

ILLUMINATING ARCHIVES



Dr. Thomas D. Clark in the Kentucky State Archives. 1990.

“A society without records is a society without navigational equipment.”

- **Dr. Thomas D. Clark**, Kentucky’s Historian Laureate for Life

Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives Celebrates ARCHIVES MONTH 2025

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Early one morning in the 1930s, Dr. Thomas D. Clark was alerted by colleague Professor James W. Martin about the impending loss of state government papers at the Capitol. They rushed to the Capitol to rescue the papers from being thrown out and took them to the University of Kentucky where they were stored until they were returned to Frankfort decades later as part of the state archives.

Dr. Clark worked tirelessly for a dedicated building to house the state archives. As a result, the Clark-Cooper Building, named in part for Dr. Clark, was officially dedicated at 300 Coffee Tree Road in Frankfort on Oct. 8, 1982.

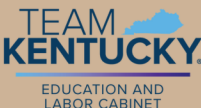


The front entrance of the Clark-Cooper Building, Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives. 2018.

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