

# KentuckyHistoricalSociety

## Book Review Submission Guidelines

Kentucky Ancestors Online (KAO) welcomes reader submitted book reviews to be published in the BookNotes section. Please limit all reviews to 500 words or less. All book reviews submitted to KAO will be reviewed by the editorial staff with priority given to recently published book titles, or insightful/engaging reviews. If selected for publication, each author will be required to sign a letter of agreement in which KAO/KHS is granted a perpetual non-exclusive right to publish.

An ideal book review includes the following information:

- Book title, author, publisher, date of publication, format, length, and price.
- Brief explanation or summary of subject covered.
- Author background/qualifications.
- Scope of material: What range of information is included in the book? What type of audience is the book meant for – beginner, hobbyist, professional, academic?
- Is the book well sourced: citations – and what type (primary, secondary or both)?
- Does it include an index?
- Your analysis/opinion of the book which may include the following:  
strengths/weaknesses, organization of material, purpose of the book and how well it accomplishes its purpose, readability/flow, appropriateness for intended audience.
- Final review/summary or closing thoughts.
- Professional courtesy/tone of review.

Note: The above guidelines are just that – guidelines. Not every book review will require all of the above information. KAO welcomes thought provoking articles and engaging opinions/dialogue. However, all reviews should respect the views of others and maintain a professional tone.

Kentucky Ancestors Online is a free publication of the Kentucky Historical Society. Please submit book reviews or book review proposals to Kentucky Ancestors Online at:  
[khsrefdesk@ky.gov](mailto:khsrefdesk@ky.gov)

Updated: 10/5/13