

# for the Record

Devoted to Kentucky's State Archives and the Historical Record

Fall/Winter 2009

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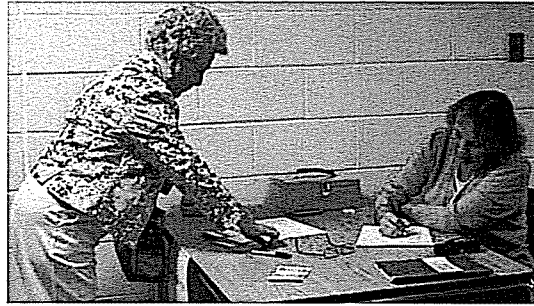
I N S I D E

**Research Opportunities**

**Archives Institute Photos**

**Registration for the Archives Symposium**

**Special Thanks**



## Planning for a New State Records Center

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, Public Records Division currently maintains two State Records Center locations in Frankfort, both of which are leased warehouse facilities. In an effort to increase governmental efficiency and save taxpayer dollars, a project is underway to consolidate these two Records Center facilities.

proposals was sent. Finance Cabinet staff is working to address questions and concerns the potential contractors have had in putting together their final bids. PRD staff are busy planning for the move, making arrangements and estimating costs. Moving all the boxes, shelving and equipment will be a huge and time-consuming undertaking.

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While the State Archives Center stores permanently valuable records of historical importance, the State Records Centers provide a cost-effective service to agencies for the storage and management of their non-permanent records. The State Records Centers hold a combined 195,000 cubic feet of mostly short-term state agency records, which can be destroyed when the scheduled retention period has been met.

The Public Records Division is working with the Finance and Administration Cabinet to secure a new facility so that all these materials can be stored at one location, under optimal conditions. The building will be either a new structure or a remodeled existing facility, depending on the outcome of the bidding process. Staff members have reviewed plans and toured potential sites. Contractors have submitted one round of plans and the request for final

### Archives Month 2009

Kentucky Archives Month is planned for October 2009, in conjunction with American Archives Month. This year the Commonwealth of Kentucky will commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the sixteenth President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln. President Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809 in Hardin County (present day LaRue County), Kentucky. Records of Lincoln, his family, and the Mary Todd Lincoln family are preserved and made available in numerous archives, special collections, libraries, and other repositories across the state.

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*"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.

Upcoming closures, please mark your calendars!

November 11	Wednesday	Veteran's Day
November 26-27	Thursday-Friday	Thanksgiving
December 24-25	Thursday-Friday	Christmas
December 31- January 1	Thursday-Friday	New Year's

### Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. Board of Directors

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printed twice annually.

Howard T. Goodpaster  
Frankfort

Frank G. Rankin\*  
Louisville

\*Deceased

# Research Opportunities at the State Archives: State Capitol Building Commission

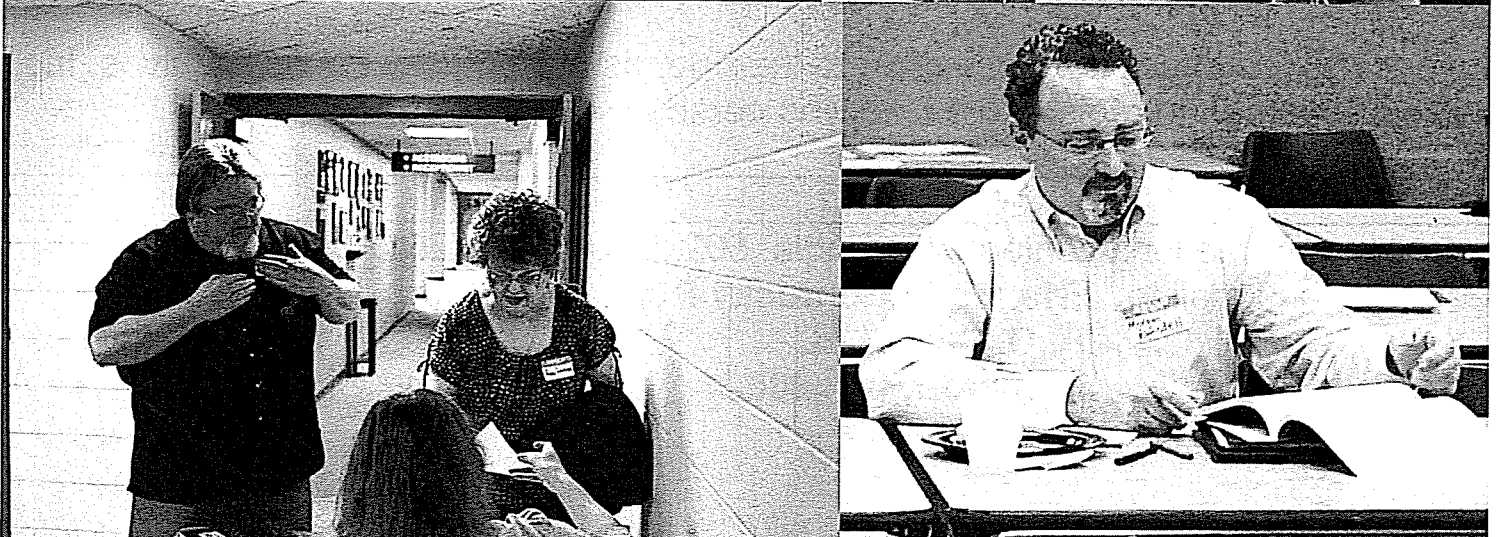
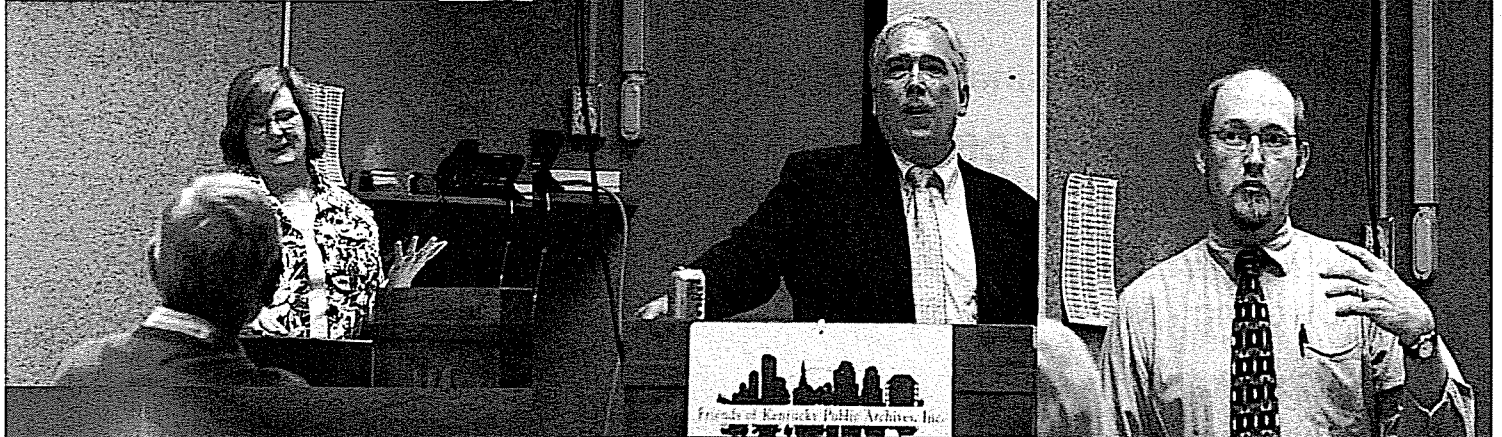
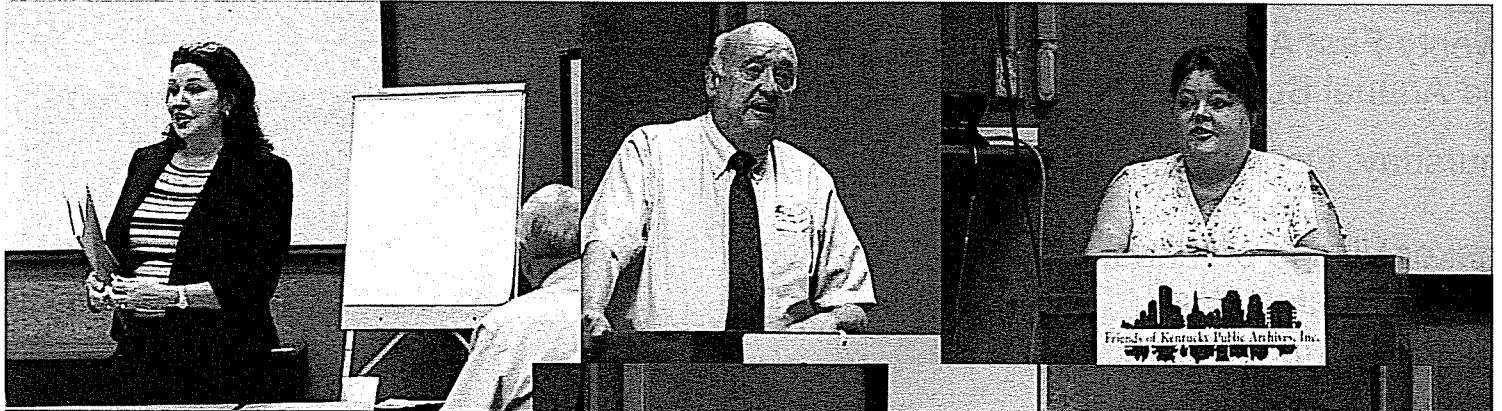
The Kentucky State Capitol Building in Frankfort is located in the southern section of the city, and overlooks the Kentucky River. The Capitol is a very impressive example of the French Renaissance style of architecture, and has served as the seat of Kentucky government since 1910. The State Archives holds a collection of records of the State Capitol Building Commission, the agency charged with the oversight of construction of the edifice. This collection, though not large, contains a great deal of extremely valuable information and would be helpful to anyone with an interest in the history of this grand structure.

The previous Capitol Building had been erected in 1830, and by the beginning of the twentieth century was obviously no longer adequate. The legislature used money from a recent debt settlement with the federal government to fund the new building. Formed in 1904, the State Capitol Building Commission was chaired by Governor J.C.W. Beckham, with the Secretary of State, Auditor, State Treasurer and Attorney General also serving as members. The Commission selected Frank Andrews as the building architect, and construction began in 1905. The new Capitol was completed in five years, at a total cost of \$1,750,000.

The records of the State Capitol Building Commission include a Minute Book (1904-1911), which documents the meetings and discussions held by the group and describes the planning and construction process; a Receipts and Estimates Book (1904-1909) containing original vouchers and receipts for construction materials; and a Ledger Book (1904-1914), which lists financial entries made over the course of the project. The Ledger Book also contains a few entries relating to the construction of the Governor's Mansion, which was built in the years immediately following the completion of the Capitol.

Kentuckians are justifiably proud of their beautiful Capitol, and as we near the centennial of the dedication of the building in 2010, researchers are invited to make use of the records of the State Capitol Building Commission to learn more about its history.

# Archives Institute 2009



# The Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc.

*invites you to its*

Twenty-First Annual Public Archives Symposium  
and Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon

Thursday, October 29, 2009

Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill  
3501 Lexington Road  
Harrodsburg, Kentucky

## **Annual Meeting**

**10:00 Friends' Annual Business Meeting**

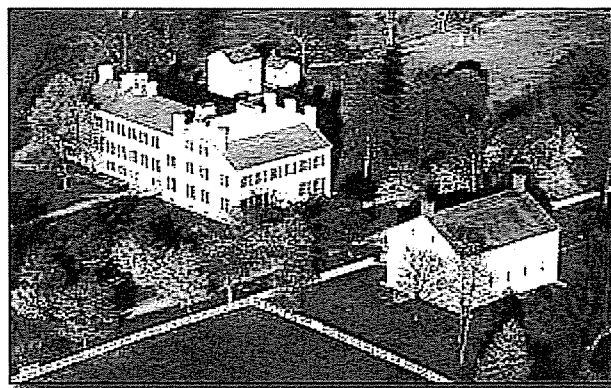
**11:30 Luncheon (Trustees' Office Dining Room)**  
(Baked Herb Chicken will be the main entrée.)

**1:30 Public Archives Symposium**  
(West Lot Dwelling - Meeting Room A)

## ***About the Speaker***

**Dr. Robert S. Weise** will discuss his book *Grasping at Independence: Debt, Male Authority, and Mineral Rights in Appalachian Kentucky, 1850-1915*. Dr. Weise is associate professor of history at Eastern Kentucky University.

This book will be available for purchase at the Symposium.



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## **Reply Card - 2009 Friends' Annual Business Luncheon and Symposium**

(Please include the names of all those who plan to attend.) Symposium seating is limited to 80.

## ***Lunch Registration Deadline is Wednesday, October 21, 2009***

I am enclosing a check made payable to the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. for \$28 per person to register the following persons:

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For further information: contact Tim Tingle, 502.564.8300 x. 251.

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

### Archives Month 2009

"This documentary legacy is a rich resource for all Kentuckians that enhances our understanding of our shared historical experience and is of lasting benefit to this and future generations," said Wayne Onkst, State Librarian and Commissioner of the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives.

Almost 300 archival and manuscript repositories in Kentucky hold archival records that document the history of Kentucky. Their holdings include personal papers, photographs, Bibles, diaries, letters, and government records, such as marriage certificates and wills. Many of these institutions are hosting special programs, open houses, exhibits, and speakers to highlight historical materials available for research in Kentucky and all are listed on the Kentucky Archives Month web site (<http://archivesmonth.ky.gov>). Be sure to join in the fun of Archives Month and plan an activity or event this year to celebrate Kentucky's rich archival heritage.

Please check the web site for events that will be held throughout the state in celebration of Kentucky Archives Month. If you have any questions, contact Valerie Edgeworth at [valerie.edgeworth@ky.gov](mailto:valerie.edgeworth@ky.gov), or at 502.564.8300 x 246.

### Thank You!

The staff of the State Archives would like to express our gratitude to Friends' Board members Donna Stark Thompson and Roberta Padgett for their kind and very generous financial support. Their assistance will enable the Archives to scan and microfilm a sizeable collection of Kentucky naturalization records spanning the years 1830-1959, thereby improving access to these historically significant records while helping to preserve the original documents. Again, thank you Donna and Roberta for your continuing help and most generous support.

### New State Records Center

The move into one building will allow increased efficiency and cost savings. Under the current arrangement, PRD pays rent for two buildings, and the Records Center staff must travel between them to shelve boxes, refile materials and pull records to fill requests. This requires using extra staff time, putting extra wear on vehicles, and consuming more gas. Maintaining one facility will mean paying only one lease and saving employees' time and vehicle expenses. Customers who want to inspect records will save time and effort because they can be sure that the record they need will be on-site rather than at another location. The move will also give State Records Center staff an opportunity to inventory and audit the holdings.

The consolidation of the State Records Center facilities will result in increased productivity not only for PRD and State Records Center staff, but also for all agencies and the public. Overall, the new building will provide a much better environment for records storage and allow for more efficient retrieval. While not all the details have been determined, progress continues on planning and preparations for a new consolidated State Records Center during the next fiscal year.



Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc.

*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: \_\_\_\_\_

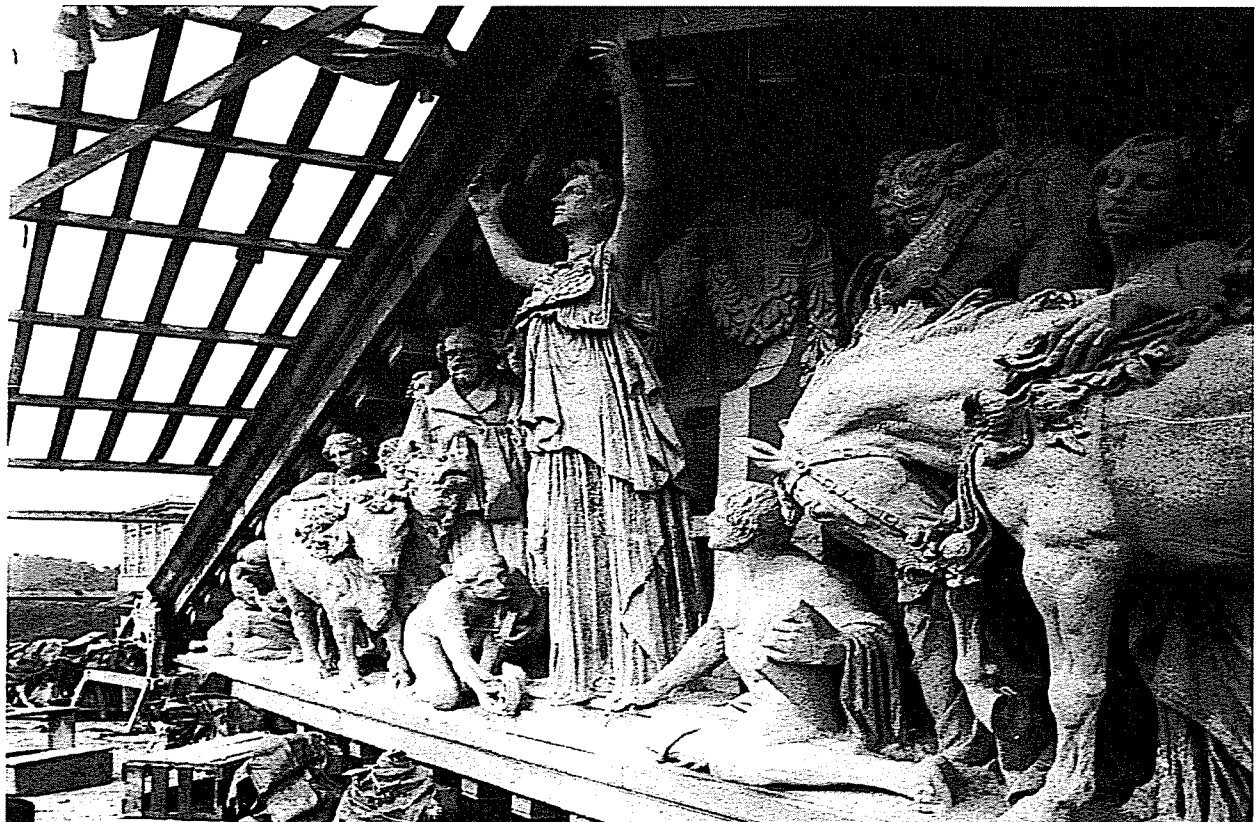
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Membership levels: \_\_\_\_\_ \$15 Individual/Family \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 Libraries, Genealogical and Historical Societies \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 Life  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$50 Sustaining \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,000 Corporate \_\_\_\_\_ Gift to the Clark Endowment

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  
**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



Capitol Pediment designed by Charles H. Niehaus and sculpted by Peter Rossak (from Austria) 1906 – 1907. Figure with raised arms represents Kentucky, with “Progress” kneeling to her right pushing a winged wheel and “History” to her left holding a writing instrument.  
From Creative Services Photo Collection, Public Records Division, Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives.