

KentuckyHistoricalSociety

Submission Guidelines for Kentucky Ancestors Online

About Kentucky Ancestors:

The online portal known as Kentucky Ancestors Online (a publication of the Kentucky Historical Society) seeks to provide a venue for rich historical and genealogical content relating to those with Kentucky ancestors. As a free online resource, Kentucky Ancestors Online features a wide range of article topics and is designed to appeal to family historians of all levels. Content is accepted for various categories, including: Feature Articles, 'How-To' Articles, Case Studies, BookNotes, Editorials/Commentary, and History Mysteries.

Our primary focus is centered on content related to Kentucky families, locations, stories, resources, and migration. However, general genealogy-related subjects are also welcome. Some examples of general subject matter might include: methodology, technology, DNA, resources, and genealogy issues.

Submissions are welcome from both experienced authors and beginning writers. Compensation is not available for published submissions.

Submission requirements:

- Word Count for Feature and "How-To" Articles should run in the neighborhood of 750-1500.
- Word Count for Book Notes, Stories or short subjects should run in the neighborhood of 100-500.
- All word count restrictions are subject to a case-by-case review for category placement. Some larger Feature Article submissions may be accepted if a segmented series is possible.
- While citations are encouraged for all submissions, research based articles will not be considered unless well documented with citations. For documenting sources and constructing endnotes, please follow AP format.

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Article submissions to avoid:

- Articles consisting solely of transcribed primary or secondary sources
- Articles that have been previously published elsewhere (Bloggers are permitted to submit previously published material from their own blog as long as the piece was originally published over a year prior to submission to KAO – additional content or updates to previously published pieces are encouraged to keep the material fresh)
- Articles that focus on other living individuals
- Pedigree charts
- Articles with no citations (unless submission is a commentary/editorial or story based article)

Articles or proposals can be submitted as Word documents via e-mail: khsrefdesk@ky.gov

Publication Process:

- Once submitted, articles will be reviewed by our editorial staff. If accepted, articles will be edited for content, clarity and conformity to our online format.
- Authors will be required to sign a letter of agreement in which KHS is granted a perpetual non-exclusive right to publish. Copyright is retained by the author, but any future publication is restricted until one year has passed from the date of publication in Kentucky Ancestors Online.
- At least one photograph will need to accompany every article chosen for publication. Multiple photos are encouraged.
- All photographs will need to be accompanied by a signed release that gives KHS permission to publish the photograph, and ensures copyright holder has given consent.
- Author bio and photograph will be required for inclusion in the final publication.
- Final version of the article will be submitted to the author for review prior to publication date.

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