

Jefferson National Expansion Memorial

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Jefferson National Expansion Memorial
11 N. 4th Street - St. Louis, MO 63102



St. Louis and the Three Sides of the American Civil War

Presentation by author Adam Arenson

- WHERE:** Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, The Old Courthouse,
11 North Fourth Street, St. Louis, Missouri
- WHEN:** Monday, April 4, 2011 at 12:00 p.m.
- WHAT:** *St. Louis and the Three Sides of the American Civil War*,
Presentation by author Adam Arenson

Author Adam Arenson will discuss his new book, *The Great Heart of the Republic: St. Louis and the Cultural Civil War*, on Monday, April 4th from 12:00 -1:00 p.m. at the Old Courthouse.

The Civil War revealed what united as well as what divided Americans in the nineteenth century—and no city embodied this struggle more completely than St. Louis. From the Great Fire to the Dred Scott decision, from planning a funeral for Abraham Lincoln to establishing Forest Park, events in St. Louis reflected the national debates over slavery and Manifest Destiny. Often told as a conflict between free-labor northerners and proslavery southerners, the Civil War in fact held a battle between these two groups and the advocates of the West, with their own agenda for shaping the political, economic, and cultural future of the nation. In time for the Civil War sesquicentennial, Adam Arenson's book returns the "Gateway to the West" to its proper place at the center of Civil War history—and tells how this vital national history is reflected in the Old Courthouse and all parts of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial.

Adam Arenson is an assistant professor at the University of Texas at El Paso. He holds an A.B. from Harvard College and a Ph.D. from Yale University. He is a historian of nineteenth-century North America, investigating the cultural and political history of slavery, Civil War, and Reconstruction and tracing the development of American cities, especially in the American West and its borderlands.

He has published a half-dozen articles, including pieces on Dred Scott's family and on the role of the St. Louis Mercantile Library in national history, and he won the 2009 Lewis E. Atherton Dissertation Prize from the State Historical Society of Missouri. He has held fellowships from the Missouri State Archives, the State Historical Society of Missouri, and the St. Louis Mercantile Library, and he conducted research throughout St. Louis and the nation for this book.

He is a contributor to the Making History Podcast blog, and posts about new projects as well as this book—including places to visit, primary sources online, and the full bibliography—are on his website, <http://adamarenson.com>.

The Gateway Arch is open daily 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Summer hours: Memorial Day - Labor Day daily 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
The Old Courthouse is open daily year round 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Gateway Arch and Old Courthouse are closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years Day.

All programs are FREE of charge and open to the public.
For more information about programs and exhibits, please call the park at 314-655-1600.

Events and exhibits are made possible due to the generous support of Jefferson National Parks Association.

