

for the Record

Devoted to Kentucky's State Archives and the Historical Record

Fall/Winter 2011

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News from the State Archives

Electronic records from government agencies continue to be created in great numbers, and their preservation and use are of concern to archivists and records managers. All states and territories are currently participating in the Council of State Archivists' State Electronic Records Initiative (SERI), a project that is assessing the status of electronic records programs in state and territorial governments, in order to work toward collaborative solutions for dealing with digital government records.

The Kentucky State Archives received our first grant to create an electronic records program in 1984. Twenty-seven years and many grants later, we continue to provide leadership in electronic records issues. Records analysts and electronic records specialists from the Public Records Division are making great strides in ensuring that digital information that has a permanent retention will be preserved. Our records scheduling process, based on Kentucky's strong public records law and relying on agency input and final approval by the State Archives and Records Commission, requires that we document the actions of Kentucky state and local government in order to ensure accountability and transparency.

In July, the State Archives participated in a test audit of its digital repository, the e-Archives. An international team conducted several test audits of digital libraries, social science data archives, and repositories for scientific data in the United States and Europe in order to test the draft standard ISO/DIS 16363, audit and certification of trustworthy digital repositories. KDLA was the only state government agency that was part of the test group. The audit team recommended that KDLA codify and write current policies and procedures improve the security of records in the repository.

In addition to working on the ever-present electronic records concerns, we continue to manage massive volumes of paper records. We met with the staff of the Finance and Administration Cabinet's Real Properties Division in early 2011 to prepare for the process of consolidating the two rented State Records Center facilities into one rented location. We visited several properties, and the Finance staff is now preparing to issue a request for final bid proposals. In KDLA's capital projects budget request, we also provided a strong justification for an archives addition for the main KDLA building on Cooper Drive. This addition would provide more storage for archival records, including a new microfilm storage vault. Although this addition has been requested many times, we are hopeful that it will be funded this time.

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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.

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming closures.

November 11	Friday	Veteran's Day
November 24 -25	Thursday-Friday	Thanksgiving
TBA	TBA	Christmas
TBA	TBA	New Year's

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Research Opportunities at the State Archives

Public Documents Collection

Some of the most valuable sources of information on Kentucky history can be found in the Public Documents collection at the Department for Libraries and Archives. The Public Documents are printed and bound compilations of annual reports and other studies created by various state government agencies. The collection begins in 1839 and runs for almost exactly one hundred years. Not all agencies are represented each year, but the reports that are included are invariably extensive and comprehensive.

The first volume of the Public Documents collection includes a report from the Board of Internal Improvement, and lists construction and improvement projects for roads and rivers around the state, and therefore provides information on the status of transportation in Kentucky in 1839. A portion of this report is devoted to the activities of the Louisville and Portland Canal Company, and lists the steamboats that used the canal to navigate the Ohio River in 1839, showing the tonnage and tolls paid. This volume also contains a report on the State Lunatic Asylum, which describes the "disease" affecting each patient and his or her prognosis.

As might be expected, the volume covering 1863-1864 reflects the impact of the Civil War on the state, and includes an Adjutant General's Report listing the officers serving in each of the Kentucky volunteer regiments in the Union Army. The usual business of state government continued despite the War, however, and this volume also contains detailed reports from the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Penitentiary, the Lunatic Asylums, and the Institutions for the Blind and for Deaf Mutes.

The Penitentiary report provides statistical breakdowns of inmates by type of crime, nativity, and terms of sentence. The report of the Institution for Deaf Mutes includes a list of students, cause of deafness of each, and a pictorial representation of the "manual alphabet" (sign language) used by the students.

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Kentucky Archives Month

October 2011

archivesmonth.ky.gov



Sponsored by the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, the Kentucky State Historical Records Advisory Board, and the Kentucky Council on Archives.

Images courtesy of the following repositories: The Filson Historical Society; Kentucky Historical Society; Kentucky State University; and Western Kentucky University; and the Robert F. James Family.

Military Faces

Shaker Village to be Site of Friends Annual Meeting and Archives Symposium

The Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. will hold its annual meeting and host the Public Archives Symposium on Thursday, October 27, 2011 at Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill. Featured speaker for the Symposium will be Dr. Doug Boyd, Director of the Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Boyd will discuss his recently published book, ***Crawfish Bottom: Recovering a Lost Kentucky Community***. The book traces the evolution of a small neighborhood in Frankfort with a reputation for vice and crime which was effectively replaced during an urban renewal project in the 1960s. Using oral histories and firsthand memories, Boyd not only provides a record of a vanished neighborhood and its culture but also demonstrates how this type of study enhances the historical record. Please see page 4 for registration information, and plan to join us for a delicious Shaker Village lunch and an interesting program.

Archives Month Planned for October

Kentucky Archives Month is planned for October 2011, in conjunction with American Archives Month. The theme for this year's commemoration is Military in honor of the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War, the upcoming 200th anniversary of the War of 1812 and Kentucky's military heritage.

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 listed on the Kentucky Archives Month website (<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, please let me know via e-mail at valerie.edgeworth@ky.gov, or call me at 502.564.8300 x 246.

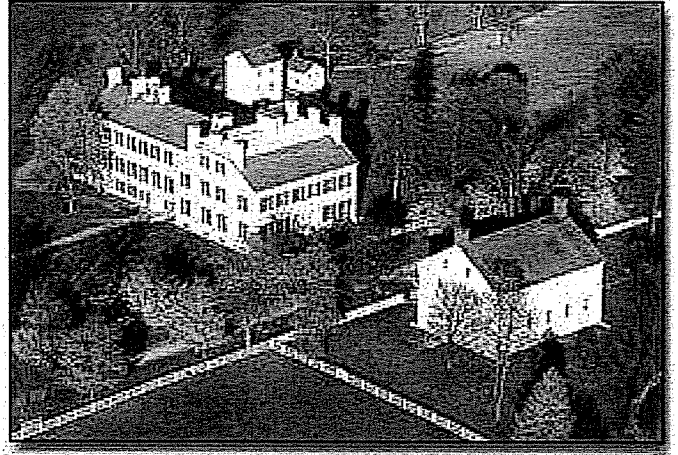
The Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc.

invites you to its

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

Thursday, October 27, 2011

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)
(Grilled Chicken will be the main entrée.)

1:00 Public Archives Symposium
(West Lot Dwelling – Meeting Room A)

About the Speaker

Dr. Doug Boyd will discuss his book *Crawfish Bottom: Recovering a Lost Kentucky Community*. Dr. Boyd is Director of the Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History at the University of Kentucky.

This book will be available for purchase at the Symposium.

Reply Card – 2011 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 Thursday, October 20, 2011.

I am enclosing a check made payable to the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. for
\$30 per person to register the following persons: Check here for vegetarian order. _____

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

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

Some agencies or subjects are represented throughout the collection, so that researchers can, for example, follow the expansion of the educational system in the state over a hundred-year period. Other reports reflect new social and economic developments as they arise. Beginning in the latter half of the nineteenth century, numerous reports on coal mining document the extraordinary growth of that industry, especially in eastern Kentucky. Early twentieth century reports describe the formation and growth of the state park system.

The information provided in the Public Documents collection is unique and covers a broad spectrum of subjects. This collection is one of the most valuable resources at KDLA.

The Twenty-Seventh Annual Kentucky Archives Institute a Success

The Kentucky Archives Institute was held on June 24 at KDLA, and proved to be a great success. The number of attendees (42) was larger than in recent years, and they were treated to interesting and informative presentations by Jerry Carlton ("Hidden Treasures in the County Clerks' Offices") and Valerie Edgeworth ("Kentucky's Archival Repositories") of the Public Records Division staff, as well as Stuart Sanders ("Kentucky's Civil War Sesquicentennial") of the Kentucky Historical Society. The featured speakers were Nancy Ross-Stallings and Richard Stallings, professional archaeologists who provided a fascinating insight into the connections between "Archives and Archaeology." Speakers and participants were treated to an excellent box lunch, and many took advantage of an optional tour of the Archives Center and the Research Room at the end of the day. Many thanks to all who contributed to this year's outstanding Archives Institute!

Kentucky's local records program, established in 1984 and the first of its kind in the country, continued to provide grants for local government archives and records management projects, funded by a legal process fee. With the recent release of 29 grants totaling \$596,571, KDLA's Local Records Program has distributed more than \$18 million in grants to help preserve local government records in all 120 Kentucky counties.

I recently completed my one-year term as the president of the Council of State Archivists (CoSA), the organization of state and territorial archivists. I learned a great deal from my colleagues, and I believe they also benefited from learning about our Kentucky programs. Thanks to the foresight of Dr. Thomas D. Clark, who championed the state archives for over fifty years, and the previous leadership of state archivists Charles Hinds, Howard T. Goodpaster, Dr. Lewis J. Bellardo, and Richard N. Belding, the Kentucky State Archives is currently on a very solid footing, and is poised to build on our past successes.

- **Barbara Teague**
State Archivist and Records Administrator



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.

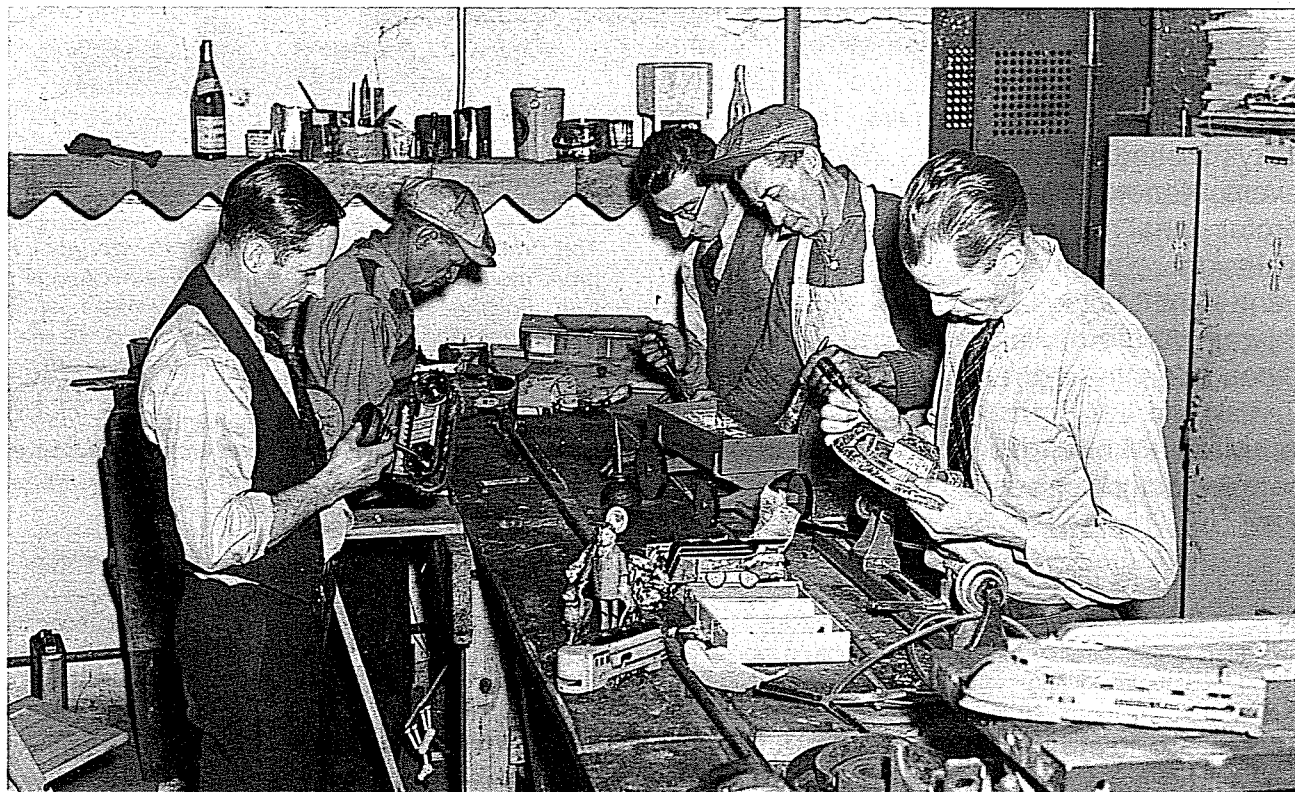
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State: _____ Zip: _____ Telephone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

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.



Trains, tractors and toy wagons were among the many Christmas toys repaired by Work Projects Administration (WPA) workers in Jefferson County, Kentucky. Some communities renovated and repaired as many as five thousand toys (ca. 1940s). This photograph is from the Work Projects Administration (WPA) Collection in the State Archives holdings of the Public Records Division, Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives.