



for the Record

Devoted to Kentucky's State Archives and the Historical Record

Spring/Summer 2013

I N S I D E

2

**Hatfield/McCoy
Research**

3

**Archives Institute
Registration**

4

**Archives Month
Report**

5

**Naturalization
Records Indexed**

Construction Begins on New State Records Center

On September 18, 2012, the Kentucky General Assembly Capital Projects and Bond Oversight Committee approved a lease for a consolidated State Records Center to house over 200,000 cubic feet of state agency records. In early March, 2013, ground was broken for this 100,000 square foot facility, with completion expected before the end of 2013. The new Records Center will have more effective climate control and taller shelving than the current facilities, with state-of-the-art records tracking system and room for expansion.

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) has been offering high-volume, low-cost storage through its records center since 1982, providing agencies with efficient and professional records services while saving millions of dollars for those agencies in records storage costs every year. The need for a larger facility in order to provide the best service possible has been a constant issue for KDLA. My predecessor, Richard N. Belding, expanded the records center to a second location, and continued to submit requests for a new records center facility throughout his twenty-one year tenure as State Archivist and Records Administrator. Richard's efforts formed the basis of this final and successful request for a consolidated facility.



Construction progresses on new State Records Center on Leestown Road in Frankfort.

After construction is completed, State Records Center Supervisor Steve Shackelford and his staff will begin moving records from the two current facilities into the new one, throughout 2014 and into 2015. We anticipate that the move will take place over an eighteen month period, moving from both the facility on East Main Street (rented since 1962 as the first State Archives building) and the Buffalo Trace location.

This is a great step in Kentucky's archival and records management program, allowing KDLA to provide a larger and better facility for storing state agency temporary records.

Continued on Page 4

"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 Closings

The Archives Research Room is open to the public from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Free parking is provided outside the KDLA building.

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming closures.

May 27	Monday	Memorial Day
June 21	Friday	Archives Institute
July 4	Thursday	Independence Day
September 2	Monday	Labor Day

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Research Opportunities at the State Archives: Hatfield/McCoy Feud

In May 2012, the History Channel broadcast a three-part miniseries "Hatfields & McCoys," starring Kevin Costner as Devil Anse Hatfield and Bill Paxton as Randall McCoy. The miniseries set the record as the most-watched entertainment telecast in the history of basic cable. Although it's important to remember that the miniseries was indeed entertainment and not a documentary, the producers did contact the Kentucky State Archives in an effort to gather historical information to make the film as authentic as possible. KDLA provided some valuable and, in many cases, unique documentation of the feud, using the public records available in the Archives.

KDLA does not have a specific "Hatfield/McCoy" collection, but several larger collections of public records contain information concerning the feud. These include the official papers of the Kentucky governors who served during this period and judicial records from the Court of Appeals and the Pike County Circuit Court. (The McCoys lived mostly in Pike County, while the Hatfields lived across the state line in West Virginia.)

The papers of Governor Simon Bolivar Buckner (1887-1891) contain considerable documentation of the feud, including telegrams between Buckner and the Governor of West Virginia regarding the advisability of calling out the state militia to quell the violence on both sides of the border, and numerous letters from concerned citizens reporting outbreaks of criminal activity and asking for help. Buckner's correspondence also contains a handwritten confession, supposedly penned by Ellison Mounts or dictated by him, providing some details on feud activities over a period of years. Mounts, a Hatfield supporter, was the only person on either side of the feud to be executed for his part in the violence; he was hanged in Pikeville in 1890. The death warrant for Mounts, signed by Governor Buckner, is also in the governor's papers.

The judicial records of Pike County, especially the Criminal Court Order Books, contain numerous references to feud participants, with Order Book entries documenting various indictments handed down over the years. Criminal Court Order Book 1 (1880-1885) has several entries for "Commonwealth vs. Cap Hatfield" for murder, and Book 3

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Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc.

The Twenty-Ninth Annual Kentucky Archives Institute

Sponsored by: Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. and
Public Records Division, Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

June 21, 2013

Activity Room, Second Floor, Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

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|---------------|---|
| 8:30 – 9:00 | Registration/Pastries |
| 9:00 – 9:15 | Welcome |
| 9:15 – 10:15 | Veterans' Bonus Claims Collection at the Kentucky State Archives
-Walter Bowman, KDLA |
| 10:15 – 10:30 | Break |
| 10:30 – 11:30 | Creating Indexes for Naturalization Records in the Kentucky State Archives Collections
-Kari May, KDLA |
| 11:30 – 12:30 | Lunch |
| 12:30 – 1:30 | Beginning African American Genealogy
-Nancy Richey, Western Kentucky University (WKU) |
| 1:30 – 1:45 | Break |
| 1:45 – 2:45 | Historic Kentucky Land Records
-Kandie Adkinson, Land Office, Secretary of State's Office |
| 2:45 – 3:00 | Conclusion |
| 3:00 – 3:30 | Tour of the State Archives (<i>Optional</i>) |

Please clip and mail the form below, along with registration fee(s), by June 14.

Space is limited to 50 attendees.

If you have any questions, please contact Tim Tingle at 502.564.8300, ext. 251 or tim.tingle@ky.gov.

Mail registration form with payment to: Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc.
Kentucky Archives Institute
P.O. Box 4224
Frankfort, KY 40604

Registration fees: \$45 fee covers the cost of all Institute materials and lunch.
\$50 fee covers Institute materials, lunch, and Friends membership for July-Dec., 2013.
Check here to reserve a vegetarian lunch. _____
Check here if you plan to tour the archives. _____

Make checks payable to: Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. (Fees are non-refundable.)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

KDLA had the support of so many in state government during this process, and their interest and assistance helped us finally secure approval for this new leased facility. Among the many who ensured this project's success were: State Librarian and KDLA Commissioner Wayne Onkst; Education and Workforce Development Cabinet Secretary Joseph U. Meyer and his staff; the Finance and Administration Cabinet Real Properties Division, especially leasing manager Brian Hoover; and the Governor's Office for Policy and Management, particularly KDLA's budget liaison, Glenna Goins and Deputy State Budget Director John Hicks. Thanks also to our staff, especially Jim Cundy, State Records Branch Manager, and Steve Shackelford, for looking at many properties and building sites, and working on building and moving plans; and to Barbara Campbell, Fiscal Officer, for balancing the project budget.

Barbara Teague,
State Archivist and Records Administrator

Kentucky Archives Month

Planning for Kentucky's annual celebration of Archives Month is well underway. The Archives Month Coordinating Committee, under the direction of the Kentucky State Historical Records Advisory Board, met in February to begin preparations for this year's celebration in October 2013. The theme for this year is *Folklore and Superstition*. The Archives Month Coordinating Committee works with the Kentucky Council on Archives and other repositories in the state to plan for Archives Month.

The Kentucky Archives Month web address is <http://archivesmonth.ky.gov>. Please check the website for listings of events that will be held throughout the state in celebration of Kentucky Archives, or use the site to submit an event. The site also has a Planning Guide to assist in planning Archives Month activities. All Kentucky archival and manuscript repositories can plan to commemorate Archives Month in some way, with an open house, a workshop, a featured speaker, an exhibit, a tour, or any other type of event.



Construction Begins on New State Records Center

Index to Naturalization Records Now Available

Continued from Page 2

Naturalization records are created during the process followed by immigrants to become citizens of the United States, and can consist of certificates of arrival, declarations of intention, petitions for naturalization, affidavits of witnesses, and other related documentation. The State Archives has naturalization records from twenty eight counties in its collection, covering dates from the mid-1800s to the early 1950s. The information in a naturalization record is extremely useful to researchers. A naturalization record can include the immigrant's name, place of birth, last residence, physical description, occupation, and maiden name and names of children, if applicable. Thanks to a generous donation from Donna Stark Thompson and Roberta Padgett, two longtime members of the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc., these naturalization records have been microfilmed, with the records arranged alphabetically by county and then chronologically. State Archives staff compiled a searchable index to the microfilmed records containing over 16,000 entries, now available in the Archives Research Room. This index allows researchers to locate records through a direct search or by browsing by last name, county, or record type. All search results provide the pertinent microfilm roll number, county, type of record, and page number needed to go directly to a specific record.

(1888-1889) contains similar entries for the offenses of assault and battery and for "confederating." Although these entries give little detail, they do provide documentation of the pervasive violence in the county during this period of the feud.

Several case files from the Court of Appeals, including one involving Valentine Hatfield, contain some fairly extensive information on the feud. An entry for Valentine Hatfield can also be found in the prison register for the State Penitentiary, since he was incarcerated for murder and died there.

The Hatfield/McCoy feud had an impact on the lives of both families for many years, but it also helped perpetuate the stereotype of lawlessness and violence that haunted the Appalachian region for decades, and survives to some extent even today. The records in the State Archives that document the feud can give us a better understanding of the people and events of this historically significant era.

The State Archives is very grateful to Donna and Roberta for providing funds to microfilm these records and to KDLA staff for compiling the index and making it easily accessible to researchers. Kari May of the Research Room staff coordinated the indexing project. She will discuss this indexing project at the Kentucky Archives Institute on June 21.



*The **Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc.** is a not for profit membership organization of private citizens concerned with helping the Public Records 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.*

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 Address: _____

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.

Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc.
P.O. Box 4224
Frankfort, Kentucky 40604
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Folk trio Peter, Paul, and Mary performed at a civil rights rally at the Kentucky Capitol, March, 1964.
Source: Public Information Photo Collection, Public Records Division – KDLA.