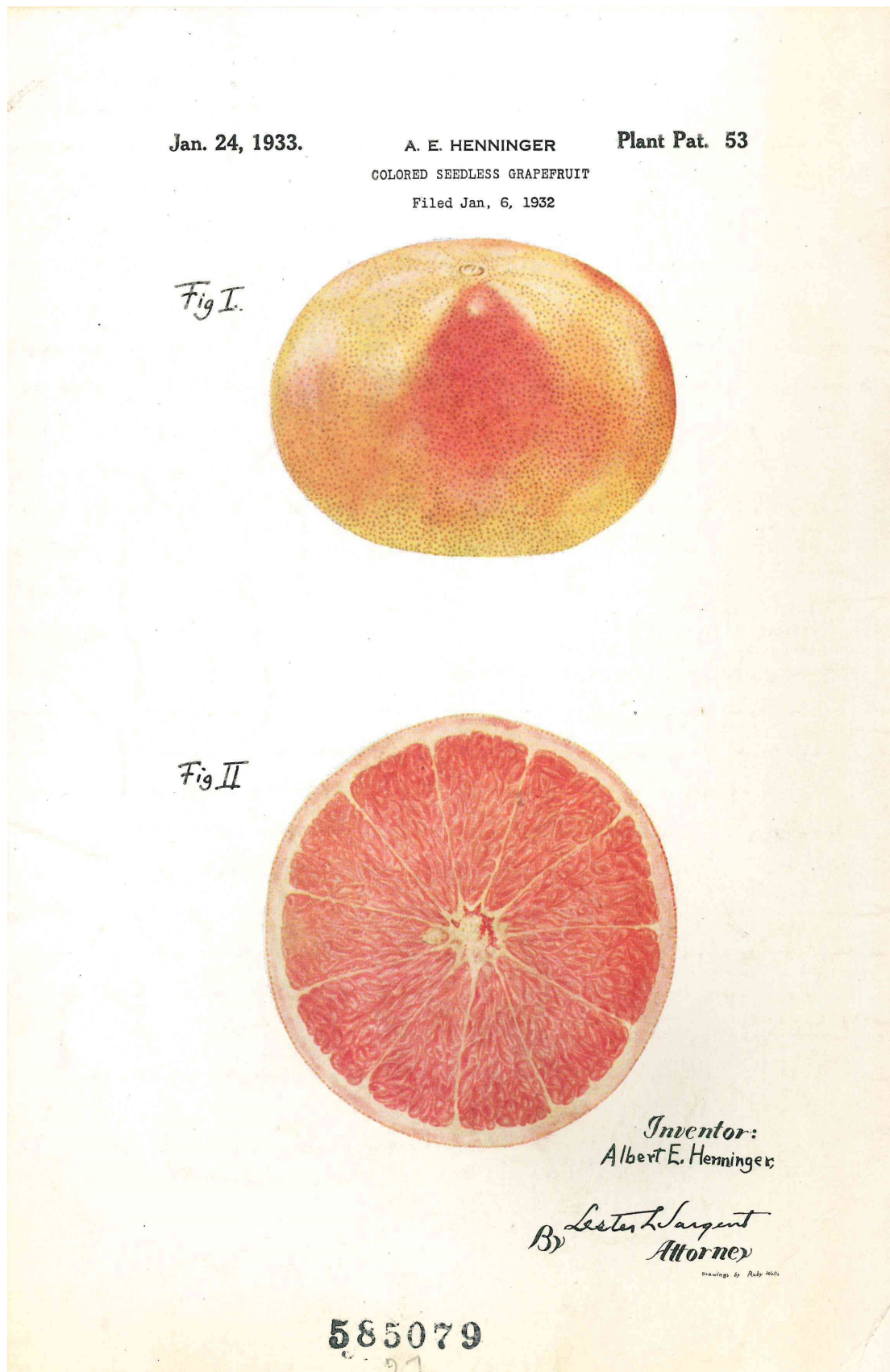
**Patent and Trademark Office Records** - The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has regulated the patent process since 1836. Found within the holdings of the National Archives are multiple series of records related to patents including Patent Case Files, 1836-1978; Design Patent Case Files, 1853-1978; Plant Patent Case Files, 1930-1978; and Reissue Patent Case Files, 1860-1979. In addition, other types of patent records exist that deal with things like abandoned applications, defensive publications, terminated reexamination files, and interference files (disputes over patents). These patents tell all sorts of stories in terms of why the inventor created the item as the file usually includes not only a description/  
drawing of the item being patented, but also the inventor's explanation (oath of invention) of what makes the item different or unique and worthy of being granted patent approval.

Plant patents have a criterion in that the patent for the plant must be unique and capable of reproduction without the aid of fertilized seeds, resulting in a true genetic copy. These records also usually include colorful drawings of the plant, and in some cases it is a fruit being patented that comes from a plant.

Various examples of patent files include inventions for a Coffee Urn; Spoons; Staple Machine; Muzzle for Pigs; Flying Machine; Grand Piano; Car-Brakes; Toy House; Corpse-Cooler; and a Tattooing-Machine. Examples from the plant patents include inventions for Plum; Mangoes; Carnation Plant; Poppy; Grape; Freesia; and Poinsettia Plant.

(Continued on next page.)

Right: The drawing of a Colored Seedless Grapefruit invented by A.E. Henninger. Record Group 241: Records of the Patent and Trademark Office, 1836-1978; Plant Patent Case Files, 193-1978; Plant Patent Case File No. PP53, Colored Seedless Grapefruit, Inventor Albert E. Henninger. National Archives Identifier 167823043



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For those who find patents fascinating and want to express their own artistic talent, the National Archives Color Our Collections series includes a Coloring Book of Patents found [here](#). More patent files and images are available for research and discovery in the [National Archives Catalog](#).

Right: This Poinsettia Plant patent was filed by J.S. Sweet of St. Petersburg, Florida, on February 13, 1967, and was granted on May 27, 1969. Record Group 241: Records of the Patent and Trademark Office, 1836-1978; Plant Patent Case Files, 193-1978; Plant Patent Case File No. PP2889, Poinsettia Plant, Inventor Jack S. Sweet. National Archives Identifier 167822967

May 27, 1969

J. S. SWEET

Plant Pat. 2,889

POINSETTIA PLANT

Filed Feb. 13, 1967



Jack S. Sweet  
by  
Myron P. Saughtin.  
Attny.



GENERAL INFORMATION: The National Archives is open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed on weekends and Federal holidays. Hours are subject to change due to special programs and weather.

The National Archives is located at 400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, Missouri, 64108, and is home to historical records dating from the 1820s to the 1990s created or received by Federal agencies in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

For more information, call 816-268-8000, email [kansascity.educate@nara.gov](mailto:kansascity.educate@nara.gov) or visit [www.archives.gov/kansas-city](http://www.archives.gov/kansas-city). Tweet us @KCArchives. Follow us on Instagram at: [kansascity.archives](https://www.instagram.com/kansascity.archives). Find us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/)