

LUKE D. SPRAGUE

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OBJECTIVE

I create finished historical products for clients including books, video documentaries, presentations, marker nominations, custom research, and grant writing. I specialize in finding little-known corners of history, pulling up those corners, and often discovering the real history behind the stories.

KEY SKILLS

Writing, editing, web publishing, historical research, public speaking, leadership, social media, critical thinking, teamwork, customer service, self-starter, oral history, teaching, MS Office, WordPress, network

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Historian, *HistoryMint*, Moscow, Idaho (2013 to present):

Content creation

Book, History- *Schultheis Family Odyssey: From Bavaria to the Pacific Northwest* (completed April 10, 2017)

- Frightened families watched as the sheriff's posse on horseback surrounded their wagons in Green Horn Gulch. One wagon over, Frank looked at Michael and subtly shook his head "no." Michael nodded in silent compliance and released his hand from his rifle under the wagon seat. This book is for those German Americans who are interested in what their ancestors went through to become Americans while maintaining their unique German culture. This contextual history retraces the steps of the Schultheis family from Bavaria to Washington State. The chronicle details the family's tribulations necessary to find their way between 1780 and 1952. See: <http://www.lulu.com/shop/luke-sprague/schultheis-family-odyssey-from-bavaria-to-the-pacific-northwest/hardcover/product-23139069.html>

State historical marker- American Mutual Company, Oklahoma City (completed May 12, 2016)

- A client sought my assistance to write a nomination for an Oklahoma Historical Society marker for the American Mutual Company. Given the relatively recentness of the American Mutual Company, it was critical that I establish that the American Mutual Company did something historically significant on the state level. After further research, we discovered that the Homsey Brothers who owned the American Mutual Company did win an Oklahoma State Supreme Court decision in 1961 that changed the nature of retail sales in the state of Oklahoma. This made the brothers historically significant at the state level. I wrote the historical narrative for the successful nomination. See: <http://gateway.okhistory.org/ark:/67531/metadc433194/>

Documentary- Lieutenant John Zebroski, 3583 QM Truck Company (completed October 8, 2014)

- I created a professional two-hour video documentary that followed the steps of a Second World War soldier from the day he landed at Omaha Beach on V-E Day. The research included work with United States military records groups RG 38 and RG 498. See a sample at <https://historymint.wistia.com/medias/m8tay4jxuk>

Lecture- "Who was Henry Clay Wood?" (completed June 26, 2014)

- A lecture I gave at the Fort Walla Walla Museum about the life of Henry Clay Wood, a historically relevant figure in the life of the fort and the peoples of the Pacific Northwest. See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t4s0HWF6jHc>

Historic Preservation

National Register Nominations- Latah Preservation Commission (ongoing)

- The Latah County Board of County Commissioners hired me to manage the National Park Service (NPS) application process for the National Register of Historic Places. I oversee the National Register nomination process from start to finish. This includes steering the commission in the right direction in terms of solid nominations. While managing multiple historic nominations simultaneously, I ensure Latah County meets the Certified Local Government (CLG) standard in accordance with the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office in order to receive NPS funding. Additional duties include Section 106 review and maintaining the state historical database for Latah County. See <https://www.latah.id.us/hpc/>

Secretary of Interior-qualified Historian- (awarded June 28, 2017)

- The Idaho State Historic Preservation Office listed me as a historic preservation consultant on the Idaho Historic Preservation Professional Consultants List in the professional category: History. See the award letter here: <http://historymint.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/20170718-Award-Letter.pdf> What this means in layman's terms is that I am professionally qualified to receive Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) grant money from Certified Local Governments (CLG) for National Register of Historic Places nominations and other Historic Preservation Commission related projects. This also means I am a Secretary of Interior qualified historian. See the Secretary of Interior's "Historic Preservation Professional Qualification Standards," <http://historymint.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/97-16168.pdf>

Increasing online content

Transitioning to the cloud- Whitman County Historical Society (ongoing)

- I am transitioning the Whitman County Historical Society Past Perfect archival database from a legacy-standalone computer to a cloud-based Past Perfect database with the software as a service (SaaS). This changeover will allow historical society users to be able to access its collection from any web browser at remote locations. The evolution will also improve the public's access, centralize management, automate backups, and avoid server maintenance. A low-cost cloud implementation also eliminates costly dedicated-circuits, a standalone server, and multiple VPN implementations.

Oral history- Whitman County Historical Society (completed December 5, 2015)

- This project was a collaboration between Washington State University (WSU) and Whitman County Historical Society. I oversaw the publication of the Whitman County Oral History Collection to the internet, provided project management, and edited citations prior to publication. See: <http://content.libraries.wsu.edu/cdm/search/collection/p16866coll7>

EDUCATION

M.A. in Military History, December 2011, Norwich University, see:

http://www.academia.edu/867499/White_American_Casting_of_Chief_Joseph

Additional graduate courses: Pacific Northwest History, American Revolution, Seattle Pacific University

B.S. in Geography (Cartographic Option), December 1993, the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point