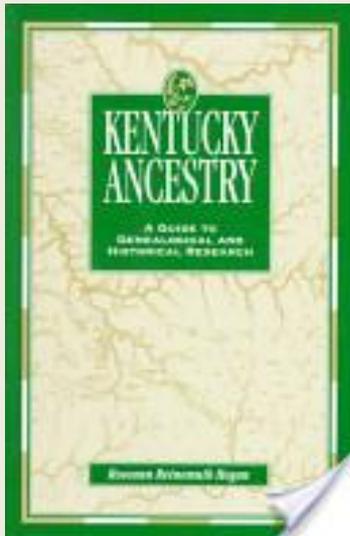


# Kentucky Divorce Records



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# Kentucky Ancestry



Kentucky ancestry : a guide to  
genealogical and historical  
research / by Roseann  
Reinemuth Hogan. 1992.  
ISBN 0916489493

# Early Kentucky Divorces



From 1802 to 1849, the circuit court of the county ruled on divorce petitions and forwarded those they approved to the state legislature. The state legislature was required to act on each divorce as a separate act. After the third constitution in 1850, the circuit court had the sole responsibility to grant or deny divorce petitions. (Hogan, pgs. 42-43)

# 1849 Acts of Kentucky



## LAWS OF KENTUCKY.

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and said David is restored to all the rights and privileges of an unmarried man.

1849.

Sec. 2. That William Norton is hereby divorced from his wife, Harriet Norton, and he is restored to all the rights and privileges of an unmarried man.

Wm. Norton.

Sec. 3. That Richard Joyce be divorced from his wife, Lydia Joyce, and he is restored to all the rights and privileges of an unmarried man.

R. Joyce.

Sec. 4. That William McCrocklin be, and he is hereby divorced from his wife, and that he be restored to all the rights and privileges of an unmarried man.

W. McCrocklin.

Approved February 28, 1849.

## CHAPTER 649.

AN ACT to divorce Louisa Burriss, and others.

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky,* That Louisa Burriss be, and she is hereby divorced from her husband, Francis Burriss, and restored to all the rights and privileges of an unmarried woman.

L. Burriss.

Sec. 2. That Nancy Stringer be divorced from her husband, Leonard Stringer, and she is restored to all the rights and privileges of an unmarried woman.

N. Stringer.

Approved February 28, 1849.

# Where to find Early KY Divorce Records



- KDLA
- Kentucky Historical Society
- Legislative Research Commission (LRC) Library
- and many more.....

# 1850 - Present



Later Divorce records may be found in the Circuit Court records in the county of residence

- Chancery
- Equity
- Civil

# KDLA Holdings of County Case Files



- <http://kdla.ky.gov/researchers/Documents/holdingslist.pdf>

## Kentucky State Archives Center Holdings

County	Civil/Divorce Cases	Criminal Cases	Courthouse Disasters
Adair	1802-1977	1805-1977	
Allen	1903-1961	none	1902
Anderson	1828-1977	~1828-1977	1859, 1915
Ballard	1864-1977	1908-1977	1880
Barren	1798-1981	1799-1977	
Bath	~1802-1983	1848-1925, 1970-77	1864
Bell	1876-1984	1907-1960	1914, 1918, 1944, 1976
Boone	1800-1977	1871-1952	1880s
Bourbon	1785-1984	1853-1977	1872, 1901
Boyd	1861-1986	1911-1982	
Boyle	1842-1986	1842-1970, 1978-86	1860
Bracken	none	none	1848

# Divorce Decree (Circuit Order Book by County)

**ORDERS**

LINCOLN CIRCUIT

COURT

February Term, Day, 20th Day of February 1965

FORM 6-71

Pearl Helton,

Plaintiff

Vs.

JUDGMENT OF DIVORCE (Civil Action #1633)

Elsie Helton,

Defendant

This case was submitted for judgment on Dec. 18, 1964, and the Court being advised from the record makes the following findings of fact: The parties were married in Garrard County, Kentucky on November 17, 1942, and lived together as husband and wife until April of 1962. They are both now residents of Lincoln County, Kentucky, and have been such continuously for more than one year next before the filing of the Complaint. The plaintiff is entitled to the relief sought in his Complaint. Without fault on the part of plaintiff, the defendant has for more than six months habitually treated him in such a cruel and inhuman manner as to indicate a settled aversion to him and to destroy permanently his peace and happiness.

Wherefore, the plaintiff, Pearl Helton, is hereby granted an absolute divorce from the defendant, Elsie Helton, and he is restored to all the rights and privileges of a single man. However, he shall pay to the defendant the sum of \$10.00 per week for the support of the parties' infant daughter, Linda Pearl Helton, in lieu of the \$5.00 per week heretofore paid by him.

The defendant has entered her appearance to this action and waived all further notice.

Witness my hand this February 20, 1965.

(s) Gilbert M. Wilson  
Gilbert M. Wilson, Judge Of Lincoln  
Circuit Court

Attest *Gary Gance*, Clerk

# Any Questions?

