



for the Record

Devoted to Kentucky's State Archives and the Historical Record

Spring 2003

2

Insert

3

3

I N S I D E

*What's New
at the State
Archives*

*Archives Institute
(July 18, 2003)
Program Inside!*

*State Archives
Receives Gift of
1816 Manuscript*

*Honoring Dr. Clark:
How you can participate!*

State's Tight Revenue Environment Produces Special Challenges

The recently concluded off year session of the Kentucky General Assembly enacted a budget for the balance of the 2002-2004 biennium, and it is clear that all public agencies will have to stretch limited resources to meet public demand for services. Specific language in the adopted budget bill also directs agencies to limit their hiring through the end of the next state fiscal year. For those agencies which are already carrying a significant number of vacancies, this will mean reallocating responsibilities or redesigning service delivery among remaining staff in an effort to respond as effectively as possible to the ever growing needs of citizens. The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) currently has key positions vacant in its Archival Services and State Records Branches, among other areas, and that shortage is being keenly felt in State Archives and State Records Center (SRC) operations. In addition, SRC services to more than 60 agencies in all fifteen Executive Branch Cabinets and in the Legislative and Judicial Branches will be affected in another way, due to a restriction on amendments or increases to existing leases. The SRC, one of KDLA's services most intensively used by state agencies, has grown steadily over the last fifteen years, and it needs adequate space to continue to meet those needs.

Among bills passed in the recent session with a records management impact was the House committee substitute to SB 165, which permits the state Revenue Cabinet to make available to the public mine maps or portions of mine maps, in electronic form, submitted by taxpayers to the Revenue Cabinet for *ad valorem* tax purposes that depict the boundaries of mined out parcel areas, with the caveat that these maps shall not be relied upon to depict the actual boundaries of those mined out parcel areas. There was also created a Kentucky Wireless Interoperability Executive Committee to advise the state's Chief Information Officer on strategic wireless initiatives to achieve public safety voice and data interoperability. This is an area of tremendous growth in the state.



*You are invited
to a reception
honoring
Dr. Thomas D. Clark,
on the occasion of his
100th birthday
Friday, July 11, 2003*

2:00 p.m.

Main Lobby

*Kentucky Department for
Libraries and Archives
300 Coffee Tree Road
Frankfort, KY*

*Photo of Kentucky's Historian Laureate Dr. Thomas D. Clark,
above, courtesy of Dr. Ken Colebank, former Friends board member.*

**Archives Research Room
Hours and Closings**

KDLA's Archives Research Room is located at 300 Coffee Tree Road, off State Highway 676 in Frankfort. The Archives Research Room is open to the public from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. It is closed on Saturday, Sunday and on official state holidays.

Ample free parking is provided outside the KDLA building.

Special closings, May through July 2003 -
Please mark your calendars!

- May 26 (Monday) Memorial Day
- July 4 (Friday) Independence Day
- July 18 (Friday) Annual Kentucky Archives Institute

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

Paul F. Coates (President)
Louisville

George Street Boone
Elkton

Ellie Caroland
Georgetown

Lesley A. Conniff
Louisville

Jerry Parrish Dimitrov
Richmond

Bramblett Elam
Frankfort

Peggy Galloway
Danville

Richard Hedlund
Lexington

Patricia Hodges
Bowling Green

Mary Doyle Johnson
Lexington

Dr. William Morison
Louisville

James C. Powers
(Vice-President)
Ashland

Robin Rader
Lexington

Dr. James Ramage
Highland Heights

Anne L. Rodick
Bloomington, IN

Dr. Richard C. Smoot III
Lexington

Glen Taul
Georgetown

Jane-Rives Williams
(Secretary)
Bardstown

Past Presidents

Dr. Lindsey Apple
Georgetown

Dr. Thomas D. Clark
Lexington

Dr. William E. Ellis
(Treasurer)
Richmond

Cecil E. Goode
Glasgow

Howard T. Goodpaster
Frankfort

For The Record
Vol. 4, No. 2
A publication of the
Friends of Kentucky
Public Archives, Inc.
P.O. Box 4224
Frankfort, KY 40604

Newly Available at the State Archives

The Public Records Division (PRD) has just received an original "Register of Prisoners of the Kentucky State Penitentiary at Frankfort," dated 1825-1847. This volume was presented to PRD by Mr. Rick Myrtue of Sunrise Beach, Missouri, who had purchased it from an internet auction service. Upon receipt of the book, Mr. Myrtue suspected that it might be a public record and contacted PRD with an offer to transfer the volume to us, asking only for the costs involved in his original purchase. Through a timely gift from the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives to cover these costs it was possible to acquire this record, and it is now available for research use.

The Register contains entries for prisoners incarcerated in the State Penitentiary as punishment for the commission of felonies. Each entry includes the name of the prisoner, date of reception into the prison, term of confinement, crime, date of release (if applicable), date of death (if applicable), date of pardon (if applicable), date of escape (if applicable), and remarks ("served out time," "pardoned," or other brief comments). There are a few entries dated as early as 1825, but most of the volume lists those prisoners received into the institution from 1830 to 1839. The dates of release of those prisoners continue to as late as 1847.

Although the amount of information listed for each prisoner is not extensive, the Register still provides valuable insights into the prison system of the era. George Dunbar (alias George Thornton) began serving 10 years for highway robbery in September 1827 but escaped in June 1828. He was brought back in August 1828, only to escape again in September 1833. Brought back once again, he was eventually pardoned in July 1836. William Abrams was sentenced to four years and six months for "stealing slaves" in March 1827, escaped once but was returned and had three more years added to his sentence, and was finally pardoned in 1834. There are several entries for prisoners listed as "free man of color" or "negro," including Martin (no surname listed), who served two years for "aiding slaves to escape."

Prison life was undoubtedly harsh, and the remarks sometimes state "died of typhus" or "died of consumption," or merely "died." If they stayed healthy, most prisoners served out their full terms, there being few instances of early release except through a governor's pardon. Many governors did use their discretionary power in this area quite freely, and a number of the prisoners listed in the Register were recipients of their largesse. As noted above, some prisoners attempted to gain their own early release through escaping, but almost all of them were caught and brought back to the penitentiary sooner or later.

Our current collection of Registers of Prisoners at the Frankfort Penitentiary covers the years 1848-1938, so the newly accessioned volume is an especially valuable addition. Some of the later registers contain more comprehensive information, such as physical descriptions of the prisoners and the county from which they were sent, but the new volume is still an exceptional resource that was previously unavailable for the years 1825-1847.

The Public Records Division and the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives appreciate the efforts of Mr. Myrtue in finding the appropriate home for this important public record.

You are invited to the nineteenth annual
Kentucky Archives Institute

July 18, 2003

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

“Skeletons, Scoundrels, and Scandals”: Exploring Kentucky Public Records

- 8:30–9:00 **Registration/Pastries – Activity Room, Second Floor**
- 9:00–9:15 **Welcome**
- 9:15–10:00 **Crime and Punishment: Criminal and Prison Records**
 - Jim Prichard, KDLA
- 10:00–10:15 **Break**
- 10:15–10:45 **Selected Local Records: Their Research Potential**
 - Jim Cundy, KDLA
- 10:45–11:30 **“Call Out the Militia”: Maintaining Law and Order**
 - Brandon Slone, Military Records and Research Library
- 11:30–12:30 **Lunch**
- 12:30–1:15 **“Justice and Honor: The Tragic Fate of Judge Reid”**
 - Dr. James C. Klotter, Georgetown College
- 1:15–2:00 **Early Kentucky Divorce Records: “Diamonds in the Dust”**
 - Lisa Thompson, KDLA
- 2:00–2:15 **Break**
- 2:15–3:30 **Kentucky’s Secretary of State Land Records**
 - Kandie Adkinson, Land Office, Secretary of State’s Office
- 3:30–3:45 **Conclusion**

**Please clip and mail the form below, along with registration fee(s), by July 14th.
Space is limited to 50 attendees.**

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., 2003.
Check here to reserve a vegetarian lunch. _____

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

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ I would like more information about the Friends. _____

State Archives Receives Gift of 1816 Manuscript

The State Archives recently received an elaborate 1816 manuscript as a gift from the Rare Book School of the University of Virginia. The four page document, a handwritten invoice, is entitled *A Bill of Carpenters and Joiner Work done on the state House at Frankfort, Kentucky by Mathew Kennedy & Jas. Ware and measured by Saml. Patterson & David McGowan this 18th day of September 1816.* It contains detailed information on construction work done on the second state capitol of Kentucky. The document was part of a large miscellaneous collection given to the University of Virginia in the mid-1990s. The State Archives expresses its appreciation to Edmund Berkeley, retired Archivist of the University of Virginia, and to Professor Terry Belanger, Director, Rare Book School, University of Virginia, for this gift, which fills an important information niche in the State Archives' holdings.

Honoring Dr. Clark: How you can participate!

The occasion of the 100th birthday of Dr. Thomas D. Clark is a wonderful chance for all of us to say a big "thank you" to a person who has devoted so much of his life to advancing the cause of archives. KDLA, in cooperation with the Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, will celebrate this event with a reception in his honor in its main lobby on July 11, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. Whether you can join us on that day or not, you can express your appreciation to Dr. Clark in a most appropriate way by making a contribution to the Thomas D. Clark Endowment Fund for Internships in Archival Administration. The Endowment Fund, established in 1985, helps train those young professionals who will be the next generation of archivists and manuscript curators. Contributions to the Endowment Fund, which is administered by the Friends, help sustain the internship program which bears his name and in which he believes so strongly. Only earnings on the principal of the fund are used to provide stipends for interns. All Friend's life memberships go to the fund. Won't you join us in supporting this effort to "ensure a future for our past?" Donations of any size are most welcome. Please use the form at the bottom of this page to make your contribution, and thank you for your support!

Enhancing Research at the State Archives

The Archives Research Room at the State Archives always has equipment or supplemental resource needs for which state funds are not available. This is more true today than ever before, with the state's current fiscal crisis. Private donations have long played a key role in permitting the State Archives to fill these important gaps. Gifts to the Friends are tax deductible. Please make your check payable to: Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc., and mail it to the address on the Friends' membership form, below. We thank all of you who have provided assistance in this way throughout the past year. It is much appreciated!

Friends Welcome New Life Members

The Friends are pleased to welcome as new life members Dr. Glen Taul, of Georgetown College, and the Lexington Public Library. The Friends, and KDLA, express their special appreciation to these new life members, whose support sustains the valuable benefits of the Clark Internships. Won't you consider becoming a life member today?

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.



Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc.
1000 W. Main Street
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 quarterly 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: _____ 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 4424, Frankfort, Kentucky 40604 * We appreciate your support.



Count Fleet, shown here with jockey Johnny Longden up, was awkward as a youngster but proved his mettle as a juvenile and three year old, winning 16 of 21 races, including the 1943 Triple Crown. Count Fleet was both the offspring and sire of Kentucky Derby winners, the first "triple sire" in Derby history. Longden, who died in February 2003 at 96 and rode more than 6,000 winners, was the only person to both ride and train a Kentucky Derby winner. *(This photograph is from the Department of Public Information Collection of the State Archives holdings, in the Public Records Division, Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives).*

Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc.
P.O. Box 4224
Frankfort, Kentucky 40604