



for the Record

Devoted to Kentucky's State Archives and the Historical Record

Winter 2002

I N S I D E

1, 3
Annual Meeting, Symposium

2
Newly Available at the State Archives

4
What's New in the Research Room

4
Merit Award Winners Announced

5
Enhancing Research at the State Archives

State Revenue Shortfall Hits KDLA Programs

Kentucky state government has been facing a significant decline in general revenues over the past year, and the prospects for improvement are not promising in the immediate future. The impact is being strongly felt in the current fiscal year. As the state's General Assembly is meeting now to approve a biennial budget for 2002-2004, that impact will be projected ahead into the next biennium, as that two-year budget will be based on the reduced appropriation for the current fiscal year, which ends on June 30, 2002. Like other state agencies, KDLA has been impacted by these events, and it has lost more than \$775,000 from the current year's budget. \$80,000 of that was from the Public Records Division's Local Records grants program, and the reduction will be felt severely by local governments across the state. Department personnel are applying stringent measures to ensure that remaining funds are used as effectively as possible in the delivery of services to state and local agencies and to the general public.



A capacity crowd was on hand at Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill for the thirteenth annual Public Archives Symposium. Dr. Thomas Clark, left, and Dr. Edward Steers, right, were the featured speakers. Dr. Steers discussed his recently published study, **Blood on the Moon: The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln**. Dr. Clark served as commentator on Dr. Steers' presentation.

Proposed Legislation Protects Content, Affects Access to Records

Responding to terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, state legislators in Kentucky have introduced several bills in the 2002 session of the General Assembly which will restrict access to public records. News reports indicate that civil liberties' groups expected some changes in the law in response to terrorist attacks,

to prevent potentially sensitive information from being misused. But there is some public surprise at the broad range of increasing demands for secrecy. Among the records affected are various environmental files held by government offices, including water quality plans, conservation plans, and forest stewardship management (HB 367); records related to terrorism response plans, whether prepared by public entities or private companies (SB 136); autopsy records, particularly photographs and videotapes (HB 77, HB 582); records which document the identity of jurors (HB 265); and birth, death and other vital records (HB 523). For more information on these bills and to judge their impact, see <http://www.lrc.state.ky.us/record/02rs/6960.htm>.

See Page 2 for Research Room Hours

Archives Research Room Hours and Closings for 2002

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. For further information, visit the KDLA website at www.kdla.net

Ample free parking is provided outside the KDLA building.

Special closings, March through July 2002 – Please mark your calendars!

- March 29 (Friday - close at noon) for Good Friday
- May 27 (Monday) for Memorial Day
- July 4 (Thursday) for Independence Day
- July 12 (Friday) for the Annual Kentucky Archives Institute

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Newly Available in the State Archives

Several years ago in this column, we announced the availability of two volumes of minutes (1875-1930) from the Board of Commissioners of the Sinking Fund. An additional two volumes have recently been accessioned, covering the years 1845-1875.

The responsibilities of the **Sinking Fund Commission** included managing the state debt and financially administering the construction and maintenance of public buildings. The Commission minutes provide a great deal of detailed information about the fiscal activities of state government during a period of growth, followed by the Civil War and its aftermath. An 1845 entry records an authorization for the Auditor to issue a warrant on the state treasury for \$833, in payment to a contractor working on the Springfield-Bardstown turnpike. Another entry from the same year lists a "rent installment" payment to the state by the Lexington & Ohio Railroad. In 1864, in the midst of the Civil War, the Governor is authorized to pay "any portion of the Military Loans... out of any money which may come to the Treasury to the credit of the Sinking Fund." And although the war had been over for five years by 1870, the minutes reveal that the state was still trying to collect "claims.... against the Federal Government for money advanced during the war." As part of their fiscal oversight duties, the Commissioners periodically required an inventory of the State Penitentiary, so every few years there are comprehensive lists of all the items contained in that institution, and their value. Among the hundreds of entries in the 1855 inventory are "10 pickle tubs," "2 brass clocks," "5 1/2 tubs of grease," and "6 bath tubs." The Sinking Fund minutes contain a great deal of diverse and possibly unique information about the financial workings of state government and its institutions.

Kentucky has always been known for its politics, and another new accession provides an interesting look into the electoral process in the commonwealth. The **Election Returns Registers** document the results of races for state and national offices for the years 1851-1894. Election totals are usually listed by race and thereunder by county. We can see that in the gubernatorial election of 1855, the "Know-Nothing" candidate Charles Morehead received 4416 votes in Jefferson County, with his Democratic challenger Beverly Clarke polling 2311 votes. (This election was marked by the "Bloody Monday" riots in Louisville.) In the 1860 Presidential race, the results for Fayette County show John Bell with 1411 votes, John C. Breckinridge with 1051, Stephen Douglas with 99, and Abraham Lincoln with 5 votes. In some Kentucky counties, Lincoln received no votes at all in the 1860 election, and he finished with the fewest overall votes of the four candidates in the state returns. Lincoln barely outpolled George McClellan in Fayette County in 1864, but again lost badly in the overall state returns.

The election returns registers do not contain results for local elections, but they are an invaluable resource for a detailed study of the political leanings of Kentuckians on the state and national level for over forty years.

Enthusiastic crowd enjoys Friends' Annual Meeting and Symposium at Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill





Julie Clouse,

CPA, is now handling accounting services for the Friends. Julie has been a CPA in Frankfort for over 10 years.

What's new in the Archives Research Room

Please note: some of these items will not arrive until after the release date for the 1930 Census (April 1, 2002), and will require further processing upon arrival. Other items, though having arrived at KDLA, may still be in processing.

Microfilm relating to 1930 Census:

Federal Population Schedules – Series T626, rolls 731-781 (51 rolls) – Kentucky

Kentucky counties: Bell, Floyd, Harlan, Kenton, Muhlenberg, Perry, and Pike – Series M2053, (24 rolls) Soundex

Enumeration District Maps for the Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930 (Kentucky) – Series M1930, roll #15 - Consists of two types of maps used for the Fifteenth Census: county maps and maps of minor civil divisions such as cities, towns, villages, and precincts. Filming is in color.

Descriptions of Census Enumeration Districts 1830-1950: Kansas & Kentucky – Consists of typed descriptions of Enumeration District boundaries, Kentucky's counties average 4-5 pages of description per county – much more for heavily populated counties and for counties containing large cities. Descriptions may include mention of roads or landmarks. Series T1224, roll #69

Other Microfilm:

Census of Defective, Dependant, and Delinquent classes, which includes jails, poorhouses, asylums, sanitariums, homeless children, and people who although living in their own homes, have a disability such as blindness/deafness/mental illness. In some instances, details such as onset and duration of disability, physical description of person, or duration of residence is given. Series M1528, rolls 41 & 42 (Non-population Census Schedules for the State of Kentucky, 1880)

CD-ROM Census Indexes:

Index to 1860 Federal Population Census - Kentucky
Index to 1870 Federal Population Census - Kentucky
Index to 1880 Federal Population Census - Entire U.S.

History Day

Northern Kentucky University will host its annual History Day on Saturday, March 9, 2002 from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Featured speaker, Dr. Michael Adams, NKU Professor of History, will speak on the Battle of Blue Licks. Workshop topics will include:

- Introduction To Genealogy
- Access, Analysis And Acquisition: The Three "A"s Of Doing On-Line Historical & Genealogical Research
- John Uri Lloyd, Northern Kentucky Author
- George Cutter, Mexican War Commander and Poet
- German Genealogy; Locating Ancestors in Germany
- Early Baptist Churches In Northern Ky (1794-1850)
- Stanley Reed, U.S. Supreme Court Justice from Mason County
- Transportation in Northern Kentucky
- The Civil War in Augusta

Registration is \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door. For more information contact John Boh at (859) 491-0490, or Martha Pelfrey at (859) 441-7667.

Merit Award Winners Announced



Menifee County Clerk Jo Ann Curtis was recognized at the recent Friends' Annual Meeting, held at Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill in November. Ms. Curtis received the 2001 Award of Merit for her efforts during a major renovation of the Menifee County Courthouse vault annex. She has also obtained Local Records grants to help preserve permanently valuable Menifee County records through security microfilming and to improve their accessibility through computerized indexing. Ms. Curtis received the award from State Archivist Richard Belding.

Shelby County Clerk Sue Carole Perry was also recognized at the meeting. She was unable to be present and will receive her award at a later date. Ms. Perry, County Clerk since 1978, received the 2001 Award of Merit for her efforts to bring professional standards to the Shelby County Clerk's office and to modernize access to records through the introduction of computerized indexing. She was also recognized for her work as a past President of the Kentucky County Clerks' Association, which benefited County Clerks generally across the state. She has also obtained Local Records grants to help preserve permanently valuable Shelby County records through security microfilming.

The Friends' Awards of Merit recognize outstanding efforts by public officials in managing public records in their care.

Enhancing Research at the State Archives – Opportunities for All!

The Archives Research Room at the State Archives always has equipment or supplemental resource needs for which state funds are not available. Private donations have long played an important role in permitting the State Archives to fill these important gaps. Many donors like to know exactly how their contribution will help, and in response to such requests, we're glad to make the following list available. Won't you be a Friend and contribute funds toward the purchase of one or more items? 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. Thanks for your help!

The Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc. is asking for donations toward the purchase of a microfilm reader-printer for use by customers in the Archives Research Room. Many of KDLA's customers make copies of microfilmed records, a service very necessary to KDLA customers doing research. Many of the machines used to make these prints are in varying stages of age or disrepair, and must be replaced. A low-end reader printer will cost about \$13,000. With the state's budget in a crunch, KDLA will only be able to purchase a new reader-printer with financial assistance from the Friends. Please consider making a donation, large or small, to the Friends, for the purchase of this new reader-printer. Any amount - five, ten, or twenty dollars - will help make a difference in KDLA's ability to purchase a microfilm reader-printer. Your donations to the Friends are always tax deductible.

The Census Book, by William Dollarhide, Heritage Quest, 1999.
\$24.95

Report of the Adjutant General of Kentucky, Civil War, Indexed.
Volume I: Federal, 1075 pp., hardbound.
\$137.(includes S&H)

Report of the Adjutant General of Kentucky, Civil War, Indexed.
Volume II: Federal, 1350 pp., hardbound.
\$154.00 (includes S&H)

Kentucky Ancestry: A Guide to Genealogical and Historical Research, by Roseann Reinemuth Hogan, Ancestry Publishing, 1997.
\$27.95 (includes S&H)

A Guide to Kentucky Place Names (Rev. Ed.), by Thomas P. Field, Kentucky Geological Survey, 1991.
\$20.00 (includes S&H)

Ancestry's Concise Genealogical Dictionary, by Maurine and Glen Harris, Ancestry Publishing, 1998.
\$17.95 (includes S&H)

Kentucky County Maps, by C. J. Puetz, 1997.
\$20.33 (includes S&H)

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.

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.

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Please clip and mail to: Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc., P.O. Box 4224, Frankfort, Kentucky 40604 • We appreciate your support.



In an earlier era, snow was left where it fell, often making roads impassable until winter had passed and the roads dried out. Anticipating a major snowfall was a bit less predictable in the era before sophisticated weather forecasting. Keeping roads free of snow became a responsibility of the state's highway department after the state government reorganization of 1936. Large sized road scrapers or bulldozers were the preferred means of getting the job done in the early 1950s, as this central Kentucky view suggests. *(This photograph is from the Department of Public Information collection of the State Archives holdings, in the Public Records Division, KDLA.)*

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