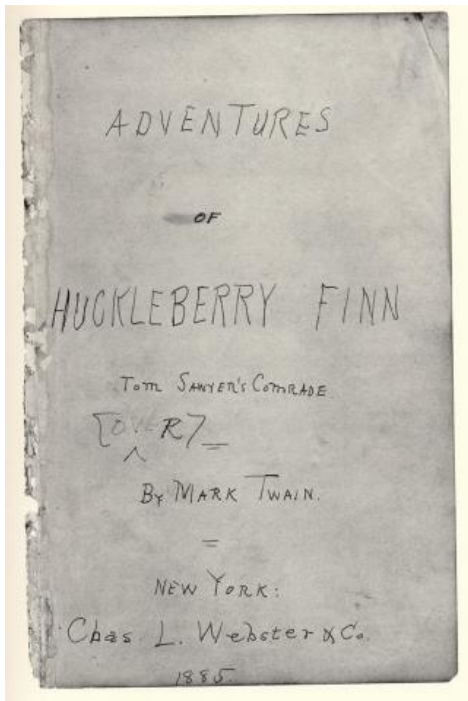


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## Mark Twain Day in Buffalo 150 Year Anniversary of Twain moving here Original Manuscript and Twain Room Tour Now Accessible on Library Website



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### Mark Twain Day in Buffalo -

### 150 Year Anniversary of Twain Moving Here -

### ***Original Manuscript and Twain Room Tour Now Accessible on Library Website***

It was 150 years ago to the day that Samuel Langhorne Clemens, also known as Mark Twain, agreed to come and work in Buffalo, New York as the managing editor of The Buffalo Express newspaper. The year was 1869. While brief, his time here was significant and worthy of recognition since it shaped him as a prolific writer. It is also the reason that the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library proudly holds his original handwritten manuscript of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

Today the Library honored Mark Twain's legacy as a former Buffalonian, writer, publisher and humorist. Mayor Byron W. Brown presented a city proclamation-naming *Mark Twain Day in Buffalo* and Tom Reigstad, SUNY Buffalo State Emeritus Professor of English and author of *Scribblin' for a Livin'* spoke about Twain's time living here.

The *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* manuscript was a gift from the famed author to the Young Men's Association, a predecessor of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library. It was received in three installments over the course of 105 years and includes never published material. Leaves from the original handwritten manuscript are on display in the Mark Twain Room, which opened to the public in 1995 in the downtown Central Library.

In the early 1930s, the Buffalo Public Library (predecessor to the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library) began to build a unique collection of special English and foreign language editions of the *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* novel. Through the years, this collection has continued to grow. These remarkable editions and other rare Twain collectibles and ephemera currently number more than five hundred, filling the bookcases and lining the walls of the esteemed Mark Twain Room. A portrait of Twain hangs prominently above the restored mantel from the Delaware Avenue home he shared with his wife Olivia. The steamer trunk, in which the leaves of the first half of the manuscript lay forgotten for many years, is also displayed.

“Today, you can be anywhere in the world and you will have access to this amazing manuscript, available digitally 24/7 on our Library System website,” said Library Director Mary Jean Jakubowski. “This online resource greatly broadens the Library’s reach, a million times over. Anyone, from anywhere, at any time, can now view Mark Twain’s handwritten notes, his comments, scratch outs and edits to better understand his writing process, which formed his great literary work -free, from the Library.”

The Library Foundation of Buffalo & Erie County generously paid for the conservation and color digitizing of the original manuscript – over 1,360 pages.

During the ceremony, the Library also unveiled a new 3D Virtual Reality tour of the Mark Twain Room, produced by Peter Schiffmacher, founder of iTours 360VR, and generously funded by the Center for the Study of Art, Architecture, History and Nature (C-SAAHN) and Dennis Galucki. Access is available through the Library System website: <https://www.buffalolib.org/content/grosvenor/mark-twain-room>. A demonstration showing the VR tour and the digital manuscript was presented by Grosvenor Room Librarian Marguerite Cheman.

For more information on the Mark Twain Room, Twain's time in Buffalo and to access the digital manuscript and 3D VR tour visit: <https://www.buffalolib.org/content/grosvenor/mark-twain-room>.

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**Tags:**

[Mark Twain](#)

[Manuscript](#)

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