

## French Colonial Heritage Challenge

Upon arriving in Ste. Genevieve, visitors are captivated by the beautiful historic architecture of Missouri's oldest European settlement west of the Mississippi. At Sainte Genevieve, you can visit buildings from the late 1700's built by French settlers. These structures are significant because of the vertical log architecture, which are placed upright rather than horizontally. This collection of historic buildings is so unique that Sainte Genevieve was named a National Historical Park by the United States Congress in October, 2020 and is the only National Historical Park in the state of Missouri.

The structures you will visit constitute the historic village of Sainte Genevieve, the oldest continuously inhabited settlement in Missouri, founded about 1750. These buildings are not reproductions; they stand where they were built two centuries ago. Visit the sites in the Challenge Guide to learn more about them.



*The French Colonial Heritage Challenge is sponsored by **The Ste. Genevieve Welcome Center**. For more information visit [www.VisitSteGen.com](http://www.VisitSteGen.com).*



**French Colonial Heritage Challenge** ... Visit at least 8 sites (minimum of 3 paid). Remember: Missouri Explorers must be registered in the program, and they are responsible for checking hours and availability of sites. Upload your verification photographs using the online submission form at <https://missouri2021.org/missouri-explorers/> to receive your merit badge button.

**Remember**, Missouri Explorers, you are responsible for checking hours and availability of sites before arriving.

### **Bolduc House \$**

198 Market Street  
Ste. Genevieve, Missouri  
573-883-3105

*The Louis Bolduc House is a poteaux-sur-sol ("post on sill") vertical timber frame structure, completed by 1792. Lived in until the late 1940's by members of the Bolduc Family, it was restored and turned into a furnished house museum in 1958. The house was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1970 and remained the only one in Ste. Genevieve until the establishment of the National Park in 2020. It is the only colonial period-furnished structure available to see in Ste. Genevieve. Snap your photograph in front of the Bolduc Desk inside.*

[www.FrenchColonialLife.org](http://www.FrenchColonialLife.org)

### **Center for French Colonial Life \$**

198 Market Street  
Ste. Genevieve, Missouri  
573-883-3105

*Opened in 2018, The Centre for French Colonial Life serves as an exhibit facility and the campus hub for the French Colonial America properties in Ste. Genevieve. Currently, the Centre is showcasing two exhibits, "Saving St. Louis: The Ste. Genevieve Militia at the Battle of Fort San Carlos" and "Augmenting the Evidence." Learn about the 1780 Revolutionary War Battle that took place in St. Louis. Snap your photograph next to the cannon inside the "Saving St. Louis" exhibit.*

[www.FrenchColonialLife.org](http://www.FrenchColonialLife.org)

### **Courthouse Square**

51 South Third Street  
Ste. Genevieve, Missouri

*The Daughters of the American Revolution is an organization with a deeply rich history while also being truly relevant in today's world. More than 930,000 women have joined the organization since it was founded close to 125 years ago. The Old Settlement Chapter of the DAR was installed on June 13, 2021. Snap your*

*photograph next to the stone outside the Chamber building commemorating the Daughters of the American Revolution.*

### **Felix Valle State Historic Site \$**

198 Merchant Street  
Ste. Genevieve, Missouri  
573-883-7102

*Built in 1818, this was the home of Felix and Odile (Pratte) Valle, members of one of Ste. Genevieve's best-known colonial families. The Federal-style limestone building features the authentically restocked mercantile store of Menard and Valle trading firm. The living quarters display early Empire furnishings and retain the original mantles and interior trim. A back porch staircase leads to second-floor bedrooms. Snap your photograph with the Missouri State Parks guide after your tour.*

[www.mostateparks.com/park/felix-valle-house-state-historic-site](http://www.mostateparks.com/park/felix-valle-house-state-historic-site)

### **Guibourd-Valle House \$**

1 North 4th Street  
Ste. Genevieve, Missouri  
573-883-7544

*Constructed in 1806 for Jacques Jean Rene Guibourd de Lusinais, the National Register property is owned and operated by the Foundation for Restoration. The "poteaux-sur-sole" (posts on sill) vertical log home features a collection of Louis XV and Louis XVI French antique furnishings and a walled garden. Visitors can enter the attic to view the Norman truss system made of hewn logs and wooden pins. Snap your photograph with the guide after your tour.*

[www.historicstegen.org/guibourd-valle](http://www.historicstegen.org/guibourd-valle)

### **Jean Baptiste Valle House**

99 S Main Street  
Ste. Genevieve, Missouri  
573-880-7189

*The headquarters of the Ste. Genevieve National Historical Park, the circa 1790's vertical log structure served as both the residence and government center when owned by Jean Baptiste*

*Valle, the Commandant of the area prior to the U.S. purchase of the Louisiana Territory. The building houses two art collections and is open when staffing allows. The grounds are open throughout the year. Snap your photograph in the rose garden with the fountain.*

[www.nps.gov/stge](http://www.nps.gov/stge)

### **Memorial Cemetery**

Fifth and Merchant Street  
Ste. Genevieve, Missouri

*The burial site for Ste. Genevieve's pioneers, the cemetery is home to a multi-cultural mix of both ordinary and prominent citizens. It is Missouri's oldest documented cemetery, dating back to the 1780's. The Foundation for Restoration has overseen work to restore many monuments to their original state. Snap your photograph at the gravesite of Senator Lewis Linn.*

### **Moses Austin Park**

339 St Marys Road  
Ste. Genevieve, Missouri

*Owned by the Jour de Fete Foundation, Moses Austin Park is the site of festivals throughout the year. This park is the site of a stone monument commemorating the Green Tree Tavern as the First Masonic Lodge meeting place west of the Mississippi. Snap your photograph next to the stone commemorating the first Masonic Lodge.*

### **Music, Art Love**

199 North Main  
Ste. Genevieve, Missouri  
954-805-5992

*Music Art Love is an eclectic gallery and boutique and is host to a variety of performances and classes. This interactive gallery provides house musical instruments to play, games and books for use, and a kids' area. A truly unique experience! For a schedule of hours and events go to [www.MusicArtLove.com](http://www.MusicArtLove.com), our Facebook page, or call 954-805-5992. Snap your photograph playing a tambourine in front of a favorite spot in the store.*

<https://www.facebook.com/ChrisAlexGallery/>

**Sara's Ice Cream**

124 Merchant Street  
Ste. Genevieve, Missouri  
573-883-5890

*Celebrating 40 years of serving Ste. Genevieve, Sara's Ice Cream is an olde-time Ice Cream Shop. Enjoy hand-dipped ice cream, specialty items, and ice cream sodas. Snap your photograph with an ice cream purchase in front of the shop.*

**Ste. Gen County Fair, July 8-11, 2021**

22079 White Sands Road  
Ste. Genevieve, Missouri  
573-883-4782

*The County Fair includes a parade, livestock shows, demolition derby, truck pulls, tractor pulls, queen contest, 4-H and FFA exhibits and live music on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. There is a lot to see and do for adults and children all weekend with plenty of good food and entertainment. Hours for the fair are Thursday 4pm-10pm, Friday and Saturday 10am-12am, Sunday 9am-7pm. Snap your photograph with your favorite animal.*

<https://www.facebook.com/Stegenfair>

**Welcome to Ste. Genevieve Mural**

Corner of 4th & Market Street  
Ste. Genevieve, Missouri

*View one of several murals in Ste. Genevieve painted by local artist Joy French. Snap your photograph with the mural.*