

Aujourd'hui Chez Louis



Hands-On History for Kids

March 2012 Edition



These iron drying racks are for ears of corn. They were probably made by a local blacksmith. One corn cob fitted on each spoke to dry, hanging from the ceiling, or be roasted over a fire. Even though European French people do not eat corn, the Bolduc family would certainly have enjoyed it. This family had lived in North America for six generations before Louis Bolduc moved to Ste. Genevieve. French Americans learned to eat corn from their American Indians friends and neighbors.

Photograph by Bruce Pendleton, c. 2009 by the Bolduc House Museum.

Zuts' News

You will recall that last month I challenged my enemies, the CATS of Ste. Genevieve, to a duel. Well, here is the unbelievable response I got back. What do you suggest I should say NOW? If you would like to submit your suggestions, please email ME at Zuts@bolduchouse.org.

The Cats' Response

*We, Mr. Squirrel, see here, see here, Are not leaving this site for a dime's worth of fight!
Our claws are sharp; our teeth are keen
We'll name the time and the place and the scene...
Where we'll duel until you have met your end
Can you say: "mince meat pie as high as the sky"?
We'll dice you up, Squirrel, not once but thrice, Squirrel.
Squirrel meat minced in a trice
Served on silver platters for us Cats' delight!*

By Michelle Swope



TEACHERS, NOW IS THE TIME TO SCHEDULE YOUR SPRING HISTORY FIELD TRIP TO STE. GENEVIEVE OR AN EXTENDED FIELD TRIP AT THE BOLDUC HOUSE MUSEUM. CALL 573-883-3105 OR EMAIL INFO@BOLDUCHOUSE.ORG FOR ASSISTANCE.

When the town of Ste. Genevieve was forced inland from its original location on the west bank of the Mississippi River in 1792, Louis Bolduc's house was one of the first to be built. Just the hall and the family bedroom were built the first year. The fireplace in the bedroom is deep and tall and likely to have been used for cooking the family's meals. Later the salon was added with another much taller but not as deep a fireplace. We do not know how long the family continued to cook in the same room they slept in. Some experts think they built a stone kitchen outside. Others think they did not. We can prove, however, that Marie Bolduc paid to have a "modern" kitchen installed on the *gallerie* porch after her husband, Louis, died in 1815.

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