



for the Record

Devoted to Kentucky's State Archives and the Historical Record

Fall/Winter 2019

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KDLA Receives NHPRC Grant

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) received a two-year Access to Historical Records: Archival Projects grant to facilitate access to early legal records through the digitization, preservation, and online dissemination of existing volumes, loose papers, and microfilm of Kentucky General Court and Kentucky naturalization records. These collections will offer researchers a path through the changing culture of the Commonwealth of Kentucky from its founding through 1945 and represent a portion of the legal history of Kentucky, addressing major issues such as the settling of the Commonwealth and continued immigration to Kentucky through the World War II era. Digitized records will be processed and ingested into KDLA's digital preservation system, Preservica, using current archival standards and best practices including the addition of descriptive metadata down to the item level. Online access will be provided through the Kentucky State Digital Archives (KSDA) <https://kdla.access.preservica.com/welcome/>.

The General Court collection consists of Equity and Ordinary Case Files and Order Books dating 1799-1850. The Naturalization Records collection spans 1820-1945. The scope of the materials in these collections is united by themes of civic and cultural growth, and illustrates the early westward expansion of the Commonwealth. The birth and rapid evolution of the court system's process for hearing numerous land disputes is historically significant in telling Kentucky's origin story and the setting of legal precedent. The General Court records are important not only because they contain suits involving early prominent landowners, such as Simon Kenton and Christopher Greenup for whom counties were named, but also because the rulings of these cases frequently determined geographical boundaries within Kentucky. Naturalization records provide a wealth of information on the evolution of the cultural fabric of Kentucky from the first few decades of statehood through the 1940s. These records contain specific, unique information useful for genealogical and cultural studies. Items within the naturalization collections such as photographs, depositions, and letters offer color and texture to family narratives, while other documentation traces families back to their ancestral roots.

The digitization of these records will enable access to records for which no index or minimal indexing currently exists. Descriptive and embedded metadata will open possibilities for new avenues of research and study. By digitizing these records and making them available online through the KSDA, KDLA will deliver an efficient, effective platform with which researchers can locate and utilize information that has essentially been hidden. KDLA will implement a volunteer program to engage citizens in the indexing of the newly digitized records.



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NATIONAL HISTORICAL
PUBLICATIONS
& RECORDS COMMISSION

"The keeping of the public record of a civilized people is a continuing responsibility where properly the task is never completed. The vigilance necessary to preserve the record is synonymous with that of preserving the freedom of an open and democratic society." Dr. Thomas D. Clark, former Historian Laureate of Kentucky

Archives Research Room Hours and Holidays

The Archives Research Room is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Free parking is provided outside the KDLA building.

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming closures.

November 11	Monday	Veterans Day
November 28-29	Thursday & Friday	Thanksgiving
December 24-25	Tuesday & Wednesday	Christmas
December 31 & January 1	Tuesday & Wednesday	New Year's

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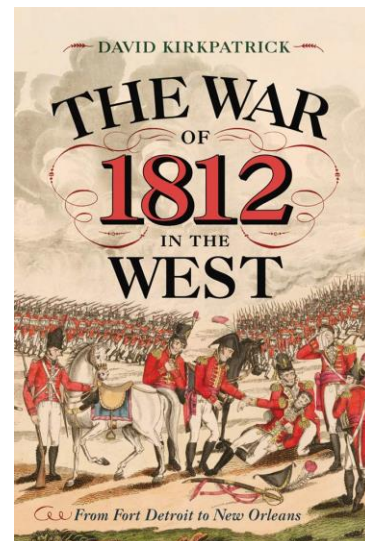
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Annual Archives Symposium

The Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. will sponsor the 30th annual Public Archives Symposium on Thursday, November 7 at 1:30 p.m. at the Paul Sawyer Public Library, 319 Wapping Street, Frankfort.

Featured speaker for the Symposium will be David Kirkpatrick, Genealogy/Reference Librarian at the Mercer County Public Library. David will discuss his recently published book, **The War of 1812 in the West: From Fort Detroit to New Orleans**. The book chronicles the near catastrophic loss of the Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois Territories; the bitter fight against both Tecumseh's Confederation and the Creek Nation; and the slow recovery and ultimate victory of American forces, a large portion of which was supplied by Kentucky, from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. Battles such as River Raisin, Thames River, Fort Meigs, and New Orleans are placed in context to show how they secured America's frontier and opened territory to the west to new settlement following the war.

The Public Archives Symposium is free and open to the public, and no registration is required. For further information, contact David Schroeder, President, Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc., at 859-578-3600 or visit the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives' (KDLA) website: <https://kdla.ky.gov/Pages/default.aspx>.





KDLA Celebrates Electronic Records Day

Please join the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) in celebrating Electronic Records Day on October 10. Now in its eighth year, Electronic Records Day was created by the State Electronic Records Initiative (SERI), a program of the Council of State Archivists (CoSA), as an opportunity to share information about managing digital resources and to enlist support in preserving electronic records.

This day is designed to raise awareness among state and local government agencies, the general public, professional organizations, and other stakeholders about the crucial role electronic records play in their world.

Additional information about Electronic Records Day activities and resources is available on the CoSA website:

<https://www.statearchivists.org/programs/state-electronic-records-initiative/electronic-records-day/>.

KDLA Participates in the *Rightfully Hers: American Women and the Vote* Initiative

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) is joining schools and cultural institutions nationwide in commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment. In 1920, American democracy dramatically expanded when the newly ratified 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution extended the right to vote to millions of women.

This landmark voting rights victory was made possible by decades of suffragists' persistent political engagement, and yet it is just one critical milestone in women's battle for the vote. In celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment, *Rightfully Hers: American Women and the Vote* highlights the relentless struggle of diverse activists throughout U.S. history to secure voting rights for all American women.

As part of the *Rightfully Hers: American Women and the Vote* initiative, a limited number of pop-up displays were distributed. The display contains messages exploring the complex history of the 19th Amendment's ratification, women's voting rights before and after the 19th Amendment, and its impact today.

Please visit the KDLA in the fall to see the *Rightfully Hers: American Women and the Vote* display.

The Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. is a not for profit membership organization of private citizens concerned with helping the Archives and Records Management Division of Kentucky's Department for Libraries and Archives fulfill its role as a vital information link between people and government. The Friends' organization supports the management, preservation, and use of Kentucky's historic public records and serves as an advocate for the Kentucky State Archives, which the division manages. For further information, contact the Friends at P.O. Box 4224, Frankfort, KY 40604.



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Beth was instrumental in KDLA acquiring approval for a new fully integrated collections management system, that the Archives and Records Management (ARM) Division will begin work on in 2020. This new system, AXAEM, will contain all the necessary components for KDLA services – records retention schedules, records holdings and metadata, records centers storage and tracking, finding aids, etc. With this integration system, multiple applications will be able to link the wide variety of functions in the Kentucky State Archives.

The Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. thanks Beth for her work on behalf of the Friends and the citizens of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

State Archivist Accepts Position at Oregon State University

State Archivist and Records Administrator Beth Shields resigned her position on July 31, after more than 15 years of service with the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA). Beth and her family have relocated to Oregon, where she was appointed the Library Technology Manager at Oregon State University.

As State Archivist, Beth was responsible for a comprehensive archives and records management program for state and local governments. She managed records appraisal, analysis, and scheduling for state and local government agencies; an electronic records management and digital preservation program; a grant program for local governments; public services and outreach; and storage and collection management services in the State Archives and State Records Centers.

Beth worked tirelessly with the Local Records Branch on updating the Local Records Program Grants policies, procedures, and processes, bringing them in-line with the requirements of the Kentucky Revised Statutes and the Kentucky Administrative Regulations. The Local Records Program Grant Guidelines were created for all local governments interested in applying for a grant. It includes general information on the Local Records Program and the grant process.

Kentucky Archives Institute

The 35th annual Kentucky Archives Institute, sponsored by the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc., was held at the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) on July 19. Participants enjoyed a program of interesting and informative presentations by Jim Prichard, The Filson Historical Society; Bridget Striker, Boone County Public Library; Rosemary Meszaros and Katherine Pennavaria, Western Kentucky University; and Mary Girard, Boyle County Public Library.

Many thanks to all of the speakers and to the staff of KDLA who helped to make this year's Institute a success.



Twenty Local Government Agencies Receive Nearly 450,000 in Grants to Preserve Records

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) has awarded 20 grants statewide totaling \$449,656 in the first round of fiscal year 2020 Local Records Program grant funds. Funds are made available through fees enacted by the Kentucky General Assembly to preserve and provide access to local public records. Any local government agency may apply for this grant.

The first round of 2020 Local Records Program grant funds have been awarded to the following recipients: Bourbon County Clerk, Boyd County Clerk, Clark County Judge/Executive, Clinton County Clerk, Daviess County Clerk, Franklin County Fiscal Court, Jackson County Clerk, Jessamine County Clerk, Lawrence County Clerk, Letcher County Clerk, Magoffin County Clerk, Mason County Clerk, Menifee County Clerk, Monroe County Clerk, Montgomery County Clerk, Nicholas County Clerk, Pike County Clerk, Rockcastle County Clerk, Warren County Clerk, and Washington County Clerk.

“These funds significantly enable local agencies to preserve and provide access to records important to them and the people they serve,” KDLA Commissioner Terry Manuel said. “The public greatly benefits from the work local agencies put into maintaining these records.”

For more information on KDLA resources, programs, and services, visit www.kdla.ky.gov or call 502-564-1702.

Archives and Records Management (ARM) Division Welcomes New Staff

Devon Stivers is the new Electronic Records Archivist for the Electronic Records Branch, beginning June 17. She will be working with born-digital records and uploading them into Preservica, the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives’ (KDLA) cloud-based digital preservation system. Heath Reynolds also joined the Electronic Records Branch as the Digital Projects Archivist on June 17. He will oversee the digitization of KDLA’s in-house archival collection.

Mackenzie Sommers became the Administrative Specialist for the Archival Services Branch on July 16. She will work in the Archives Research Room assisting on-site customers and responding to requests by phone and mail, processing expungement orders, and supporting the branch with other projects. Dennis Kerley joined the Archival Services Branch on August 16. He is the new Administrative Specialist for the State Archives Center. He will be responding to legal and customer requests, and assisting with special projects.

Elizabeth (Beth) Williams joined the Local Records Branch on September 3 as the new North Central Kentucky Regional Administrator. Beth comes to KDLA with 17 years of professional records management experience at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Beth will serve as records management and archival consultant to local public agencies in the 26 county north central region. She will provide direct services to local government officials, including assistance with records management programs, the use of technology for recordkeeping, updating records retention schedules, monitoring records management grants, records disposal, and training.

Yes, I would like to renew my membership in/become a member of the **Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc.**

My check for _____ made payable to the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. is enclosed. Membership benefits include a biannual newsletter, a membership pin, and invitations to workshops, special events, the Kentucky Archives Institute, the Public Archives Symposium, and the annual meeting. Gifts to the Friends beyond the basic membership are tax deductible.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Membership levels: _____ \$15 Individual/Family _____ \$25 Libraries, Genealogical and Historical Societies _____ \$250 Life
 _____ \$50 Sustaining _____ \$1,000 Corporate _____ Gift to the Clark Endowment

Please clip and mail to: Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc., P.O. Box 4224, Frankfort, Kentucky 40604 * We appreciate your support.

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