

**Western Kentucky University**

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**From the Selected Works of Suellyn Lathrop**

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# WKU Library Special Collections & WKU Archives Genealogy Research

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Available at: <https://works.bepress.com/slathrop/7/>



## WKU Library Special Collections & WKU Archives Genealogy Research

1906 College Heights Blvd.  
Bowling Green, KY 42101

[Harrison-Baird Reading Room](#) – hours Mon.-Fri. 9-4. 270-745-5083 reference

Kentucky Library Research Collections website: <http://www.wku.edu/library/dlsc/kentucky-library/index.php>

Manuscripts & Folklife Archives website: <http://www.wku.edu/library/dlsc/manuscripts/index.php>

WKU Archives website - <http://www.wku.edu/library/archive/>

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### Genealogical Research in LSC & WKU Archives

[WKU Library Special Collections & Kentucky Museum Research Strategies](#) – use One-Search the library's online catalog, KenCat the special collections and museum online catalog and TopScholar WKU's institutional repository in your research.

[Databases](#) – use academic research databases for genealogical research. These are available to all students, faculty and staff on and off campus. They are available to all researchers who visit Special Collections & WKU Archives. Researchers may obtain a [Friends of the Library card](#) in order to gain access to databases off campus. Here is a sampling of what is available:

[JSTOR](#) contains journals published by a variety of historical societies including: Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, *Journal of African American History*, *Journal of Southern History*, *Journal of the Southwest*, Louisiana, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, The Pacific Northwest Quarterly, *The Scottish Historical Review*, *The Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, Virginia, *William & Mary Quarterly* and Wisconsin.

**EBSCOhost** contains indexes to journals such as the *Journal of Family History*, *Journal of Negro History*, *American Nineteenth Century History*, *Black History Bulletin*, *Kansas History*, *Women's History Review*, *Journal of Military History*, *German History*, *Hawaiian Journal of History*, *Naval History*, *American Jewish History*, and *Indiana Magazine of History*.

**EBSCO Historical Abstracts** database containing bibliographic records and links to full-text documents.

America's Obituaries & Death Notices

American Civil War: Letters & Diaries  
Biography & Genealogy Master Index  
*Bowling Green Daily News*  
*Chicago Tribune* 1849-1988  
[Kentucky Newspapers](#)  
*Los Angeles Times* 1881-1986  
*London Times* Digital Archive  
*Washington Post*: 1976-present  
*Washington Post* Historical: 1877-1996

**U.S. Census Indexes 1790-1850** – available on campus

### **Vital Records**

Kentucky Birth & Death Indexes  
Kentucky Death Certificates – microfilm  
Bowling Green / Warren County  
[Funeral Home Records](#)  
[Marriage Records Index 1797-1984](#)  
[Park City Daily News Obituary Index A-C](#), 1998-2007  
*Park City Daily News Obituary Index D-Z*, 1998-2007 available on campus  
[Cemeteries](#) – search [KenCat](#) by cemetery name for list of records available  
County record abstracts – search [KenCat](#) by county, e.g. “Warren County” for list of records available

**Microfilm** – the Special Collections Library maintains an extensive microfilm collection which includes city directories, census, church, court, immigration, manuscripts, marriage, maps, military, newspapers, tax lists and vital records. See *Research Guides* below for some more detailed lists of selected microfilm collections.

### **Resources**

[African Americans](#)  
[Autobiographies](#)  
[Biographies](#)  
County Histories & Records – search [KenCat](#) and [One-Search](#) using county name e.g. “Butler County”  
[Court Records](#)  
[Deeds](#)  
[Divorce](#)  
[Marriage](#)  
[Naturalizations](#)  
[Order Books](#)  
[Poor Houses](#)  
[Probate](#)  
[Tax Lists](#)  
[Wills](#)  
[Diaries](#)  
[Emigration & Immigration](#)

[Funeral records](#)

Genealogies – search [KenCat](#) and [One-Search](#) using surnames

[Heraldry](#)

[Jews](#)

[Maps](#)

[Melungeons](#)

Military

[Afghan War](#)

[American Revolution](#)

[Civil War in Kentucky](#)

[Confederate States of America](#)

[Grand Army of the Republic](#)

[Gulf War](#) aka Persian Gulf War aka [Operation Desert Storm](#)

[Iraq War](#)

[Korean War](#)

[Mexican War](#)

[Spanish-American War](#)

[Vietnam](#)

[War of 1812](#)

[World War I](#)

[World War II](#)

[Miners](#)

[Native Americans](#) or [Indians of North America](#)

[Oral Histories / Interviews](#)

[Orphans](#)

[Prison & Prisoners](#)

Religious Groups

[Adventists](#)

[Baptist](#)

[Catholic](#)

[Church of God](#)

[Episcopalian](#)

[Judaism](#)

[Lutheran](#)

[Mennonite](#)

[Methodist](#)

[Missionaries](#)

[Nazarene](#)

[Presbyterian](#)

[Quaker](#)

[Shakers](#)

Societies / Groups

[Colonial Dames](#)

[Daughters of 1812](#)

[Daughters of the American Revolution](#)

[Huguenot Society](#)

### [Sons of the American Revolution](#)

[Yearbooks](#) – Kentucky high school and college yearbooks

*The Cardinal* – Ogden College – [1913](#), [1914](#), [1917](#)

*Golden Rod* – Potter College

*Talisman* – Potter College – [1906](#), [1907](#), [1908](#)

*Talisman* – WKU

*Towers* – Bowling Green Business University

*Vista* – WKU

*Xposure* - WKU

[Warren County Equity Court Records](#)

[Warren County Marriage Records](#)

[WKU Personnel File](#)

**[Classes & Programs](#)** – speakers are available and classes can be created for local book clubs, genealogical clubs, historical societies, etc., or adapted for one-to-one tutorials on the following topics:

#### **Beginning African American Genealogy**

An overview of the unique sources used in researching African American families. Contact [Nancy Richey](#) to schedule.

#### **Genealogy 100 - Finding Your Roots, Start Digging**

This class covers the basics of genealogy and the use of vital records and census records in documenting your genealogy. Contact [Suellen Lathrop](#) to schedule.

#### **Genealogy 101 – Finding Your Roots, Continue Digging**

This class continues Genealogy 100 by adding immigration and naturalization records to your genealogical research skill set. Contact [Suellen Lathrop](#) to schedule.

#### **Genealogy 102 – Sources in WKU Libraries**

This class explores resources unique to WKU Libraries, WKU Libraries Special Collections, Manuscripts & Folklife Archives and WKU Archives. Contact [Suellen Lathrop](#) to schedule.

#### **Genealogy 200 – Organizing a Genealogical Research Project**

This class reviews the different types of forms used to collect genealogical data along with a variety of filing systems to keep your research organized and usable. Contact [Suellen Lathrop](#) to schedule.

#### **Genealogy 201 – Writing Up Your Genealogical Research**

This class covers the elements of writing biographical sketches, genealogical numbering systems, preparation for publishing and alternatives to publishing. Contact [Suellen Lathrop](#) to schedule.

#### **Top Things I Wish Someone Had Told Me About Genealogy Before . . .**

Advice, tips and tricks to move your genealogical research along. Contact [Sue Lynn McDaniel](#) to schedule.

### **Research Guides**

[Census Records](#) – overview of existing census records and the questions asked

Civil War Unit Histories: Regimental Histories & Personal Narratives

[Part 1. The Confederate States of America & Border States](#)

[Part 2. The Union – New England](#)

[Part 3. The Union – Mid-Atlantic](#)

[Part 4. The Union – Midwest & West](#)

[Part 5. The Union – Higher & Independent Commands and Naval Forces](#)

[Draper Manuscript Collection](#)

[Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations Microfilm](#)

[Southern Women & Their Families in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century: Papers & Diaries](#)

## Genealogy Databases

1810 Census – CD Rom

1910 Census, Eastern Kentucky Counties – CD Rom

1910 Census, Western Kentucky Counties – CD Rom

1910 Census, Kentucky Index – CD Rom

1920 Census, Kentucky Index – CD Rom

[Atlas of Historical County Boundaries](#)

Early Settlers 1700's-1800s – CD rom

Family Tree Maker's, Family Archives 1600s-1800s – CD rom

Kentucky Marriages 1780-1920, Selected Counties – CD rom

[Selected Genealogy Databases](#)

## Visual Collections & Ephemera

**Ephemera** – any transitory written or printed matter not meant to be retained or preserved, includes commencement programs, birth announcements, funeral cards, wedding invitations, etc.

[Bible records](#)

[Birth announcements / baptisms](#)

[Commencement programs](#)

[Diplomas](#)

[Funeral cards](#)

[Report cards](#)

[Vertical File](#)

[Wedding invitations](#)

**Photographs** – many, but not all of the photographs have been digitized in [KenCat](#).

Special Collections Library Collection – contains images from throughout Kentucky, portraits, family albums and city / landmark postcards, search for digitized images in [KenCat](#) using locations, surnames and subjects

[WKU Archives Collection](#) – contains images of students, staff, faculty, buildings and events related to WKU and its founding institutions

## **Scrapbooks**

[Bowling Green Business University Student Scrapbooks](#)

[College High Student Scrapbooks](#)

[Glasgow Normal School Student Scrapbooks](#)

[Henry Cherry Scrapbooks](#)

[Ogden College Student Scrapbooks](#)

[WKU Student Organization Scrapbooks](#)

[WKU Student Scrapbooks](#)

## **Reference Correspondence Policy**

### **General Reference**

Special Collections Library & WKU Archives staff are able to do a limited amount of research regarding holdings, Kentucky history topics, obituary searches and genealogy. Please note the staff cannot engage in extensive research for correspondents. Requests which require more in-depth research will be provided a list of local professional genealogical researchers. [klref@wku.edu](mailto:klref@wku.edu).

### **Obituaries**

For current obituaries consult the [Park City Daily News](#) online. See also [Park City Daily News Obituary Index A-C, 1998-2007](#). To request photocopies of obituaries found in these indexes contact [klref@wku.edu](mailto:klref@wku.edu).

When requesting other obituaries please submit the person's name, death date and county of death. Staff will search local area newspapers in our collection for an obituary or death notice up to seven days after date of death.

### **Photographs**

Copies of digitized photographs may be ordered using [KenCat](#), the online catalog, see [Library Special Collections Services & Fees](#) for more information.

## **Selected Internet Resources**

[Cyndi's List](#) – genealogical resources arranged by state, country, record type and many other categories

[Genealogy](#) – New York Public Library list of genealogical resources available online.

[U.S. History](#) – New York Public Library list of American history resources available online.