RESEARCHING
REVOLUTIONARY WAR VETERANS
WHO SETTLED IN KENTUCKY

Alison Lundergan Grimes
Kentucky Secretary of State

King George III of England
Proclamation Line of 1763

Treaty of H. Stanwix 1768

Treaty of Hard Labor 1768

Creek Treaty of 1768

Choctaw-Chickasaw Treaty of 1765

Atlantic Ocean

Courtesy of The Filson Club.
And whereas we are desirous, upon all occasions, to testify our royal sense and approbation of the conduct and bravery of the officers and soldiers of our armies, and to reward the same, we do hereby command and empower our governors of the said three new colonies, and all other our governors of our said provinces on the continent of North America, to grant without fee or reward, to such reduced officers as have served in North America during the late war, and to such private soldiers as have been, or shall be disbanded in America; and are actually residing there, and shall personally apply for the same, the following quantities of lands, subject at the expiration of ten years, to the same quitrents as other lands are subject to in the province within which they are granted, as also subject to the same conditions of cultivation and improvement, viz.

- To every person having the rank of a field officer, five thousand acres; to every captain, three thousand acres; to every subaltern or staff officer, two thousand acres; to every non-commissioned officer, two hundred acres; to every private man fifty acres.

We do likewise authorize and require the governors and commanders in chief of all our said colonies upon the continent of North America, to grant the like quantities of land, and upon the same conditions, to such reduced officers of our navy, of like rank as served on board our ships of war in North America at the times of the reduction of Louisbourg and Quebec in the late war, and who shall personally apply to our respective governors for such grants.

See complete text of the Proclamation of 1763 under “Legislation” on the Secretary of State’s Land Office “Online Resources” channel at http://www.sos.ky.gov/admin/land/resources/Pages/default.aspx
LAND CLAIMS PRIOR TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE VIRGINIA LAND OFFICE

As “various & vague claims to unpatented land under the former and present government may produce tedious and infinite litigation and disputes, and in the mean time purchasers would be discouraged from taking up lands upon terms lately prescribed by law, whereby the fund to be raised in aid of the taxes for discharging the public debt, would be in great measure frustrated”, the Virginia General Assembly approved legislation in May 1779 that addressed early land claims prior to the establishment of the land patenting process.

See complete text of Land Law 1779 (A) under “Legislation” on the Secretary of State’s Land Office “Online Resources” channel at http://www.sos.ky.gov/admin/land/resources/Pages/default.aspx.
EARLY KENTUCKY LAND CLAIMS

Key Provisions of Land Law 1779 (A):

- All surveys upon any of the western waters prior to January 1, 1778, based on Entries filed with the county surveyor prior to October 26, 1763, would be honored. There was a 400 acre limit. Authorizing Warrants had to be: (1) issued under the King’s Proclamation; (2) issued by any former Governor of Virginia; or (3) purchased as Treasury Rights. (Section I)

- Future Proclamation claims were limited to Virginia veterans or Warrants issued by Virginia Governors. This law excluded land claims for service in companies or militia detachments. (Section III)
**A Calendar of the Warrants for Land in Kentucky, Granted for Service in the French & Indian War,**  
*Abstracted by Philip Fall Taylor*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Acres Surveyed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>Benjamin Powell</td>
<td>Serjeant Byrd's</td>
<td>200, Nov. 23, 1783, By Jo. Helm, Jefferson Co., on Clover Creek, Meriwether's line; Hite's Run. Ass'd to James Madison.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>231</td>
<td>Samuel Young</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>200, Nov. 24, 1783, By Jo. Helm, Jefferson Co., on Clover Creek, formerly called Hargises Fork; adj. Powell's survey. Ass'd to James Madison.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>873</td>
<td>Barney Ryley</td>
<td>Soldier</td>
<td>50, [No Survey found.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>390</td>
<td>Henry Cissel, dec'd</td>
<td>Soldier</td>
<td>50, Sept. 7, 1783, By Arch'd Campbell, Fayette Co., near head waters of Huston's Fork of Licking and Elk Horn. All Ass'd to John Hord.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 391 | James Cissel, dec'd | Soldier | 50,  
| 392 | William Cissel  | Soldier            | 50,  
| 393 | William Mitchell| Soldier            | 50,  
| 672 | Joseph Ray      | Capt. Stanwix's Com'd | 500, Nov. 22, 1783, By James Kineaid, Lincoln Co., on Sugar Creek; Dewitt's survey. Ass'd to William Hamilton. |
| 409 | William Hughes  | Serjeant            | 200, Nov. 24, 1783, By Joshua Bennett, Fayette Co., including the two Salt Springs at the Lower Blue Licks, on Licking Creek; to James Parberry, ass'nee of William Floyd, ass'nee of John Floyd, ass'nee of Philip Love, ass'gee of Turner H. Hudson, ass'nee of Francis Scott. |
| 355 | Francis Scott   | Soldier            | .50, Mar. 13, 1784,  

To research French & Indian War Warrants used in Kentucky by veterans, heirs, or assignees, access “A Calendar of the Warrants for Land in Kentucky, Granted for Service in the French & Indian War,” abstracted by Philip Fall Taylor.
Survey for Elizabeth and Sarah Hall, representatives of two hundred acres of land on a Military Warrant Only. Entitled April 29th, 1780 by Martha Living and being on the County of Fayette on a small Branch of Fishing adjoining Daniel Boone's tenant and producing on the west end beginning at (A) corner near oak and brush in line Daniel Boone, line thence due west one hundred an eighty poles to (B) corner double poplar and hickory thence due north one hundred and eighty poles to (C) corner hickory and sugar tree, thence due east one hundred and eighty poles to (D) Corner Walnut and hickory in line Daniel Boone's line thence south to the beginning.

Signature the 24th, 1783

Daniel Boone, D.\nJoseph Scott, Justice of the Peace
Charles Janey, Clerk

Surveyed for John McCor

File also includes Land Office Copy of Governor's Grant recorded in Grant Book 10, page 11, Virginia Patent Series.
superseded by the appointment of Mr. Byrd in April. Under command of
Genl. Braddock he acted as Capt. Commandant and eldest officer at that
time in Virginia service upon the said Braddock's expedition. When Col.
Washington resumed the command of the Va. Regt. he was appointed Lieut.
Col. thereof and served in that capacity under said Washington and after-
wards under Col. Byrd until the regiment was reduced in spring of 1762.
That he commanded the Va. Regt. raised in the year 1762. Frederick Co.,
Mar. 8, 1780.

Gabriel Throckmorton, appointed in 1758 Lieut. in a regiment commanded
by Col. Byrd and served in that capacity until the same was disbanded. In
1759 he was appointed a Capt. in a Battl. raised for the defense of the fronti-
ers, commanded by Col. Wm. Peachey, and served therein till same was dis-
banden in 1760. Frederick Co., Mar. 8, 1780.

Saml. Sparks, soldier in 1754 in the Battle of the Meadows and afterwards
enlisted in the old Va. Regt. commanded by Col. Washington, and continued
therin till same was disbanded. Frederick Co., Mar. 9, 1780.

Jno. Creagh, entitled to 200 acres of land as a Sergt. in late war under

Jno. Poadell, Sergt. in 1st Va. Regt. until same was disbanded. Stafford
Co., Feb., 1780.

Richd. Griffin and John Osbourn, both soldiers in Capt. Robt. Mumford's
Co.; James Owen, Thos. Chamberlyne and Stephen Mallett, in Capt. Gunn's
Co.; and Saml. Bentley in Capt. Saml. Meredith's Co., belonging to Col.
Wm. Byrd's regiment, and that they all served to close of the war. Mecklen-

Jno. Farrar, Sergt. in Capt. James Walker's Co., in the last war in Col.
Byrd's Regt. and served until legally discharged. Mecklenburg Co., Mar. 13,
1780.

Thos. Matthews, soldier in Capt. James Gunn's Co.; Wm. Watts, soldier
in Capt. Jno. Smith's Co.; all belonging to the Regt. commanded by Col. Wm.
They were all soldiers in last war between Gt. Britain and France, and served
to close of the war. Mecklenburg Co., Mar. 13, 1780.

Dabney Carr, decd., soldier in Capt. Wm. Phillip's Co. Vol. Rangers in

Michael Reasoner, entitled to 50 acres of land agreeable to Proc. of the

Thos. Lewis entitled to 200 acres of land under Proc. of 1763. May 22,
1774. Dunmore.

John Bridge entitled to 50 acres of land agreeable to Proc. of 1763. May 22,
1774. Dunmore.

Jno. Hall, Sergt. in Capt. Wm. Phillip's Co. of Rangers in 1763 till legally
discharged. Sd. Jno. Hall is since dead and Wm. Lipscomb is Guard. to Eliz.
and Sarah Hall, co-heirs said John Hall. Louisa Co., Mar. 13, 1780.

Richard Phillips, soldier in Capt. Joseph Fox's Co. of Rangers in 1755,
• Bona fide settlers ‘upon the western waters’ prior to January 1, 1778, were entitled to 400 acres of land including their settlement. Proof of planting a crop of corn or a residency of at least one year was required. (Sections IV & V)

• Settlers could purchase a preemption warrant to patent an additional 1000 acres adjoining their settlement claim. (Section V)

• Persons who settled ‘upon the western waters’ after January 1, 1778, were entitled to a 400 acre Preemption Warrant claim which included their settlement. (Section V)

• Persons who had “marked out” claims and built any house or hut or made any other improvements prior to January 1, 1778, were entitled to one 1000 acre preemption warrant if the Land Commission approved their claim. (Section V) Note: This covered “chop claims” as well as lottery cabins.

• All locations (Entries) made by officers & soldiers upon lands of actual settlers were declared void. (Section V)
VIII. And whereas the claims of various persons to the lands herein allowed to the inhabitants, in consideration of their settlements, and of those who, by this act, are entitled to preemption at the state price, as well as of the settlers on the lands surveyed for sundry companies by orders of council as aforesaid, may occasion numerous disputes, the determination of which depending upon evidence, which cannot, without great charge and trouble, be collected, but the neighborhood of such lands will be most speedily and properly made by commissioners in the respective counties; be it enacted, that the counties on the western waters shall be allotted into districts, to wit: the counties of Monongalia; Yohogania, and Ohio, into one district; the counties of Augusta, Botetourt, and Greenbrier, into one district; the counties of Washington and Montgomery, into one other district; and the county of Kentucky, shall be another district; for each of which district, the governor, with the advice of the council, shall appoint four commissioners under the seal of the commonwealth, not being inhabitants of such district (any three of whom may act) to continue in office eight months from the end of this present session of assembly, for the purpose of collecting, adjusting, and determining such claims, and four months thereafter for the purpose of adjusting the claims of settlers on lands surveyed for the aforesaid companies. (Reference: “Virginia Land Law A”, 1779)

The Land Commissioners for the Kentucky District heard claims for Certificates of Settlement & Preemption Warrants from October 14, 1779 thru January 26, 1780. Their circuit included St. Asaph (or Logan’s Fort), Harrodsburg, Falls of the Ohio (Louisville), Boonesborough, & Bryant’s Station near Lexington.
REVOLUTIONARY WAR WARRANTS ISSUED TO
VIRGINIA VETERANS, HEIRS, AND ASSIGNEES &
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
VIRGINIA MILITARY DISTRICT IN KENTUCKY

III..........No entry or location of land shall be admitted within the county and limits of the Cherokee Indians, or on the north west side of the Ohio River, or on the lands reserved by act of the assembly for any particular nation or tribe of Indians, or on the lands granted by law to Richard Henderson and company, or in that tract of country reserved by resolution of the general assembly for the benefit of the troops serving in the present war, and bounded by the Green River and a south east course from the head thereof to the Cumberland Mountains; with the said mountains to the Carolina line, with the Carolina line to the Cherokee or Tennessee River; with the said river to the Ohio River, and with the Ohio to the said Green River, until the farther order of the general assembly. (Virginia Land Law B, 1779)
KENTUCKY LAND PATENTS:  
Virginia & Old Kentucky Series

Virginia Series:  9441 Patents (1779-1792)  
Old Kentucky Series:  7668 Patents (1792+)

Original documents housed in the Kentucky Secretary of State’s Land Office, Frankfort, Ky.

Location of Military District: “Southeast course from the head of Green River to the Cumberland mountains; with the said mountains to the Carolina line; with the line to the Cherokee or Tennessee River; with the said River to the said Green river; until the farther order.” Ref: Virginia Land Law of 1779.

Notes: (1) Some Military Patents extend to the 36° 30’ parallel into Tennessee due to the “former Kentucky boundary.” (2) Although the eastern boundary of the Military District set the line as the Cumberland Mountains, the Land Law further stated no land could be entered or located within the county & limits of the Cherokee Indians. Portions of the shaded counties in eastern Kentucky were ceded in 1805 under the Tellico Treaty. (3) Soldiers who had settled in the southern counties of the Jackson Purchase had to wait until 1818 to patent their land. Their patents comprise the “West of Tennessee River Military Series.”
Legislation passed by the Virginia General Assembly & research by Lloyd D. Bockstruck indicates Virginia paid the following bounties for service in the Revolutionary War:

- Sailor who served his 3 yr enlistment or to the end of the war -- 100 acres
- Soldier who served his 3 yr enlistment or to the end of the war -- 100 acres
- Noncommissioned officer who enlisted & served his 3 yr enlistment -- 200 acres
- Sailor who served throughout the war -- 400 acres
- Soldier who served throughout the war -- 400 acres
- Noncommissioned officer who served throughout the war -- 400 acres
- Subaltern-Cornet -- 2000 to 2666 acres
- Subaltern-Ensign -- 2000 to 2666 acres
- Subaltern-Lieutenant -- 2000 to 2666 acres
- Surgeon’s Mate -- 2666 to 8000 acres
- Surgeon -- 2666 to 8000 acres
- Chaplain -- 2666 to 8000 acres
- Captain -- 3000 to 4666 acres
- Major -- 4000 to 5333 acres
- Lt. Colonel -- 4500 to 6666 acres
- Colonel -- 5000 to 8888 acres
- Brigadier General -- 10,000 acres +
- Major General -- 15,000 to 17,500 acres
Virginia Revolutionary War Warrants: Per Rank

*Note:* Several soldiers received multiple warrants due to additional bounty land awards or replacement of lost warrants. This listing, compiled from the Kentucky Land Office Revolutionary War Warrants Database, reflects rank identification rather than unique individual service. Warrants issued by Virginia after October 29, 1793, are not included.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adjutant</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artificer</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boatswain</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bombadier</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brigade Chaplain</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brigadier General</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captain</td>
<td>346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captain Lieutenant</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpenter</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaplain</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonel</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commodore</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornet</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporal</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctor</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drum Major</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drummer</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensign</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fife Major</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifer</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Lieutenant</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gunner</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gunner's Mate</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant Colonel</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant Colonel Commandant</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major General</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master &amp; Pilot</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master at Arms</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master's Mate</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matross</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midshipman</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musician</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Commissioned Officer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pilot</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarter Master</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarter Master Sergeant</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regimental Surgeon</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sailing Master</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sailor</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seaman</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sergeant Major</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soldier</td>
<td>2677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steward</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subaltern</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgeon</td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surgeon's Mate</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trumpeter</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rank not identified</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total:** 4745
Resolution passed by the Virginia General Assembly, 2 January 1781:

“That in case the quantity of good lands of the southeast side of the Ohio upon the waters of Cumberland river, and between the Green River and the Tennessee River, which have been reserved by law for the Virginia troops upon continental establishment, and upon their own state establishment, should (from the North Carolina line bearing in further upon the Cumberland lands than was expected) prove insufficient for their legal bounties, the deficiency shall be made up to the said troops in good lands, to be laid off between the rivers Scioti and Little Miamis on the northwest side of the river Ohio, in such proportions as have been engaged to them by the laws of Virginia.”

- The district lands are found in 23 counties from the Ohio River northward, between the Scioto and Little Miami Rivers, as far as 141 miles inland.

- Warrants used in the Kentucky Military District end with #4627. If research indicates a veteran received a higher number, it was most surely used in Ohio. We have also found earlier numbers might have been used in both states. If the "Authorized" field in our Revolutionary War Warrants Database is blank, we suggest you contact the Ohio Historical Society, 1982 Velma Avenue, Columbus, OH 43211 to research warrant usage.

- By Acts of Congress dated May 30, 1830, and August 31, 1852, Virginia military warrants could be exchanged for land scrip. Land scrip could be used to acquire any public lands open for entry at private sale, according to research on the Western Reserve. For further information, visit this website: https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Ohio_Land_and_Property and the Bureau of Land Management Website at https://glorecords.blm.gov/default.aspx.
OHIO'S MAJOR LAND SURVEYS

FEDERAL LAND OFFICES IN OHIO
YEARS OF OPERATION AND SUCCESSOR OFFICES

Canton 1808-1816; Wooster 1816-1840
Chillicothe 1801-1876
Cincinnati 1801-1840
Delaware 1820-1828; Tiffin 1828-1832; Bucyrus 1832-1842
Piqua 1820-1833; Wapakoneta 1833-1835; Lima 1835-1843;
Upper Sandusky 1843-1848; Defiance 1848-1855
Marlina 1800-1840
Marion 1837-1845
Steubenville 1800-1840
Zanesville 1804-1840
II.........And for creating a sinking fund in aid of the annual taxes to discharge the public debt: be it enacted, that any person may acquire title to so much waste and unappropriated land as he or she shall desire to purchase, on paying the consideration of forty pounds for every hundred acres, and so in proportion for a greater or smaller quantity, and obtaining certificate from the public auditors in the following manner: the consideration money shall be paid into the hands of the treasurer, who shall thereupon give to the purchaser a receipt for the payment, specifying the purpose it was made for, which being delivered to the auditors, they shall give to such person a certificate thereof, with the quantity of land he or she is thereby entitled to.
Kentucky’s Original Three Counties

- Fincastle County, Virginia – Formed 1772
- Kentucky County, Virginia – Formed 1776
- Kentucky County, Virginia - Divided June 30, 1780
Patenting Process: Step 1

WARRANTS

syn. CERTIFICATES, COMMISSIONERS’ CERTIFICATES, or SPECIAL ACTS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

FUNCTION: Authorize Entries

Samples: Military, Certificate of Settlement, Preemption Warrant, Treasury, Finding Salt, Clearing a Road, Poor Widows Warrant, Purchased from Kentucky Land Office, or Purchased from County Court. Legislation for Relief of Poor Persons, Certain Persons, or Establishing Academies/Seminaries

• WARRANTS MAY BE ASSIGNED.
• WARRANTS MAY BE USED IN WHOLE OR IN PART.
• WARRANTS DO NOT CONVEY TITLE.
Patenting Process: Step 2

ENTRIES

FUNCTION: Reserve Land for Surveying

Early Kentucky, Fayette, Lincoln & Jefferson County Entries are available from the Kentucky Land Office. Subsequent Entry Books are kept on the county level.

Entries include the date of filing, name of applicant, type of warrant(s) being used, warrant number(s) & the location of the land to be surveyed.

• Entries may be withdrawn or amended.
  • Check marginal notations.
  • Entries do not convey title.
**APPROXIMATE LOCATIONS OF KENTUCKY'S ORIGINAL COUNTIES: 1780**

Resources for Researching Early Kentucky Surveyors' Entry Books

- **Filing an Entry with the County Surveyor** was the second step in the land patenting process. The entry description reserved land for the Field Survey. Entries could be surveyed, amended, or withdrawn.
- **Due to formation & boundary lines, some counties originated from a combination of the original 3 counties.** Access county formation dates for further information.
- **Entries for Jefferson, Lincoln, Fayette, & the Military District (excluding Anderson's Entries) are listed in “Old Kentucky Entries & Deeds” by Willard R. Jillson.**
- **Many Kentucky County, Virginia, Entries are included in the front pages of the Jefferson County Entry Books. To research Fincastle County Entries & Surveys and Kentucky County Entries & Surveys, access “Early Kentucky Land Records” by Neal O. Hammon.**
Robert Breckinridge and John Urban as tenants in common, enters 100 acres of land upon the balance of a
Tractin Tract of 1,011 acres about sixty or seventy miles.
North Eastwardly from Martin Hallins in parcels taken
to include a silver mine which was mined about 10 years
ago by a certain man named Swift at said mine the
Hendry Swift reports he has extracted from the soil a
considerable quantity of Silver, some of which he made
into Dollars and left at or near the mine; together with
the apparatus for making the same, the hand to be in a
depression the lines to meet the terminus points of
the compass including the mine in the centre as near as
mine to

Ref: “(Old) Lincoln County Entries,” Bk 2, pg 299, filed May 17, 1788.

Patenting Process: Step 3

SURVEYS

FUNCTION: Depict & Describe the Tract being Patented

Surveys include: Plat Drawing, List of Warrant(s) being used, Name of Person(s) for whom the Survey is being made, County, Closest Watercourse, Metes & Bounds Description, Surveyor, Deputy Surveyor (if applicable), Chain Carriers, Housekeeper/Pilot/Director, Marker, Magnetic Variation, and Date of Survey.

- SURVEYS MAY BE ASSIGNED.
- SURVEYS DO NOT CONVEY TITLE.
Surveying Measurements

Surveys for land patents in eastern and central Kentucky were made using the metes and bounds method. Surveys for patents in the Jackson Purchase (northern Kentucky) were mapped by the surveying method developed for Ranges, Townships and Sections.

This table provides information regarding both systems of land measurement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Conversion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 pole or 1 rod</td>
<td>16.5 feet or 25 links</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 link</td>
<td>0.66 feet or 7.92 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 chain</td>
<td>100 links, 4 rods, or 66 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 chains</td>
<td>1 mile, 320 rods, 1760 yards, or 5280 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 acre</td>
<td>10 sq. chains, 160 sq. rods, 4840 sq. yard, or 43,560 sq. feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 square mile</td>
<td>1 section of land or 640 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Township</td>
<td>36 sq. miles (36 mile sq. sections)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FUNCTION: Finalize the Land Patenting Process

Grants include: Name of Governor or Lt. Governor, Name of Patent Recipient(s), Type of Warrant(s) Being Used, Warrant Number(s), County, Watercourse, Metes & Bounds Description, Date of Issuance, Year of the Commonwealth (Virginia or Kentucky), & the Signature of the Governor or Lt. Governor (on original document).  
*Note:* Original Grants, decorated with the Seal & Official Signature are sent to the Patent Recipient, syn. Patentee. The Land Office enters a copy of the Grant in the Land Office Grant Book.

- Conveyances after the Grant is issued are filed with the county clerk.
  - There is no central deed registration in Kentucky.
- Conveyances may be recorded as Deeds or included in Will bequests.
Warrant + Entry + Survey = Patent
What’s Next?

Research!
Kentucky Land Office

The Secretary of State's office is the place to start when researching Kentucky land acquisitions and seeking information about Kentucky's cities and counties.

In Kentucky, land is allocated via the patenting process. The Kentucky Secretary of State's office is the repository for all records pertaining to patents issued within the Kentucky boundary, including those issued by the state of Virginia prior to Kentucky's statehood in 1792. This website contains searchable databases and information regarding military warrants issued for service in the French and Indian War, Lord Dunmore's War and the Revolutionary War, non-military warrants and the resulting patents and a number of other databases.

You can also find on this website information about Kentucky cities, including filings since 1942, classification, incorporation date, and status.

For additional information about Kentucky land records and related topics, please visit the Land Office's Online Resources page, which houses materials that will aid researchers in their study of the Kentucky land patenting process and Land Office databases.

If you would like to obtain copies of records maintained by the Land Office, please print and return or submit online a Land Office Order Form. Prepayment is not required; an Invoice will be included when your order is returned to you.

The Land Office would love to hear from you. Please feel free to contact us about your research:

- phone: (502) 564-3490
- email
- mail: Office of the Secretary of State
  Land Office
  700 Capitol Ave., Ste. 80
  Frankfort, KY 40601

City Reclassification

Pursuant to the Municipal Reclassification Reform Act, House Bill 331 (Regular Session 2014), codified at KRS 81.005, cities must file written notice of reclassification with the Office of the Secretary of State before January 1, 2015. Any city that fails to comply with the filing requirement will be barred from receiving state moneys until the notice of reclassification is submitted.

Please complete the form and return it before January 1, 2015, to:

Office of the Secretary of State
Capitol Annex, Land Office
702 Capitol Ave., Ste. 21-B
Frankfort, KY 40601

kandie.adkinson@ky.gov
Fax: (502) 564-5687

http://www.sos.ky.gov/admin/land/Pages/default.aspx
Non-Military Registers and Land Records

In 1776, the Virginia General Assembly formed Kentucky County out of Fincastle County. The complete text of all Acts creating Kentucky's 120 counties, plus the Acts creating Fincastle, Kentucky, Beckham, Henrietta and Zollicoffer counties, is contained on this website.

Land in Kentucky is allocated by the land patenting process, which consists of four steps:

1. The warrant(s) authorizing the survey;
2. The entry reserving the land for patenting;
3. The field survey; and
4. The Governor's grant finalizing the patent.

Title is not conveyed until the grant is issued.

The Secretary of State's Land Office is the repository for all records pertaining to patents issued within the Kentucky boundary, including patents issued by the state of Virginia prior to Kentucky's statehood in 1792.

Kentucky land patents are divided into nine major groupings, each of which traces its origin to Acts of the Virginia or Kentucky General Assembly. In all instances the grantor is either the state of Virginia or the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and the grantee is the person or persons who receives the Governor's grant finalizing the patenting transaction. Images for patent tiles that have been scanned are available through the Patent Series Overview website; additional patent series will be made available online as they are scanned.

Early Kentucky settlers who made an improvement and planted a crop prior to January 1, 1778, were entitled to a 400-acre certificate of settlement and could purchase an additional adjacent 1,000 acres under a preemption warrant. Persons who made an improvement and planted a crop in Kentucky County, Virginia from January 1, 1778, through May 1779 could purchase a 400-acre preemption warrant. This office maintains a database of settlers whom the Land Commission deemed qualified for Certificates of Settlement and Preemption Warrants.

Chapter XIII, Land Law 8, passed in May 1779, expanded the land patenting process to include acquisitions under treasury warrants. Information for all entries in the Virginia Treasury Warrants Registers, Vols. I and II as copied by Edmund Thomas, Register of the Kentucky Land Office, and certified by William Prince, Register of the Virginia Land Office, is available online.

In 1780, Kentucky County, Virginia, was divided into three counties (Jefferson, Fayette and Lincoln), each of which had a principal surveyor who conducted field surveys and oversaw the work of deputy surveyors in the county. Entries for Lincoln County are listed on this website.

Occasionally, heirs and devisees filed Wills in order to finalize patents initiated by deceased family members. Wills that have been located by this office are accessible on this website.

The Jackson Purchase in Western Kentucky is the only portion of Kentucky mapped by the federal government's public surveying method. The Jackson Purchase Locator allows researchers to enter range, township and East/West coordinates to determine the location of a West of Tennessee River patent as defined by the 1855 Loughridge Map. West of Tennessee River patents are indexed in Jillson's Kentucky Land Grants, Vol. 1.

http://www.sos.ky.gov/admin/land/non-military/Pages/default.aspx
Certificates of Settlement & Preemption Warrants

Under the Virginia land law of 1779, any bona fide settler in Kentucky County (also known as the Kentucky District) prior to January 1, 1778, who had made an improvement and planted a crop of corn was eligible for a 400-acre certificate of settlement for the land he or she had improved. The settler could purchase an additional adjoining 1,000 acres under a preemption warrant. All those who had "marked out" or chosen unappropriated lands and built any house or hut or made improvements prior to January 1, 1778, but who could not prove actual settlement were entitled to a preemption of no more than 1,000 acres. (These warrants were issued for "chop claims" or "lottery cabin improvements".)

Anyone in Kentucky County, Virginia, after January 1, 1778, and before May 1779, when the Virginia Land Law was written, was eligible for a 400-acre preemption warrant for the tract on which he or she had made an improvement.

A Land Commission was appointed to hear testimony from Kentucky County residents and their witnesses. The Commission then decided who qualified for certificates of settlement, 1,000-acre preemption warrants and 400-acre preemption warrants. The Commission's journal is contained in the Doomsday Book.

The Certificates of Settlement and Preemption Warrants Database is indexed by warrant number, individual acquiring the certificate and warrant, immediate assignees and tract location; it includes scanned images of commissioners' certificates. Microfilm of the certificates and authorizations for preemption warrants is available at the Land Office, Kentucky History Center, Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, Filson Club, Sons of the American Revolution Library and the Library of Virginia.

Many of the search results on the Database link to patent files, which may be reviewed and printed in page format through the Virginia and Old Kentucky Patent Series Database. Some counties in present-day Virginia and West Virginia are included in this index; please contact the Library of Virginia in Richmond, Virginia, for information regarding patents authorized by those preemption warrants.

For additional information regarding certificates of settlement and preemption warrants, please review the frequently asked questions, read the article, "Certificates of Settlement & Preemption Warrants Database," or contact the Land Office at (502) 564-3490 or via email.
Early Certificates of Settlement and Preemption Warrants in Kentucky County, Virginia
- Results for 'Fayette'

Search By County: [dropdown]

OR... Preemption Wt #: [blank]

OR... Search By: [dropdown] Match: [dropdown]

Search For: [blank] Show: 25 Results [dropdown]

(Use '*' as a wildcard or to list all entries)

Search within these results

Sort By: Default Ascending [dropdown] Search [submit] [reset]

76 Results Found (25 Results shown; Page 2 of 4):  

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26.) Name: Williams, John  
Type #1: Settlement  
Type #2: Preemption  
Location/WaterCourse: East Fork of Licking Creek  
Issue Date: 3/25/1782  
Williams was serving in the military when the Land Commissioners were in session. Williams was later represented by his agent, Joseph Lindsay.

Preemption Warrant #: 2093  
County: Fayette  
Acreage #1: 400  
Acreage #2: 1000  
Authorized: VA 8480.0; VA 8481.0

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27.) Name: Patterson, William  
Type #1: Preemption  
Location/WaterCourse: Licking Creek  
Issue Date: 3/12/1782  
PW: *  

Preemption Warrant #: 1782  
County: Fayette  
Acreage #1: 1000  
Authorized: OK 4731.0

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28.) Name: Shepard, David  
Type #1: Preemption  
Location/WaterCourse: None  

Preemption Warrant #: 2254  
County: Fayette  
Acreage #1: 1000  
Assignee #1: Chew, James
CHAPTER II

An Act for giving further time to officers and soldiers to ascertain their claims to lands.

Approved October 1779

WHEREAS many officers and soldiers of the Virginia Line, now in the Continental Army, may have claims to lands on the western waters, from settlements or improvements made thereon, and have it not in their power to attend the commissioners appointed to adjust and ascertain such claims within the time limited for that purpose; for remedy whereof,

Be it enacted, That all officers and soldiers of the Virginia Line now in the Continental Army, shall be allowed twelve months from the time they resign, or are discharged from the service, to ascertain their respective claims to lands by settlements or improvements before the court of the county, wherein the lands they claim may be; and such court is hereby empowered and required to hear and determine such claims in like manner as is prescribed for the commissioners of the several districts on the western waters.

Patent Series Overview

Kentucky land patents are divided into nine major groupings, each of which traces its origin to Acts of the Virginia or Kentucky General Assembly. In all instances the grantor is either the state of Virginia or the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and the grantee is the person or persons who receives the Governor's grant finalizing the patenting transaction.

The series are based on the type of warrant authorizing the survey, the location of the tract and the date the Governor's grant was issued. Most of the patent collection consists of patents authorized by warrants purchased from the Virginia Land Office, the Kentucky Land Office or County Courts.

Virginia Patent Series and Old Kentucky Patent Series

Patents under these series were authorized under 1779 legislation passed by the Virginia General Assembly establishing the land patenting process for appropriating land in Kentucky County and under the terms of a 1789 compact with Virginia by which Kentucky agreed to honor patents issued prior to its statehood on June 1, 1792. This database is still under construction, but files can be accessed by patent number or grantee.

West of Tennessee River Military Patents

The southern portion of the area known as the Jackson Purchase in western Kentucky was acquired from the Chickasaw Indian Nation in 1818. A number of Revolutionary War veterans, or their assigns, had settled in the area without clear title to their land holdings. In 1820 the Kentucky General Assembly approved legislation that instructed the veterans, or their assigns, to proceed with the land patenting process. This website includes information on 242 patents issued to Virginia veterans and scanned images of the patent files.

West of Tennessee River Non-Military Patents

On February 14, 1820, the Kentucky General Assembly passed legislation mandating the mapping of the Jackson Purchase into ranges, townships and sections. On December 21, 1821, the legislature provided for the sale of vacant fractional or complete quarter-sections (160 acres) in the Jackson Purchase. This database includes the names of persons who bought tracts at public land sales, their assignees, witnesses to assignments, grantees, cost of the tract and total acreage. It also contains links to scanned images for over 8,500 patent files. The Jackson Purchase Locator allows researchers to determine the location of the patented tract or, by entering coordinates, who patented sections and townships in the Purchase region.

County Court Orders

In 1835 the Kentucky General Assembly passed legislation that allowed counties to sell warrants authorizing surveys for patent applications. The County Court Order Series consists of 70,241 patents from 1835 to 2000. It is the largest patent series in this office, and the database is particularly useful to surveyors, engineers, land title researchers and lawyers involved in land litigation.

The remaining patent series (South of Green River, Tellico, Kentucky Land Warrants, South of Walker's Line and Warrants for Headrights) are not available online at this time. These series will be added when indexing and scanning is complete. Copies of files may be obtained via online order form or emailing the Land Office.
Virginia and Old Kentucky Patent Series

In 1779 the Virginia General Assembly passed legislation that established the land patenting process for appropriating land in Kentucky County. A variety of land warrants and special legislative acts could be used to initiate a patent. Under the terms of the 1789 Compact with Virginia, Kentucky agreed to honor patents issued prior to Kentucky’s statehood on June 1, 1792. The land patenting process continued after statehood.

This website allows researchers to access files for both the Virginia and Old Kentucky Patent Series. The master database is under construction, but files can be accessed by patent number or grantee. A number of other search functions are also available:

- **Caveats** - Caveats were filed to halt a land patent in progress until a court could determine whether the land had previously been patented. Caveat papers often include references to the dates of settlement by the claimant, the claimant’s county of residence and other information deemed necessary to prove a prior claim. Caveat papers may include the court’s judgment affecting the issuance of the grant.
- **Unfinished Patents** - These warrants and surveys either did not result in Governor’s grants finalizing patents, or the appropriate files have not yet been identified.
- **Unused Warrants** - Patents authorized by these warrants have not yet been linked to any patent files.

Land Office staff has compiled a list of selected patents that exemplify various warrants or historical references.
Sample Patents

Although every patent file is significant for family or historical research, the following selected patents exemplify various warrants or historical references:

- George Rogers Clark's 10,000-acre military warrant for service as a Brigadier General during the Revolutionary War: VA 181
- Survey by Daniel Boone: VA 8302.0
- Warrant issued to widow for husband's service in the French and Indian War: VA 4147.0
- Warrant issued for service in Colonel Washington's Regiment during the French and Indian War: VA 3699.0
- Warrant issued for service with General Braddock during the French and Indian War: VA 4986.0
- Impartation Warrant: VA 3422.0
- Squire Boone's Settlement Tract (the Stockfields) on Silver Creek: VA 6513.0
- Plat drawing including Simon Kenton's cabin: VA 1628.0
- Court Order authorizing Poor Person's patent: VA 4056
- Non-Military land claims in northern Jackson Purchase region, including Paducah, prior to 1818: VA 8928.0, VA 8924.0, VA 8923.0, VA 3852.0, VA 8857.0, VA 9099.0, VA 9935.0, VA 9102.0, VA 9103.0, VA 8997.0
- Grant apparently signed by Gov. Patrick Henry: VA 3407.0
- Big Bone Lick: VA 3931.0 (issued by Lord Dunmore), OK 8392.0, OK 3229.0
- Frankfurt patents: VA 3915.0, VA 3492.0, VA 0060.0, VA 0843.0, VA 6667.0, VA 2974.0 (including new Capitol)
- Pikewa: OK 2508.0 (one of several claims in the area by Rev. James Madison)
- Warrant issued for clearing a road over Cumberland Mountain: VA 9117.0
- Affidavits regarding Ruddle's Station: VA 9148.1
- Land Office copy of grant issued by Virginia Governor Thomas Jefferson and signed at Williamsburg in 1779: VA 0016.0 (numerous other grants issued by Gov. Jefferson are also found in the VA 3920.1 patent range)
- Plat drawing depicting trace leading from Boonesborough to the Hazel Patch: OK 0116.0
- Benjamin Logan's Certificate of Settlement claim (mentions canebreaks and his house): VA 0634.0
- Patent issued for the benefit of the Hartford Academy: OK 5728.0
- Survey by Daniel Boone. Reference to an old camp made by Daniel & Edward Boone. File includes Affidavit of Descent: VA 6750.0
- Signature of John Filson: VA 6488.0
- Signature of Simon Kenton & Survey by John Bradford: VA 5505.0
The affidavit of Captains John Riddell who being duly sworn, declares that he is the last Fifty Fourth year of age, it that was since he resided in this County in the fall of 1822, and that he was together with Lewis Riddell in the Washington station, that they then lived at Riddell's Station, that they were together at each station, and that in the month of June the station stood. They then lived at Riddell's Station, and that the defendant escaped being killed there, and that this defendant was taken prisoner by his being about one hundred from his station. John and Lewis Riddell were taken prisoners, and this defendant was not in the vicinity of the prison, and all other who could be apprehended were not in the vicinity. He believes that John Riddell was killed by the Indians this same year before they got him to the forts. At all events, this defendant has never seen him, nor heard of his existence since. John Riddell was the nephew of Lewis Riddell, the eldest son of Archibald Riddell. He was the next eldest brother, so that John Riddell was his next eldest brother, without any as far as was the defendant know, or believed. About two years afterwards, as required, John Riddell returned from his captivity. This defendant had knowledge of John Riddell acquiring lands on the same farm of Leake, a small distance above Riddell's Station, proving

To his memory, and this defendant also knows that James Riddell has lived in the same land only seven years last past. Sworn to and subscribed before me a justice of the peace of Bourbon County, Circuit Court of Kentucky this 29th day of October 1819.

Thos. H. Riddle
Notary Public
Virginia and Old Kentucky Patents

The Virginia General Assembly (prior to June 1, 1792) and the Kentucky General Assembly (after June 1, 1792) approved legislation that established the process for appropriating land in early Kentucky. Patents for Kentucky land prior to June 1, 1792, are filed in the Virginia Patent Series. Patents for Kentucky land after June 1, 1792, are filed in the Old Kentucky Patent Series.

- Proclamation of 1754
- King's Proclamation of 1763
- Virginia's Volunteer Army 1779
- Provisions for Military 1779
- Land Law 1779 (A) - includes usage of French and Indian War Military Warrants, certificates of settlement and preemption warrants, importation warrants, village rights, lands claimed by survey companies and establishment of land commissions to hear claims
- Land Law 1779 (B) - includes establishment of Land Office in Virginia, treasury warrants, bounty land warrants for Revolutionary War soldiers, appointment of county surveyors, location of revolutionary war district, lands subject to patenting, patenting process and penalties for altering warrants
- Location of Military District
- Military Bounty Warrants 1779
- Poor Persons Act 1781
- Payment to Croghan and Thompson 1798

Disclaimer: The text of these Acts was entered manually; researchers should consult the published versions of the Virginia and Kentucky Acts for official use. Those Acts can be researched at the Kentucky History Center Library, the Department for Libraries and Archives, and the Supreme Court Law Library, all in Frankfort.

Virginian and Old Kentucky Patent Series

Names in the drop-box listings are limited to recipients of the Grant (Grantees); names are not cross-referenced.

To expand the search, we suggest researchers access the Kentucky Historical Society publications "Master Index: Virginia Surveys & Grants" and the "Index to Old Kentucky Surveys & Grants" available on the Kentucky Historical Society website. Use numbers in the "Original Survey Number" field in both publications to access patents on this database. Patents for which duplicate numbers were issued, such as 5079, are viewed as 5079#1 and 5079#2 in Historical Society publications. For this database, the numbers will be depicted as 5079.1 and 5079.2.

- To obtain images for a specific series, first select the series in the first combobox. Then sort numerically by patent number or alphabetically by grantee.
- Next, select the desired patent from the second combobox.
- Finally, you may view printable versions by selecting the print quality desired, or you may download full sized images.

Note: The print quality is provided to accommodate users with slower connections. High quality images and full sized images are typically 1-5MB in size.

Series: Virginia Patent Series
Sort By: Patent
Scanned Patents: Select an item
Survey, bearing date the 25th day of November 1789. Lying and being in the county of Mason, in the District of Kentucky, on the waters of a branch of the North Fork of Kiskiack, and bounded as follows: To wit: Beginning at two survey beacons common to William Mays"s settlement, and possession; thence North sixty sixty degrees, East one hundred and three poles to a hickory tree. North thirty sixty degrees, East, two hundred and fifty poles, along two branches to a white oak and hickory tree, thence South, West one hundred and sixty, thence East, to the said placate corner of William Mays settlement agree with the line aforesaid of one hundred and sixty, thence West, to the beginning.

Benjamin Jones

Henry Lee

Henry Lee, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby set his hand and cause the proper seal of the said Commonwealth to be affixed at Richmond, Do, the eighteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty two, and of the commonwealth the sixty-third.

Henry Lee.
Weeks, David, private, .................. North Carolina militia
May 12, 1833; $98.55. Age 74.

Winstead, Mandley, private, .............. North Carolina militia
November 16, 1832; $50. Age —.

Wright, George, private, .................... Virginia militia
February 6, 1833; $47.97. Age —.

Wilson, Josiah, private, .................... North Carolina militia
November 16, 1832; $46.45. Age —.

Revolutionary Soldiers Living in the County in 1840.
(Salton, Vol. 1, p. 6)

Curtis, James, age 84. Herron, James, age 102.
Givens, William, age 78. Montgomery, John, age 72.
Winstead, Manley, age 80.
Total for the County, 32.

Jefferson County.

Pensioners Under the Act of March 18, 1818.

Brock, Henry, private, ...................... Virginia line
Jan. 30, 1822; Nov. 10, 1827; $96. Age 75. Died March 24, 1822.

Bartlett, John, private, ..................... Virginia line
January 8, 1818; September 15, 1831; $96. Age 84.

Bateman, Thomas, private, .................. Maryland line
May 23, 1816; May 29, 1826; $96. Age 79.

Cooper, Levin, private, ...................... Virginia line
June 8, 1819; May 12, 1828; $96. Age 79.

Gray, George, captain, ...................... Pennsylvania line
February 10, 1820; April 30, 1828; $96. Age —.

Griffin, Reuben, private, .................... Virginia line
May 6, 1820; November 22, 1839; $96. Age 73.

Griffin, William, private, .................. Virginia line
February 1, 1821; October 12, 1830; $96. Age 79. Dead.

Haston, William, private, .................. Virginia line
February 10, 1819; July 14, 1826; $96. Age 78.

Horseley, James, private, .................. Virginia line
November 27, 1821; July 24, 1821; $96. Age 69.

Kelli, Thos., private, ....................... Virginia line
May 23, 1819; February 15, 1821; $96. Age 75.

Leatherman, Michael, ....................... Pennsylvania line
June 29, 1819; June 28, 1830; $96. Age 83. Died July 6, 1831.

Merritt, Archelaus, private, ................ Virginia line
Nov. 27, 1821; July 23, 1831; $96. Age 64. Died March 30, 1824.

McKinney, Thomas, private, ................ Virginia line

Penn, Benjamin, private, .................. Maryland line
April 3, 1820; Aug. 31, 1819; $96. Age 81. Died May 10, 1847.

Pike, Robert, private, ...................... Virginia line
September 7, 1819; July 30, 1827; $96. Age 83.

Ross, Nathaniel, private, .................. New York line
Feb. 18, 1819; July 14, 1826; $96. Age 75. Died Sept. 15, 1845.

Rooksbury, Jacob, private, .................. Georgia line
February 7, 1820; June 8, 1818; $96. Age 60.

Stevenson, William, private, .............. Pennsylvania line
June 2, 1819; June 9, 1821; $96. Age 78. Died September 15, 1822.

Taylor, William, major, ..................... Virginia line
November 6, 1818; May 1, 1816; $96. Age 81.

Wilkinson, Benjamin, private, .............. Virginia line
May 23, 1824; May 16, 1831; $96. Age 80.

Wilson, Robert, captain, .................. Pennsylvania line
June 8, 1819; May 9, 1831; $96. Age —.

Pensioners Under the Act of June 7, 1832.
(Began March 4, 1831)

Briscoe, Henry, private, .................... Maryland line
February 27, 1831; $96. Age 72.

Conn, Samuel, private, .................... Virginia militia
April 17, 1844; $96. Age 74.

Goodwin, Amos, private, .................... Virginia line
November 6, 1831; $96. Age 68.

Harding, Vachel, private, .................. Maryland line
January 12, 1834; $96. Age 73.

Humphreys, John, private, .................. Virginia line
February 10, 1819; $96. Age 72. Reduced to $60 under act of June 7, 1832.

Merrivether, William, sergeant of cavalry, ...... Virginia line
$177.25. Age 76.

Murphy, John, private of cavalry, ........... Virginia line
May 6, 1831; $100. Age 71.

Miller, Frederick, private, .................. North Carolina militia
May 29, 1831; $46.55. Age 72.

Maloney, Robert, private, .................. Virginia militia
June 13, 1834; $44.16. Age 68.

Pounds, Henry, private, ..................... New Jersey militia
April 14, 1833; $33.33. Age 72.

Pilkington, Larkin, private, ................ Virginia line
August 27, 1824; $96. Age 72.

Parker, Thomas, sergeant, .................. Virginia militia
September 25, 1833; $100. Age 78.

Pennington, James, private, ................ Virginia militia
December 14, 1833; $47.75. Age 82.

Tyler, William, private, .................... Virginia line
April 16, 1834; $60. Age 78.

Urton, James, private, ..................... Virginia line
April 17, 1834; $60. Age 82.

Wilson, Robert, captain, adjutant, and major, Pennsylvania line
November 2, 1833; $480. Age 83.

Welsh, James, private, sergeant, and lieu., Pennsylvania militia
May 30, 1833; $66.66. Age 80.

Weinmann, Philip, private, .................. Maryland militia
May 30, 1833; $66.66. Age 80.

White, David, private, ...................... Virginia line
September 23, 1833; $42.44. Age 81.

Yeager, Elissa, private, ..................... Virginia militia
February 3, 1835; $80. Age —.

Total for the County, 45.

Jessamine County.

Pensioners Under the Act of March 18, 1818.

Adams, Benjamin, private, ................ Virginia line
September 12, 1830; June 4, 1818; $96. Age 85.

Bisset, John, private, ....................... Virginia line
Feb. 13, 1819; May 18, 1818; $96. Age 64. Died Aug. 7, 1824.

Cox, John, private, ......................... North Carolina line
June 14, 1821; February 18, 1822; $96. Age 71.

Pickins, John, private, ...................... Virginia line
April 21, 1820; June 17, 1818; $96. Age 64. Died June 16, 1819.
Military Registers & Land Records

Under the terms of the Proclamation of 1763, issued by England's King George III, soldiers who served in the French & Indian War and Lord Dunmore's War were paid with bounty land warrants. The soldier's rank determined the acreage awarded by the warrant. The warrants were used to obtain land patents.

The same principle of "land for military service" was used to pay soldiers of the Revolutionary War. Each colony determined the acreage per rank, requisite duration of service and location of its respective military district. The Military District for Virginia was located in southwestern Kentucky and southcentral Ohio. The Revolutionary War Warrants website contains information regarding military warrants issued to Virginia veterans prior to 1792 and all Kentucky patents authorized by those warrants, and the database indexes 4,748 bounty land warrants issued by Virginia to veterans of the Revolutionary War.

In 1818 the Jackson Purchase in Kentucky was acquired from the Chickasaw Indians. A number of Revolutionary War veterans or their assigns had settled in the area without clear title to their land holdings, and in 1820 the Kentucky General Assembly approved legislation that instructed the veterans or their assigns to proceed with the land patenting process. The West of Tennessee River Military Patents website includes information on 242 patents authorized by warrants issued under this legislation.

Military Land Office

On July 20, 1784, the Land Office for the Virginia Military District was opened near Louisville. Colonel Richard Clough Anderson was the Principal Surveyor for veterans serving in the Virginia Continental Line, and Major William Croghan and General George Rogers Clark were appointed Principal Surveyors for veterans serving in the Virginia State Line (or Militia). Due to the size of the Military District, a number of deputies assisted the Principal Surveyors.

In 1879 the Kentucky General Assembly abolished the office of surveyor of military lands. The "present incumbent of that office" was ordered to send all books, papers and documents pertaining to his office to the Register of the Land Office "by the safest and cheapest mode of conveyance." 1879 Acts, Chapter 105, Article IV.
Revolutionary War Warrants Database

This database indicates that there are 4,748 bounty land warrants issued by Virginia to veterans of the Revolutionary War. Warrants, the first step in land patenting, were given as payment for military services; the allotment was determined by the soldier's rank and time of service, and the land was located in the Revolutionary War Military District. Patents issued for service in the Revolutionary War are filed with the Virginia Patent Series (VA), Old Kentucky Patent Series (OK) and the West of the Tennessee River Military Patent Series (WTRM).

Warrants can be searched by veteran's name, warrant number and immediate assignee. Scanned images from the military warrants register are included for each warrant number. The "authorized" field identifies the patent(s) authorized by each warrant. If the warrant did not authorize a patent in Virginia's Military District in Kentucky, there is no further information available in the Kentucky Land Office for that warrant. For assistance with researching Revolutionary War Warrants, please consult the Research Help section of this website.

For more information about Revolutionary War warrants in Kentucky, please review the frequently asked questions or contact the Land Office at (502) 564-3490 or via email.

https://www.sos.ky.gov/admin/land/military/revwar/Pages/default.aspx
Enter Veteran Name:
Search by complete name or surname. Format the complete name by first keying the veteran’s surname then his given (first) name. Example: Marshall, Thomas. By keying Marshall, you will see a complete listing of all veterans with the Marshall surname. A minimum of four characters must be entered. Use % as the fourth character, if necessary.

Breckinridge
Search  Reset

Enter Warrant Number:
Our database indexes 4,748 Virginia Revolutionary Warrants. There are 121 duplicate numbers, therefore our warrants range in number from one to 4,627. Contact the Ohio Historical Society in Columbus for Virginia warrants with higher numbers than 4,627. To search by warrant number, key the entire four-digit number. Example: Warrant #1 must be keyed as 0001. Information for two military warrants may appear if the number was duplicated by the land office. Simply select the number that corresponds to the veteran’s name you are searching.

Enter Immediate Assignee:
Many Revolutionary War veterans sold their warrants. This database identifies individuals who purchased veterans’ military warrants shortly after the warrants were issued. Heirs of deceased veterans may also be listed as the veteran’s assignee. Search immediate assignees by complete name or surname. Format the complete name by first keying the assignee’s surname then his given (first) name. Example: Anderson, Richard. By keying Anderson, you will see a complete listing of all assignees with the Anderson surname. A minimum of four characters must be entered. Use % as the fourth character, if necessary.

Search  Reset
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Detailed Information About

Breckinridge (Brackenridge), Robert

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<tr>
<td>Rank</td>
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<tr>
<td>Branch</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Authorized</td>
<td>VA 2838</td>
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<tr>
<td>Note</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Veteran Name</td>
<td>Breckinridge (Brackenridge), Robert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acres</td>
<td>3.610.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit</td>
<td>Virginia Continental Line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>8/23/1783</td>
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</table>

Note: These images are converted from a different format to an Internet ready format on the fly. Occasionally, the image is not displayed because it was not converted quickly enough. If the image is not displayed, please click here to view it separately.

Click to show image at its true size.
Land-Office Military Warrant, No. 1653

To the principal SURVEYOR of the Land, set apart for the Officers and Soldiers of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

THIS shall be your WARRANT to survey and lay off in one or more surveys, for Lieutenant Robert Brackenridge his Heirs or Assigns; the Quantity of three thousand six hundred ten 8/3 Acres of Land, due unto the said Robert Brackenridge

in consideration of his Services for seven years as a Lieutenant in the Virginia continental Army

agreeably to a Certificate from the Governor and Council, which is received into the Land-Office.

GIVEN under my Hand, and Seal of the said Office, this 23rd Day of August in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and 83
Virginia and Old Kentucky Patent Series

Names in the drop-box listings are limited to recipients of the Grant (Grantees); names are not cross-referenced.

To expand the search, we suggest researchers access the Kentucky Historical Society publications "Master Index: Virginia Surveys & Grants" and the "Index to Old Kentucky Surveys & Grants" available on the Kentucky Historical Society website. Use numbers in the "Original Survey Number" field in both publications to access patents on this database. Patents for which duplicate numbers were issued, such as 5079 are viewed as 5079#1 and 5079#2 in Historical Society publications. For this database, the numbers will be depicted as 5079.1 and 5079.2.

- To obtain images for a specific series, first select the series in the first combobox. Then sort numerically by patent number or alphabetically by grantee.
- Next, select the desired patent from the second combobox.
- Finally, you may view printable versions by selecting the print quality desired, or you may download full sized images.
  - Note: The print quality is provided to accommodate users with slower connections. High quality images and full sized images are typically 1-5MB in size.

Scanned Patents: Select an item

http://apps.sos.ky.gov/land/nonmilitary/patentseries/vaandokpatents/
On the next screen, click the “Or Download entire document in Multipage TIFF format” option.” Before printing, be sure to “uncheck” the “Fit picture to frame” function.
Surveyed for Robert Breckinridge, 1000 acres of land.

Beginning at a log at the north bank of the main upper corner to N.W. Qd. 800.

Continue running, thence with a clear

branch to a ragged

from one head to

N 45 W 253 degrees, a branch to a clear

on the bank of the river thence

on the course of the river thence
Patrick Henry Esquire Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia. To all to whom these presents shall come greeting know ye

that by virtue and in consideration of part of a Military Warrant Number 1635 and dated the 3rd day of August 1783 there is granted by the said Commonwealth unto Robert Breckinridge a certain Tract or Parcel of land containing one thousand acres by survey being date the 2nd day of March 1795 lying and being in the district set apart for the Offerees and Soldiers of the Continental Line used on Cumberland River and bounded as followeth to wit. Beginning at a pine and two white oaks on the bank of the River upper Corner to Nathaniel Goddard one thousand acres survey running thence with a line thereof north to the said pine and return to the beginning.

No. 2838
Although no master patent map was constructed by the Virginia or Kentucky Land Office, many local historians have researched Kentucky land patents and developed patent maps for their area. Contact your local historical society, county surveyor, county clerk, or library to determine if patent maps exist for the area in which you are interested.
Construct a Map!

• Run your chain of title back to patent. Find a survey that can serve as an “anchor patent” then place the patent on a topo map. (Topo maps are available online or from the UK Geological Survey Office in Lexington.)

• Use traditional methods for survey plotting or access the internet for software to plot the deeds emanating from the patent.

• Visit the site, walk the land, find a long lost cemetery, and enjoy the view your ancestors enjoyed years ago. It can be done!

• Donate a copy of your map to your local historical society for future researchers to enjoy.
Jefferson County Patent Map

Original at the Filson Historical Society, Louisville, Kentucky
James Madison, President of the United States of America,

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

KNOW YE, That in consideration of Military Service performed by William H. Blackford, a Captian for one year, more than seven years, and Robert Blackford, a Lieutenent for seven years, in the United States, in the Virginia Line on Continental Establishment, and in pursuance of an Act of Congress of the United States, passed on the 10th day of August, in the year 1790, intituled "An Act to enable the Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia Line on Continental Establishment to obtain Titles to certain Lands lying north-west of the river Ohio, between the Little Miami and Sciota rivers, and other Acts of the said Congress, amendatory of the said Act. There is granted to the United States, Jacob Dickson, assignee of Elias Langham, assignee of John and Matthew, assignees of the said William Blackford, assignee of the said Elias Langham, assignee of Elias Tate, who was assignee of the said Robert Blackford, a certain Tract of Land containing three hundred and sixty-six and two-thirds acres, situate between the Little Miami and Sciota rivers, west-northwest of the river Ohio, as by Survey, bearing date the fifteenth day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventeen, and bounded and described as follows, 

Size: [10.56 * 16.60 in]
"Index of Revolutionary War Pension Applications in the National Archives"

Published by the National Genealogical Society, Arlington, Virginia
1976
ISBN: 0-915156-00-8

BRICK

Jona, Mass., See BRICK


BRECK, William, N.C., See BRECK

BRECK, Peter, Pa., S40035

BRECKNEDRICK, Robert, Va., S43671; BLM:273-200-0-5

Iss. 4/14/1790. No papers

BRECK, Andrew, N.C. See BRECK

BRECK, Charles, N.C., Johanna, W3143

BRECK, John, Va., See BRECK

BRECK, Thomas, Pa., R1171

BREED, Allen, N.H., S2858

Bues, Mass., R173

Frederic/Frederick, Cont., Mass., S34104


Jesse, Henry, Ct. res. 1813, Cynthia R., R1172

John, Mass., N.C., S12344

Joseph, Ct., Henry, R1171


Oliver, Ct., S2298

Stephen, Ct., Esther, W6511

Thomas K., Cont., N.C., Polly, W25075; BLM:19420-160-55

BREEDEN, Charles, See BREEDEN

Brought, Va., S1757

BROWNOE, John, Va., S7862

BREAHEL, John, Va., S2102

BRENNER, William, Mass. See BRENNER

BRENNER, Henry, N.C., S12308

BRENNER, James, B., Ephemia, W927

Samuel, N.C., S2143

Tithony, N., S42632

BRENNER, Garret, N., S961

Henry, N., K802

John, Pa., R1174

Tithony, Pt., Va., BLM:1816; Iss. 2/10/1796

BRENNER, William, Mass. See BRENNER

BRENNER, John, Pa., S35439


BRENNER, John, Pa., S2103

BRENNER, Francis, S.C., Eliza E., W708

BRENNER, Lewis, Pa., Va., BLM:943; Iss. 2/18/1800

BRENNER, Benjamin, See BRENNER

BRENNER, Catherine, See BRENNER

BRENNER, John, Pa., S40034

BRENNER, Peter, Pa., See BRENNER

BRENNER, John, Pa., R1179

BRENNER, John, Pt., Va., BLM:11934; Iss. 5/25/1792 to Walter Stewart, as!

John, Va., Jane, R1176

William, Va., R20353

BRENNER, Adam, Pa., Va., Indian War of 1794, R1179

James, Va., Mary, W2518; BLM:29469-160-55

BRENNER, John, Pa., Va., S61069; See N.A. Acc. No. 874; 050022. Not half

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BRENNER, Peter, Pa., S40035

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BRENNER, Allen, N.H., S2858

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BRENNER, Peter, Pa., S40035

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James, Va., Mary, W2518; BLM:29469-160-55

BRENNER, John, Pa., Va., S61069; See N.A. Acc. No. 874; 050022. Not half
Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Breckinridge (Breckenridge) 1. S46371.

Transcribed by Will Graves.
11/19/07 rev'd 10/5/14.

[Blank text indicating that the spelling, punctuation, and grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation, or grammar, no changes have been made. Corrections of additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it representably a guess by me. The word 'possible' or 'indicatable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question.

Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. It is hoped that providing additional information on many events is included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'bureaucratic' affixes and disclaimers related solely to the application, have been removed and twentieth-century research requests for information have been omitted. I use word recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my handwriting much with unfortunate consistency and my poor punctuation skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected. For example, the software transcribes 'the eight of June one thousand eighty four' as '8 June 1884.' Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of an act, entitled "An Act for the relief of certain surviving Officers and Soldiers of the Army of the Revolution" approved on the 15th day of May 1828, I Robert Breckinridge of the City of Louisville, in the County of Jefferson and State of Kentucky do hereby declare that I was an officer in the Continental line of the Army of the Revolution. That my first service was in the 8th Virginia Regiment from which I was transferred, or arranged, to the 4th Regiment with the rank of Lieutenant, which was ordered, under the command of Colonel Neville [John Neville], to the defense of Charleston [sic, Charleston] in South Carolina, where, upon its fall in the month of May 1780 [May 12, 1780], I was made prisoner — that I was exchanged in the month of June 181, and ordered to join a Corps of Infantry then organizing at Cumberland Court House in the State of Virginia. That the said Corps marched under the command of Colonel Posey [Thomas Posey] to the South and joined the Army under the command of General Greene [Nathanael Greene] — and that I remained in the service as an officer till the end of the War.

In support of the foregoing statement I send enclosed my commission as a Lieutenant, Parole, and Certificate of Exchange.

I also declare, that I afterwards received Certificates commonly called commutation certificates for a sum equal to the amount of five years full pay, which sum was offered by the Resolve of Congress of the 22d of March 183 instead of half pay for life, to which I was entitled under the Resolve of the 21st of October 1780. And I further declare that I have received no money of the United States as a pensioner since the 3rd March 1826.

Witness my hand this 27th day of June 1828.

S/ RO Breckinridge

[Words Pope and Abraham Hite gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Revolutinary Claims
Treasury Department,
July 26, 1828

Robert Breckinridge of Louisville in the County of Jefferson in the State of Kentucky has applied to the Secretary of the Treasury for the benefits of the act, entitled "An act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Revolution," approved the 15th of May, 1828. He states that was an officer in the Continental line, and served as such to the end of the war, at which period he was a Lieut., serving in Posey's Detachment of the Virginia line, and that he received

1 BLWh 273-200—Lieut. Issued Apr. 4, 1790, No Papers

[Commutation certificates for the five years full pay granted by the resolve of 22 March, 1783, and further, that he has received as a pensioner since the 3rd of March 1826, nothing dollars, paid to him by the agent in the State of —

The Third Auditor is requested to report how far the several statements are corroborated by the records in his Office.

By order of the Secretary
S F A. Dickens

Treasury Department,
Third Auditor's Office,
21st July 1828

It appears by the record of this office, that final settlement certificates had been issued for the commutation of five years full pay to Robert Breckinridge, Lieut. in the Virginia line, amounting to One Hundred dollars.

It further appears that Robert Breckinridge is not now on the pension list of any agency, and has not been so since the 3rd of March 1826 at the rate of — per month.

S/ Peter Hagner, Aud.

[There is a note in this file as follows: "Commission, Parole and Exchange not on file in this case. P. S. C. Nov. 7 1912.

And as claims under this Act were adjudicated in the Treasury Department, it is not possible now to trace them up. A.W Nov. 15, 1912."

[Another note in this file reads: "Commission No. 8 in favor of Robert Breckinridge as Lieut. in the 4th Virginia Regiment to rank from 4th of April 1778 and dated 20th March 1779."

http://revwarapps.org/
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Acres</th>
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**THE KENTUCKY LAND GRANTS**

Willard Rouse Jillson
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<td>38-39</td>
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<tr>
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<td>6037</td>
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<td>38-39</td>
<td>John Emerson &amp; Heirs</td>
<td>7-8-1808</td>
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<tr>
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<td>200</td>
<td>Barren</td>
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<td>Adair</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Pintman Cr.</td>
<td>3-17-1877</td>
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<td>Same &amp; Heirs</td>
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<td>Pintman Cr.</td>
<td>3-3-1877</td>
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<td>1298</td>
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<td>Shelby</td>
<td>Ohio R.</td>
<td>11-13-1797</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>615</td>
<td>John &amp; Robert Breckenridge</td>
<td>12-20-1798</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>2238</td>
<td>Newman, George</td>
<td>2238</td>
<td>Johnson, Robert &amp; George Newman</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Enter Veteran Name:

Search by complete name or surname. Format the complete name by first keying the veteran’s surname then his given (first) name. Example: Marshall, Thomas. By keying Marshall, you will see a complete listing of all veterans with the Marshall surname. A minimum of four characters must be entered. Use % as the fourth character, if necessary.

Newby

Search  Reset

Enter Warrant Number:

Our database indexes 4,748 Virginia Revolutionary Warrants. There are 121 duplicate numbers, therefore our warrants range in number from one to 4,627. Contact the Ohio Historical Society in Columbus for Virginia warrants with higher numbers than 4,627. To search by warrant number, key the entire four-digit number. Example: Warrant #1 must be keyed as 0001. Information for two military warrants may appear if the number was duplicated by the land office. Simply select the number that corresponds to the veteran’s name you are searching.


Search  Reset

Enter Immediate Assignee:

Many Revolutionary War veterans sold their warrants. This database identifies individuals who purchased veterans’ military warrants shortly after the warrants were issued. Heirs of deceased veterans may also be listed as the veteran’s assignee. Search immediate assignees by complete name or surname. Format the complete name by first keying the assignee’s surname then his given (first) name. Example: Anderson, Richard. By keying Anderson, you will see a complete listing of all assignees with the Anderson surname. A minimum of four characters must be entered. Use % as the fourth character, if necessary.


Search  Reset
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Warrant</th>
<th>Veteran</th>
<th>Assignee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1479.0</td>
<td>Newby, John</td>
<td>Newby, John (heir-at-law)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3586.0</td>
<td>Newby, Leroy</td>
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<tr>
<td>0757.0</td>
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Another Query
# Detailed Information About

**Newby, John**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Warrant ID</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rank</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
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<tr>
<td>Branch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Authorized</td>
<td>OK 4979*</td>
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**Veteran Name**

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acres</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit</td>
<td>Virginia State Line</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Years**

3

**Note:** These images are converted from a different format to an internet ready format on the fly. Occasionally, the image is not displayed because it was not converted quickly enough. If the image is not displayed, please click here to view it separately.
Land-Office Military Warrant, No. 1479

To the principal SURVEYOR of the Land, set apart for the Officers and Soldiers of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

THIS shall be your WARRANT to survey and lay off in one or more surveys, for

John Meoby
his Heirs or Assigns; the Quantity of one hundred

Acres of Land, due unto the said

John Meoby
in consideration of his Services for three years as a soldier
in the state line

agreeably to a Certificate from the Governor and Council, which is received into the Land-Office.

GIVEN under my Hand, and Seal of the said Office, this 20th 8th Day of August in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and
Virginia and Old Kentucky Patent Series

Names in the drop-box listings are limited to recipients of the Grant (Grantees); names are not cross-referenced.

To expand the search, we suggest researchers access the Kentucky Historical Society publications "Master Index: Virginia Surveys & Grants" and the "Index to Old Kentucky Surveys & Grants" available on the Kentucky Historical Society website. Use numbers in the "Original Survey Number" field in both publications to access patents on this database. Patents for which duplicate numbers were issued, such as 5079 are viewed as 5079#1 and 5079#2 in Historical Society publications. For this database, the numbers will be depicted as 5079.1 and 5079.2.

- To obtain images for a specific series, first select the series in the first combo box. Then sort numerically by patent number or alphabetically by grantee.
- Next, select the desired patent from the second combo box.
- Finally, you may view printable versions by selecting the print quality desired, or you may download full sized images. Note: The print quality is provided to accommodate users with slower connections. High quality images and full sized images are typically 1-5MB in size.

Series: Old Kentucky Patent Series  Sort By: Patent

Scanned Patents: Select an Item
Land Office Military WARRANT, No. 1479

To the principal SURVEYOR of the Lands set apart for the Officers and Soldiers of the Commonwealth of VIRGINIA.

This shall be your WARRANT to survey and lay off in one or more Surveys, for John Newby, his Heirs or Assigns, the Quantity of One Hundred Acres of Land, due unto the said John Newby.

In consideration of his services for three years as a Soldier in the Virginia State Line, agreeable to a Certificate from the Governor and Council received into the Land Office. GIVEN under my Hand, and the Seal of the said Office, this 27th Day of August, in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and 83.

John [Signature]
Surveyed for John Newby 100 acres June 15, 1802

Pittman's Creek, Cumberland River
Militar District

Pulaski County

Assignment by John Newby to John W. Newby recorded on the back of a survey of 3 acres in Pulaski County. Filed as Patent No. 7491 in the Kentucky Land Warrant Patent Series.
The patent series indicates what types of warrants were used to authorize surveys. Each series is based on time period and land location. The nine major groupings are as follows:

- **Virginia Series** (Grants issued prior to 1792) -- 9,441 surveys
- **Old Kentucky Series** (Grants issued from 1792-1815) -- 7,668 surveys
- **South of Green River Series** (Grants from 1795 forward) -- 16,664 surveys
- This series opened the Military District to settlement by non-veterans. County commissioners approved the issuance of warrants/certificates to residents purchasing no more than 400 acres of unappropriated land. Applicants had to meet age and residency requirements and they had to have occupied the land one year prior to application. An improvement, such as a cabin or a crop, was also required. The original 1795 Act of the General Assembly required the applicants to be 21 years of age or older. The minimum age was lowered in 1798 to 18. Due to errors in patent series assignments, a number of patents in the South of Green River Series are located outside the region. Some are as far north as Pendleton County.
- **Tellico Series** (Grants in southeast Kentucky) -- 590 surveys
- This area was purchased from the Cherokee Indians in 1805. Under the Act of 1810, settlers meeting the six-month residency requirement could patent up to 200 acres of land by paying $40 per 100 acres. Due to errors in patent series assignments, a number of patents in the Tellico Series fall out of the Tellico Region.
- **Kentucky Land Warrant Series** (Grants from 1815 forward) -- 26,080 surveys
- These warrants were purchased or issued by the Kentucky Land Office. Many were authorized by the General Assembly for the development of Kentucky's infrastructure, i.e., proceeds from warrant sales were used to build roads.
- **South of Walker's Line Series** (Grants from 1820 forward) -- 4,327 surveys
- These patents are located in northern Tennessee. They generally run to the 36 degrees 30 minute parallel or the baseline of the Jackson Purchase. The Kentucky Land Office has patent records for the following Tennessee counties: Sumner, Smith, Robertson, Macon, Montgomery, Stewart, Jackson, Claiborne, Clay, Fentress, Pickett, Scott and Campbell.
- **West of Tennessee River Military Series** -- (Grants from 1821 to 1828) -- 242 surveys
- This area was purchased from the Chickasaw Indians in 1818. A number of Revolutionary War soldiers occupied the land, known later as the Jackson Purchase, without having clear title. In 1820, the Kentucky General Assembly advised the veterans to immediately file for patents.
- **West of Tennessee River Non-Military Series** (Grants from 1822 to 1900) -- 9,308 surveys
- While the Revolutionary War veterans were patenting their land, the Jackson Purchase was being mapped in ranges, townships and sections by William Henderson. In 1821, the General Assembly authorized the auctioning of "odd sections" in the West of Tennessee River area. Sales would be held in Princeton. Upon presentation of a receipt, the Register issued a certificate authorizing the grant. In 1825, public sales were authorized in Waidborough in Calloway county. The state set a minimum price per acre for the land sales. By 1835, that price had been reduced to 12.5 cents per acre.
- **County Court Order Series** (Grants from 1835 to present date) -- 70,238 surveys.
- In 1835, the General Assembly granted county courts the right to issue warrants authorizing surveys. Fees are set locally, however, the law requires a minimum of $5 per 100 acres of unappropriated land. The County Court Order Patent Series is codified in Chapter 56 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes.
KENTUCKY LAND PATENTS
What is online?
(Secretary of State’s Land Office Website)

• Virginia & Old Kentucky Series
  – Patents authorized by: French & Indian War Warrants; Lord Dunmore Warrants; Revolutionary War Warrants; Certificates of Settlement & Preemption Warrants; Treasury Warrants, etc.

• West of Tennessee River Military Series

• West of Tennessee River Non-Military Series

• Jackson Purchase Locator

• County Court Order Series Database (over 8200 patents link to scanned images)
KENTUCKY LAND PATENTS

What is not online?

(Secretary of State’s Land Office Website)

- South of Green River Patent Series
- Kentucky Land Warrants Patent Series
- Tellico Patent Series
- South of Walker’s Line Patent Series
  (Note: Tennessee Land)

- Fayette County, Virginia, Entry Books
- Jefferson County, Virginia, Entry Books
  (Note: These books include Kentucky County, Virginia, Entries.)
- Entry Books for the Military District
Tax Lists Identify
Land Patent History
&
Family Information
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>Piper Billy</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>7.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payne John</td>
<td>1.40</td>
<td>163.2</td>
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<td>Bell John L.</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>2.1</td>
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<td>Bell John L.</td>
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<td>Preston Walsh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preston Walsh</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total:** 7.6 + 7.3 + 163.2 + 2.1 + 1.4 + 1.9 + 1.9 + 1.9 + 1.9 = 225.6
1805 Pulaski Co., Ky. Tax Lists

[Handwritten text and numbers]
RESEARCHING TAX LISTS

• Tax Lists are available on microfilm at the Kentucky History Center, KDLA, and LDS Libraries. (We have found different repositories may have different information.) Some county tax lists include tithable reports prior to 1792.
• County tax lists from 1795 to the mid-1830’s, may provide critical information regarding original land patent recipients.
• Tax lists should span from the year of county formation through the mid-1880’s.
• Study Acts of the General Assembly to determine tax laws.
• Women, Free Blacks (40 years before the Civil War), & Pensioners are included on Tax Lists; occasionally they are listed as exempt.
• Tax Lists may include two or three districts.
• The “Company” header identifies the name of the Captain of the Militia Company receiving the taxes.
• Minors, if they are the head of the household, are included on tax lists.
• Tax Lists are no longer available from KDLA for duplication.
• Tax Lists may be viewed on the Family Search website hosted by the Church of Latter Day Saints.
• Tax Lists may serve as an “Annual Census”—”hiding from the tax man” had severe penalties.
HEADERS: 1830 Tax Lists

- Persons Names Chargeable with Tax
- Land: 1st Rate, 2nd Rate, or 3rd Rate
- County in which Land lies
- Watercourse
- In whose name(s) the land was entered, surveyed, & patented (This information is included from 1795 through the mid-1830's.)
- White Males over 21 years
- Blacks over 16 & Total Blacks
- Horses; Mares; Mules & Jennies; Stud Horses & Jacks; & Rates of covering per season
- Wholesale & Retail Stores; Tavern Licenses
- Billiard Tables; Wheel Carriages; Value of Land per Acre
- Total Value, except Stud Horses, Jacks, & Billiard Tables
HEADERS: 1875 Tax Lists

- Full names of Taxpayers
- Land, each tract in Acres
- Name of Nearest Resident
- Election Precinct No.; Value of Lands
- Town Lots, Town or City, No. of Lots on Town Plat, Value of Town Lots
- Horses & Mares; Mules, Jennets, Cattle ($50 Deduction); and their Value
- Stores, Pleasure Carriages, Buggies, Stage Coaches, Barouches, Gigs, Omnibuses & other Passenger Vehicles; Value of Gold, Silver & other Metallic Watches & Clocks, Gold & Silver Plate, and Pianos; Total at $.45 per $100.
- White Males over 21; Legal Voters; Enrolled Militia; Children between 6 & 20 years old
- Hogs over 6 months old; Studs, Jacks & Bulls; Rates per Season
- Tavern Licenses; No. of Dogs over two; No. of Sheep killed by Dogs; Value of Sheep killed by Dogs
- White persons that are blind & post office; White persons that are deaf and dumb & post office
- Pounds of Tobacco; Pounds of Hemp; Tons of Hay; Bushels of Corn; Bushels of Wheat; Bushels of Barley; Tons of Pig Metal (iron); Tons of Bloom (wrought iron); Tons of Bar Iron.
Other Kentucky Land Records
• **DEEDS:** Transactions after land is patented.

Filed on the county level with the county clerk. May also be researched by contacting the Kentucky Department for Libraries & Archives, Frankfort.

There is no central registration of Deeds in Kentucky. Remember county formation dates!

Establish a “chain-of-title” by starting with present owners then working backward through county records to identify past owners (the next links in the chain). Ultimately most deeds refer to the initial patent.
TYPES OF DEEDS

• Commissioners’ Deeds

Land sales conducted by the Master Commissioner for delinquent taxes, mortgage forfeitures, etc. May be indexed in a separate book by the county clerk. If recorded with the Deeds, may be listed as “Commissioner” in the Grantor Index rather than the property owner’s name.
• **Processioners’ Deeds**

Processioners are appointed by the court to divide lands involved in an estate settlement or property dispute. These deeds often include plat drawings of the divided property and their designated owners. Deeds may be recorded in the county clerk’s office with other county deeds or may be included in separate volumes. These deeds may also be part of the final estate settlement papers filed with the circuit court clerk.
In some instances you will find property transferred in Kentucky by Will rather than by Deed. Wills often include plat drawings of divided property including names of designated owners. Wills are filed on the county level with the county clerk. Early estate settlements may be found with the county clerk; for more recent settlements, contact the circuit court clerk.
• LAND PATENTS

If a land patent hasn’t been sold, the wording on the Grant conveys the patent to the patentee’s heirs. In many instances that conveyance is not recorded with the county clerk. It is important for the heir(s) to register their land ownership with the Property Valuation Administrator for taxation purposes.

(Note: Transfers of patents between individuals often result in an assignment on the Grant and the transfer isn’t recorded with the county clerk. Again, registration for tax purposes may be the only indication there is a new owner for the tract.)
QUICK GUIDE: KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER

• The federal government does not issue land patents in Kentucky. Kentucky patents are authorized by Acts of the Virginia General Assembly (prior to 1792) or the Kentucky General Assembly.

• Warrants do not identify a certain tract or location.

• Neither warrants nor surveys convey title. Every step in the patent process must be followed. The Governor’s Grant finalizes the patenting transaction.

• Military grants comprise a small portion of Kentucky land patents. Most patents were authorized by purchasing treasury, state, or county warrants/certificates.

• The only military warrants honored in Kentucky were for service in the French and Indian War and the Revolutionary War.

• Kentucky did not honor warrants for service in the War of 1812, the Mexican War, or subsequent conflicts. Those warrants had to be used in federal public domain states, such as Missouri or Illinois. (This partially explains the move westward by some Kentucky veterans or assignees; they had to relocate to a state that honored federal bounty land warrants.) Contact the Central Reference Division, National Archives, Pennsylvania Avenue, 8th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20408 for information regarding military service, federal bounty land, and pension applications.
Online Resources

Kentucky history fascinates and intrigues researchers around the world. The resources on this website provide everything from background information on Kentucky's history to research aids to links to groups and events that will allow you to further your research.

Articles - Includes a variety of published and non-published manuscripts, databases and reference materials.

History - Information about the Secretary of State's office, including office holders and a timeline of the office's evolution.

Geographic Materials - References regarding county locations, county formations and maps.

Glossary - Defines more than 100 terms associated with land patenting.


Bibliography - Publications regarding the history of Kentucky land.

Links - Selected government agencies and professional associations, research libraries and online databases, genealogy websites and websites relating to maps and Kentucky locations.
To search for land patents:

1. Start by selecting the State.
2. You do not have to fill in all fields, but provide at least one additional field.
3. Click the Search Patents button.

Search Tips:
- Hover your mouse over a field to get a brief description.
- Get detailed information by checking the Glossary in the Reference Center.
- For more tips and help, check out our Patent Search Overview.

Note: This site does not cover every state, but we do have resource links for most states.
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<thead>
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<th>Image</th>
<th>Accession</th>
<th>Names</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Doc #</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Meridian</th>
<th>Twp - Rng</th>
<th>Aquotis</th>
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<td>NW-6227-241</td>
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<td>8/23/1876</td>
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<td>NW-6268-349</td>
<td>HALE, JAMES A J, TRIBBLE, MARTHA, TRIBBLE, WILLIAM</td>
<td>6/1/1859</td>
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<td>8/15/1860</td>
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**Names On Document**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>HARRIS, MARY E,</td>
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<td>TRIBBLE, ORSON</td>
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**Miscellaneous Information**

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<tr>
<td>Land Office:</td>
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<td>US Reservations:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mineral Reservations:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tribe:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Militia:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State In Favor Of:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authority:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Remarks:</td>
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- Land Office: Danville
- US Reservations: No
- Mineral Reservations: No
- Tribe: ---
- Militia: ---
- State In Favor Of: ---
- Authority: September 28, 1850; Scrip Warrant Act of 1850 (3 Stat. 520)
- General Remarks: Canceled Document

**Document Numbers**

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<tr>
<td>Document Nr: 26872</td>
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<tr>
<td>Misc. Doc. Nr: ---</td>
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<tr>
<td>BLM Serial Nr: ---</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indian Allot. Nr: ---</td>
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<td>Coal Entry. Nr: ---</td>
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**Survey Information**

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<tr>
<td>Total Acres:</td>
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<td>Survey Date:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographic Name:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metes/Bounds:</td>
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- Total Acres: 80.00
- Survey Date: ---
- Geographic Name: ---
- Metes/Bounds: No

**Land Descriptions**

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<th>Hop</th>
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<th>Meridian</th>
<th>Twp - Rng</th>
<th>Aliquots</th>
<th>Section</th>
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<tr>
<td>✔</td>
<td>IL</td>
<td>3rd PM</td>
<td>019N - 007E</td>
<td>5/4 NW/4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td>Champaign</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Due to data limitations, we could not map the aliquots or lots of this parcel.
The United States of America,
To all to whom these presents shall come, GREETING:

WHEREAS, IN PURSUANCE OF THE ACT OF CONGRESS, APPROVED SEPTEMBER 28, 1850, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING BOUNTY LAND TO CERTAIN OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS WHO HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN THE MILITARY SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES," WARRANT NO. 26872, FOR 50 ACRES, ISSUED IN FAVOR OF "ORSN TRIBBLE, PRIVATE IN CAPT. SIMPSON'S COMPANY, KENTUCKY MOUNTED VOLUNTEERS, WAR 1812," HAVING BEEN DULY ASSIGNED TO MARY E. HARRIS, HAS BEEN RETURNED TO THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE, WITH EVIDENCE THAT THE SAME HAS BEEN DULY LOCATED UPON THE SOUTH HALF OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION NINE IN TOWNSHIP NINETEEN NORTH OF RANGE SEVEN EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, ILLINOIS, CONTAINING EIGHTY ACRES, ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL PLAT OF THE SURVEY OF THE SAID LAND, RETURNED TO THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE BY THE SURVEYOR-GENERAL:

NOW KNOW YE, THAT THERE IS, THEREFORE, GRANTED BY THE UNITED STATES, UNTO THE SAID MARY E. HARRIS, THE TRACT OF LAND ABOVE DESCRIBED; TO HAVE AND TO HOLD THE SAID TRACT OF LAND, WITH THE APPURTENANCES THEREOF, UNTO THE SAID MARY E. HARRIS, AND TO HER HEIRS AND assigns FOREVER.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, WILLIAM H. TAFT

President of the United States of America, have caused these letters to be made Patent, and the seal of the General Land Office to be hereunto affixed.

GIVEN under my hand, at the City of Washington, the

FOURTH DAY of DECEMBER in the year of our Lord one thousand

NINE HUNDRED AND ELEVEN

THIRTY-SIXTH YEAR of the Independence of the

United States the one hundred and

THIRD DAY OF DECEMBER

By the President:

W. H. Taft

Secretary.

RECORD OF PATENTS: Patent Number 236782
• The Secretary of State's Office is the repository for over 100,000 patent files containing warrants, surveys, and grants. Researchers do not have to travel to Virginia to research Kentucky land patents prior to 1792. Those records were sent to Frankfort shortly after Kentucky became a state.

• Kentucky county formation must be considered when researching any facet of Kentucky history.

• There is no central registration of deeds in Kentucky. Deeds are filed on the county level with the county clerk along with wills and marriages. Courthouse disasters, such as fires or thievery, are just that -- disasters. Records not previously microfilmed or removed for preservation are lost. Check the Grantor AND Grantee indices; some conveyances may be recorded in one book but not the other. Research processioners’ books and court judgments for division of disputed or inherited land.

• Be creative when researching land patents and all land records! Names were spelled phonetically in many instances. Tax Lists may be indexed by given name rather than surname!
Patents were issued to women as early as the 1700s. In some instances, they were heirs finishing patents initiated by their husband or a family member. In 1820, the Kentucky General Assembly allowed poor widows to patent up to 100 acres of land without fee payment.

African-Americans patented land in Kentucky prior to the Civil War.

Land Office holdings are limited to land patents only. Although applications listing parents, family history, etc., were not required, there are instances in which wills, or other affidavits of descent, are part of the patent file.

Not all Kentucky Patent Series are online. Contact the Kentucky Land Office for access to original patent files. The Kentucky History Center Library has printback books of Land Office Surveys and Grants. (These are ideal for researching an area rather than a family.) Microfilm reels of all original Warrants, Entries, Surveys, and Land Office copies of Grants are available at the Kentucky History Center.

The Kentucky Department for Libraries & Archives is the state repository for county records, such as Wills and Deeds.
• Court cases can provide valuable information if an area has been litigated. Case files may include deed references, affidavits, maps, & court decisions.
  – Circuit Court Records may be available locally or at the Kentucky Department for Libraries & Archives, 300 Coffee Tree Road, Frankfort, KY 40601 (502-564-8300).
  – Contact the State Law Library, Capitol Building, Frankfort, KY 40601 (502-564-4187) for cases decided by the Kentucky Court of Appeals, Kentucky Supreme Court, & courts of higher jurisdiction.

• District or Regional Mining Offices: Maps, Deeds, & Leases
• U.S. Forest Service: Maps, Deeds & Leases
• Department for Natural Resources, Mine Permits (502-564-2320)
• Department of Revenue, Division of Minerals Taxation & GIS Services (502-564-5977)
“Kentucky Land Grants” by Willard Rouse Jillson lists grant recipients for all patent series with the exception of the West of Tennessee River Military Patents.

“Old Kentucky Entries & Deeds” by Willard Rouse Jillson identifies persons who filed Entries in early Fayette, Lincoln, & Jefferson counties as well as the Military District. Revolutionary War Warrants are also included as well as an index of Court of Appeals Deeds.

“Stockading Up” by Nancy O’Malley, Dept. of Anthropology, UK, is a compilation of patent maps, history and genealogy regarding early settlers and stations in central Kentucky.

“Early Kentucky Land Records” by Neal Hammon lists Fincastle and Kentucky County Entries, Commissioners’ Records, and Military Surveys.

“Early Landowners of Madison County, Kentucky,” Researched, Compiled, & Published by Robert P. Humphreys, PhD. Includes CD depicting location of patents. (May be ordered online by searching for title of book.)
• “Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants Awarded by State Governments,” Lloyd D. Bockstruck, (1996), ISBN: 0-8063-1511-3 (Note: In the front of the book, Bockstruck includes information regarding (1) the location of each former colony’s Military District & (2) the repository housing each state’s bounty land warrant records.)

• Publications by the Kentucky Historical Society are indexed by Survey Name and cross-indexed by Grant Name for all patent series except the County Court Orders.


• Publications by Michael & Bettie A. Cook include Court of Appeals Deeds and other county records.

• Historians, including Harry Enoch, LaRoux Gillespie, & Robert Humphreys, have published such books as “Capt. Billy Bush & the Bush Settlement,” “Lincoln County Deeds,” “Land Maps of Early Bourbon County Settlers,” “Land Maps of Early Bourbon County Settlers on Huston Fork,” “Early Landowners in Madison County,” & others. Check your local historical society!
The Juncture of Kentucky’s Original Three Counties

“Where Benson Creek flows into the Kentucky River”

Franklin County, formed in 1795, is the daughter of Mercer County (daughter of Lincoln County), Shelby County (daughter of Jefferson County), and Woodford County (daughter of Fayette County).

Thank you for your efforts to preserve our history!

Kandie Adkinson
Room T21B
Capitol Annex
Frankfort, KY  40601
502-782-7408
Kandie.Adkinson@ky.gov