

# Kentucky Ancestors

*genealogical quarterly of the* Kentucky Historical Society



Mystery Photo Solved:  
The Rodgers Family

Certificates of Settlement  
and Preemption Warrants  
Database

Sergeant Proctor Ballard

# The Kentucky Secretary of State's Land Office Certificates of Settlement and Preemption Warrants Database

*(The second in a series of articles regarding the Internet availability of Kentucky Land Office records)*

By Kandie P. Adkinson, Administrative Specialist  
Land Office Division

It seems the Virginia General Assembly favored the alphabetical letter "S" when legislators developed procedures for land appropriation in eastern and western territories (including Kentucky). Soldiers, Settlers, and Speculators comprised the majority of persons for whom warrants were designed as payment for military service, meeting residency requirements, and promoting speculative ventures. (The list may be enhanced by adding the lesser-used authorizations for "Salt makers" and grants for "Seminar-ies".)

In the Autumn 2007 issue of *Kentucky Ancestors*, we discussed military warrants issued to Revolutionary War soldiers and the development of the Secretary of State's "Revolutionary War Warrants Database." In this article we will discuss the Internet availability of certificates of settlement and preemption warrants used by Kentucky's earliest settlers or their assignees. A future article will feature the "Treasury Warrants Database"—a listing of warrants, many of which were (undoubtedly) purchased by speculators or their agents. The number of Treasury Warrants purchased by any one individual was determined by the amount of money in his purse—and his trust in his land locator to find available land suitable for development.

In May 1779, the Virginia General Assembly passed various acts that determined the method by which Kentucky land would be appropriated. In Chapter XII or "Land Law A" in the "Legislation" section of the online Land Office "Reference Library," the legislature detailed the process "for adjusting and settling the titles of claimers to unpatented

lands under the present and former government, previous to the establishment of the commonwealth's land office." The rationale for such legislation is stated in the opening paragraph as follows: "Whereas the various and vague claims to unpatented lands under the former and present government, previous to the establishment of the commonwealth's land office, may produce tedious and infinite litigation and disputes, and in the meantime purchasers would be discouraged from taking up lands upon the 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; and it is just and necessary, as well, for the peace of individuals as for the public weal, that some certain rules should be established for settling and determining the rights to such lands, and fixing the principles upon which legal and just claimers shall be entitled to sue out grants; to the end that subsequent purchasers and adventurers may be enabled to proceed with greater certainty and safety, be it enacted . . ." With the passage of this act, the Virginia General Assembly declared lands would be appropriated by governmental authority—the same process employed by King George III of England prior to the Revolutionary War.

Land claims by Kentucky's earliest settlers are addressed in Sections IV & V of "Land Law A." In those sections we find the requirements for certificates of settlement and the various types of preemption warrants.

- Certificates of Settlement: "Bona Fide" settlers

The Commissioners for Kentucky District having completed the business of the 2<sup>d</sup> District and their power expired this present 26<sup>th</sup> day of Feb. Agreeable to an Act of General Assembly, Instituted an Act for Adjusting & Settling the Titles of claimers to unpatented lands under the present & former Government previous to the Establishment of the Commonwealths Land Office — After Publick Proclamations at the Court House door — The Court accordingly broke up —

William Fleming }  
 Stephen Trigg }  
 Edm<sup>d</sup>. Lyne — }

Land Commissioners “completed [sic] the business” of the Kentucky District on 26 February 1780. (“Copy of the Land Commissioner’s Certificates,” Kentucky Secretary of State’s Land Office, Frankfort, Ky.)

“upon the western waters” prior to 1 January 1778 were entitled to 400 acres of land including their settlement. And to prevent doubts concerning settlements, the General Assembly declared in Section V “no family shall be entitled to the allowance granted to settlers by this act unless they have made a crop of corn in that country or resided there at least one year since the time of their settlement.”

- Preemption Warrants (1000 acres): “And if any such settlers shall desire to take up a

greater quantity of land than is herein allowed them, they shall on payment to the treasurer of the consideration money required from other purchasers, be entitled to the preemption of any greater quantity of land adjoining to that allowed them in consideration of settlement, not exceeding one thousand acres, and to which no other person hath any legal right or claim.”

- Preemption Warrants (400 acres): Persons who had settled “upon the western waters” after 1 January 1778 were entitled to a 400-acre Preemption Warrant claim which included their settlement.

- Preemption Warrants (1000 acres) for “chop claims” or “lottery cabins”: All those who, before 1 January 1778, had “marked out” or chosen for themselves any waste or unappropriated lands and built any house or hut or made other improvements thereon, were entitled to a preemption of no more than 1000 acres of unclaimed land. “But no person shall have the right of preemption for more than one such improvement; provided they respectively demand and prove their right to such preemption before the commissioners for the county to be appointed by virtue of this act within eight months, pay the consideration money, produce the auditor’s certificate for the treasurer’s receipt for the same, take out their warrants from the register of the land office within ten months, and enter the same with the surveyor of the county within twelve months next after the end of the present session of the assembly and thereafter duly comply with the rules and regulations of the land office.” (Note: Land Office records indicate as adventurers and surveying parties explored Kentucky’s unappropriated lands, they blazed trees and often built crude huts, frequently called “lottery cabins,” in an effort to establish land claims that could lead to land ownership. The planting of corn or actual residence as a “bona fide settler” determined whether their “improvement” qualified for the additional 400 acres under a Certificate of Settlement. The “consideration money” for a Preemption Warrant was the same as for a

## Secretary of State's Land Records Database, *continued*

Kentucky County *ff*  
We do hereby certify that Henry Pinkerton  
is entitled to the Preemption of one thousand Acres of land at the  
state Price in the district of Kentucky on account of marking  
& improving the same in the year 1778 lying South of the Stamp  
ground on the South side of the South Fork of Elkhorn about half  
a mile to include a sinking spring & his improvement given  
under our Hands at St Asaph this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 1780  
Test. John Williams J<sup>r</sup> Secy  
Edmund [Signature]

Henry Pinkerton qualified for a 1000-acre Preemption Warrant for "marking and improving" the tract prior to 1 January 1778. Had Pinkerton planted a crop of corn or actually resided on the land, he would have qualified for an additional 400 acres under a Certificate of Settlement.

Treasury Warrant, i.e. forty pounds "of current money" per hundred acres.)

The Virginia General Assembly realized the various types of land allotments identified in Land Law A "may occasion numerous disputes." In Section VIII the Land Law states commissioners in the respective counties would collect evidence, adjust and settle claims, and determine the titles of such persons as claim lands (in their district) in consideration of their settlements and preemptions. The counties on the western waters were allotted into the following districts: Monongalia, Yohogania & Ohio; Augusta, Botetourt & Greenbrier; Washington & Montgomery; and Kentucky. The governor of Virginia, with the advice of the council, was directed to appoint four commissioners under the seal of the commonwealth to serve as members of the county land commissions. The appointees could not be inhabitants of their assigned county or district. Three of the four members of each commission could decide claims. The commissioners were directed to review settlers' claims for eight months from the end of the May 1779 session of the Virginia General Assembly; for a period of four months thereafter they adjusted claims of settlers on lands surveyed for "the sundry companies." (Ref: Section VIII, Land Law A) Note: The General Assembly later extended the deadline for some county commissions, excluding the Kentucky District. (Ref: Laws of Virginia, May 1782, Chapter

XLIX, "An Act for further continuing an act for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for preemption rights & returning certain surveys to the land office, and for other purposes," Section I)

The May 1779 legislation further states "the said commissioners shall immediately upon receipt of their commissions, give at least twenty days previous notice by advertisements at the forts, churches, meetinghouses, and other public places in their district, of the time and place at which they intend to meet, for the purpose of collecting, hearing, and determining the said claims and titles, requiring all persons interested therein, to attend and put in their claims, and may adjourn from place to place, and time to time, as their business may require; but if they should fail to meet at any time to which they shall have adjourned, neither their commission nor any matter depending before them shall be thereby discontinued, but they shall proceed to business when they do meet, as if no such failure had happened. They shall appoint and administer an oath of office to their clerk; be attended by the sheriff, or one of the under sheriffs of the county; be empowered to administer oaths to witnesses or others necessary for the discharge of their office; to punish contempts, enforce good behaviour in their presence, and award costs." The commissioners had free access to the county surveyor's books. The following provision was critical for properly determining settlers' claims. "In all cases of disputes upon claims for settlement, the

## Secretary of State's Land Records Database, *continued*

person who made the first actual settlement, his or her heirs or assigns, shall have the preference. In all disputes for the right of preemptions for improvements made on the land, the persons, their heirs or assigns, respectively, who made the first improvement, and the persons to whom any right of preemption on account of settlement or improvements shall be adjudged, shall fix the quantity at their own option at the time of the judgment, so as not to exceed the number of acres respectively allowed by this act, or to interfere with the just rights of others."

The land commissioners were directed "to deliver to every person to whom they adjudged lands for settlement, a certificate under their hands, attested by the clerk, mentioning the number of acres and the time of settlement and describing as near may be, the particular location, noting also therein the quantity of adjacent land to which the person had the right of preemption."

Persons adjudged eligible for preemption claims also received a certificate from the Land Commission specifying the quantity and location of land, the cause for preemption, and a memorandum stating the last day the lands could be entered with the county surveyor.

Claimants paid the land commissioners the sum of ten shillings for every 100 acres of land contained in the certificates and ten shillings to the clerk of the

commission for each certificate granted. (The "consideration money" for a preemption warrant was a separate fee.)

Upon receipt of the certificates of settlement and/or preemption warrants, settlers could proceed with the process of acquiring land title. An Entry (or Entries), filed with the county surveyor, reserved land for field survey and afforded landowners the opportunity to challenge a patent-in-process for potential shingling or overlapping boundaries. In those instances, an Entry could have been withdrawn or amended to resolve the conflict. The Field Survey depicted and described the tract or tracts in metes and bounds. The Governor's Grant, often called the "Patent Deed", finalized the patent by conveying title to the settler, his or her heirs, or assignees.

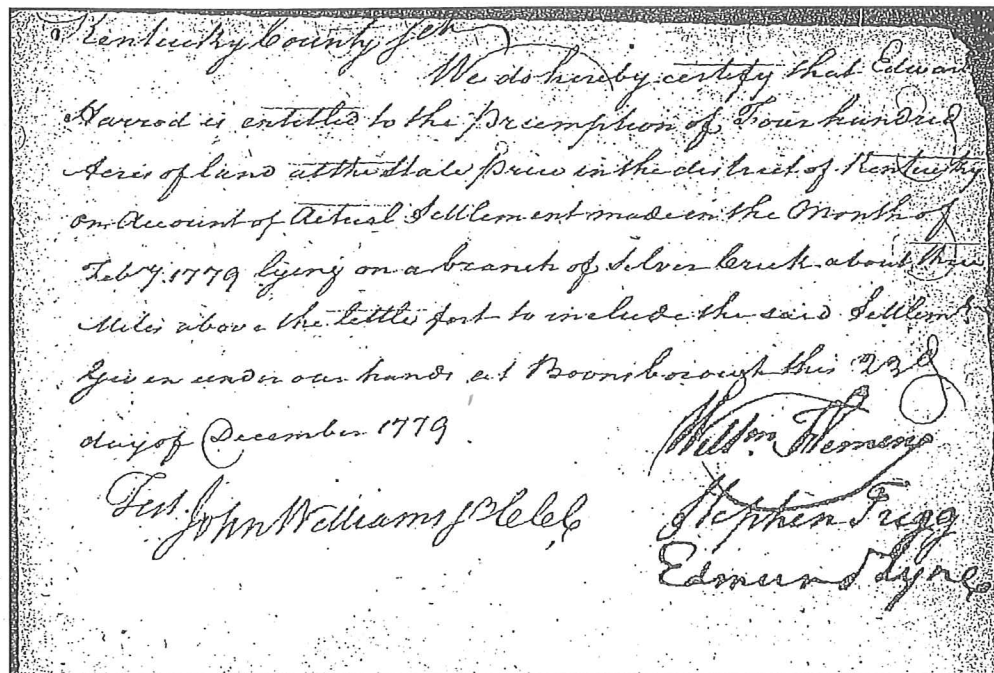
The Land Commission for the Kentucky District adjudicated land claims in five locations: St. Asaph (Logan's Fort), Harrodsburg, Boonesborough, Bryant's Station (near Lexington), and the Falls of the Ohio (Louisville). Commission members were William Fleming, Edmond Lyne, John Barber (Barbour), and Stephen Trigg (who replaced the original fourth appointee, James Steptoe).

In October 1779, the Virginia General Assembly approved legislation that affected the residency claims of officers and soldiers who were unable to attend the Land Commission hearings. The legisla-

On 22 November 1779, the Land Commission for the Kentucky District approved Squire Boone's claim for a 400-acre Certificate of Settlement and a 1000-acre Preemption Warrant. Boone had planted a crop of corn and resided in Kentucky County prior to 1 January 1778. The corresponding patent file is available on the "Certificates of Settlement and Preemption Warrants Database." (Note: Due to duplicate preemption warrant numbers, Richard Henderson's certificate is also included in Boone's certificate file.)

*Kentucky County of VA*  
We do hereby certify that  
Squire Boone is entitled to Four hundred Acres of  
land in the District of Kentucky on account of  
Settlement made & raising a crop of Corn  
in the year 1776 & residing in the Country ever since  
lying on Silver Creek known by the Name of the  
Stockpots a branch of Kentucky & that the said  
Squire Boone is also entitled to the preemption of  
one thousand Acres of land adjoining his Settlement  
given under our hands at the Falls of Ohio this 22<sup>d</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup> 1779  
Just  
William Fleming  
Stephen Trigg  
John Barber

## Secretary of State's Land Records Database, *continued*



The Land Commission issued Edward Harrod a 400-acre Preemption Warrant for "actually" settling in Kentucky after 1 January 1778. His allotment would have been greater had he settled in the Kentucky District prior to 1 January 1778.

tion reads: "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." (Ref: "The Statutes at Large; A Collection of all the Laws of Virginia", Vol. X, Chapter II, compiled by William Waller Hening, 1822) Note: To access a preemption warrant issued while the soldier was in military service, open the "Certificates of Settlement & Preemption Warrants Database" and search for Preemption Warrant 2611.

In 1782, the Virginia General Assembly expanded the filing opportunity to include others involved in the Revolutionary War effort with legislation stating "many good people . . . were prevented from proving their rights of settlement and preemption in

due time owing to their being engaged in the public service of this country." Legislation authorized the county courts in which claimants' lands were located to hear and determine disputes "as have not heretofore been determined by commissioners acting in that country under the act of assembly, taking for their guide and direction the acts of assembly whereby the commissioners were governed." The Register of the Land Office was empowered and directed to grant titles on the determination of such courts in the same manner as if the original Land Commission had determined the same. (Note: Several Certificates of Settlement and Preemption Warrants on the Land Office website were issued by county courts. To access a preemption warrant issued for "public service," open the "Certificates of Settlement & Preemption Warrants Database" and search for Preemption Warrant 2613.)

In 1786 the Virginia General Assembly revoked the power of county courts to grant certificates of settlement or preemption rights.

Additionally, in 1786, the Virginia General Assembly extended the deadline to 31 December 1786, for those persons who were prevented "by unavoidable accident from obtaining and entering preemption warrants before the Register of the Land Office was prohibited from issuing such warrants" to obtain and enter such warrants by 31 December 1786. Although the time period allowed for entering

## Secretary of State's Land Records Database, *continued*

Certificates of Settlement rights had also expired in 1786, the Virginia General Assembly deemed it lawful for surveyors to receive and enter all such certificates, or attested copies, and to proceed to survey the same as the law directed, provided the attestation was made by the commissioners who granted the original certificate, or by the clerk of the superior court for the District of Kentucky, or the Register of the Land Office. (Ref: *The Statute Law of Kentucky*, Vol. I, compiled by William Littell, pg 456)

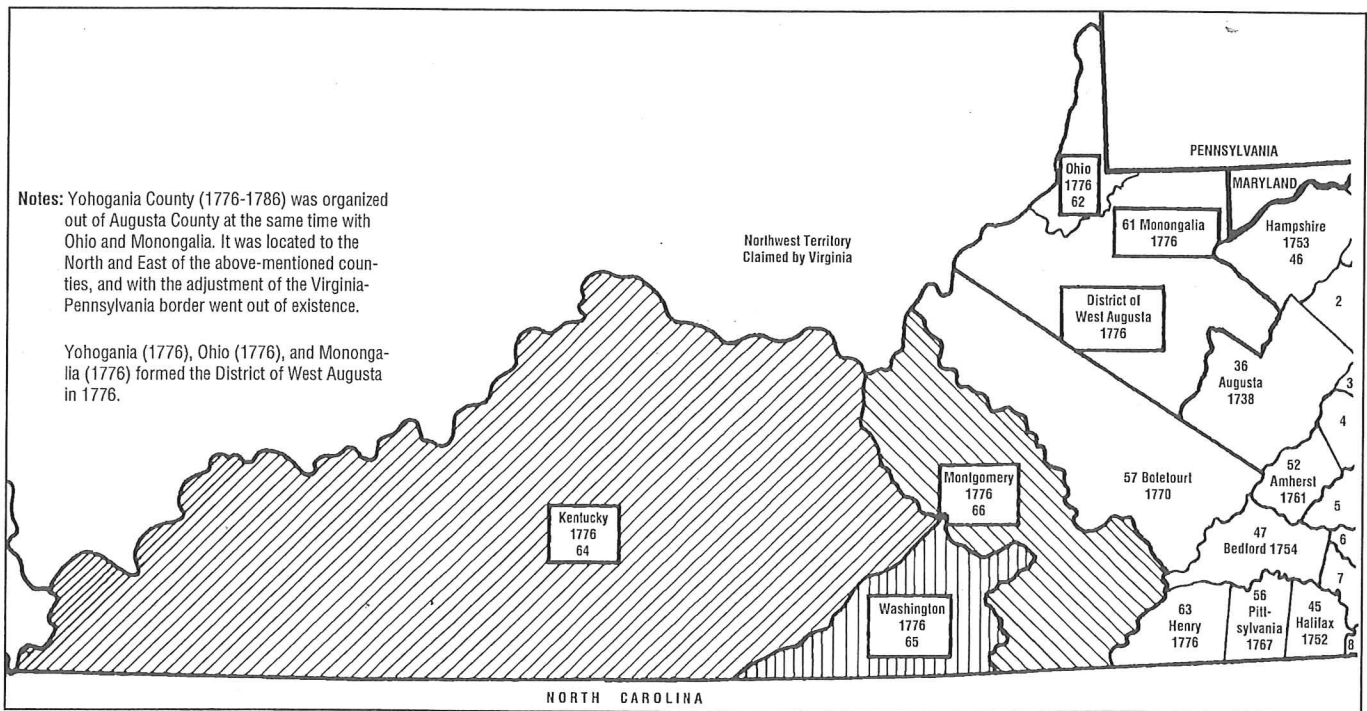
With the 1789 Compact with Virginia, Kentucky agreed to honor all patents issued by Virginia governors prior to Kentucky's impending statehood. Documents regarding Kentucky land title were transferred to Kentucky, thus eliminating the need for researchers to travel to Richmond, Virginia, to access patent files pre-1792.

In 1977 the Kentucky Secretary of State's Office initiated a records preservation project for all land patent files and books including patents authorized by Certificates of Settlement and Preemption Warrants.

Two Kentucky researchers visiting the Library

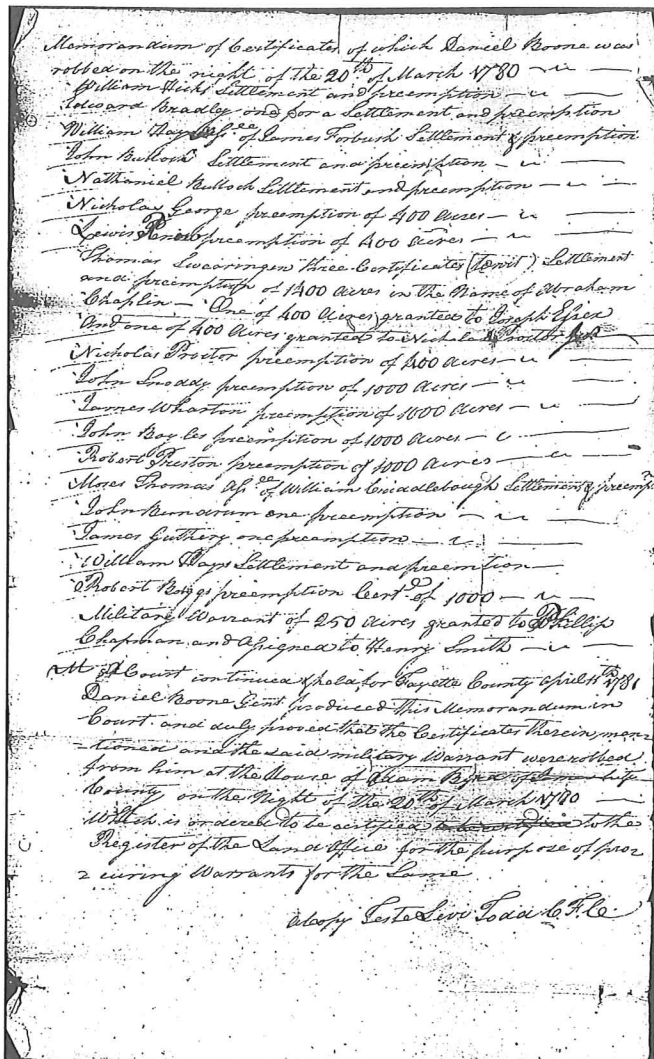
of Virginia in the late 1990s were granted access to original Land Commission documents. When it was determined the records included Kentucky's earliest land allotments, the documents were microfilmed in 1999 at the request of then-Secretary of State John Y. Brown III. Six rolls of microfilm were reproduced for indexing by the Kentucky Land Office; additional rolls were copied for selected Kentucky libraries.

Shortly after his election to the office of Kentucky Secretary of State, and with the permission of the Library of Virginia, Trey Grayson employed state-of-the-art technology when he ordered the digital transfer of Land Commission microfilm. On 25 April 2005, the newly formatted "Certificates of Settlement & Preemption Warrants Database" on the Kentucky Land Office website was enhanced by including the digitally-transferred images of 2700+ certificates issued by land commissioners and county courts. For the first time in 200 years researchers have access to original "corn and cabin" certificates, the justification for their issuance, signatures on assignments, and a memorandum submitted by Daniel Boone regarding lost land certificates. Researchers



The May 1779 Land Law authorized the appointment of county commissioners for Virginia's districts on "the western waters." The commissioners heard testimony regarding early land claims. The districts included: Monongalia, Yohogania & Ohio; Augusta, Botetourt & Greenbrier; Washington & Montgomery; and Kentucky. This map by Wendell H. Rone, Sr., depicts Virginia counties in 1776. (Wendell H. Rone, Sr., *An Historical Atlas of Kentucky And Her Counties*: 24)

## Secretary of State's Land Records Database, *continued*



In 1781 Daniel Boone submitted a memorandum to the Fayette County Court detailing the loss of several certificates of settlement, preemption warrants, and one military warrant. This record was found in Commissioners Certificates at the Library of Virginia. The digital image is now available on the Kentucky Secretary of State's Land Office "Certificates of Settlement & Preemption Warrants Database" by searching Preemption Warrant 1940.

can also access patent files authorized by the original certificates of settlement and preemption warrants.

### KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER

Persons who had resided in Kentucky County prior to 1 January 1778, could patent 1400 acres if the Land Commission, or later the county court, approved their claim. Proof of planting a crop of corn or one year residence was required. The 1000-acre preemption claim had to adjoin the 400 acre claim. If 1000 acres was not available in one parcel, the

claimant patented less acreage or divided the 1000 acres into smaller parcels, such as 600 acres and 400 acres.

By studying the patent file researchers can determine when land claimants actually resided in Kentucky. If an individual—male or female—patented 1400 acres and no assignments were included in the file, the person who qualified for the 400 acre Certificate of Settlement was residing in the Kentucky District prior to 1 January 1778.

Certificates of Settlement and Preemption Warrants do not convey title. The entire patenting process, i.e. Warrant, Entry, Survey, & Grant, must be followed.

Certificates of Settlement & Preemption Warrants could be sold or assigned. Check the back of all documents associated with the patent file to determine if and when assignments were made.

Women were eligible for Certificates of Settlement and Preemption Warrants.

Certificates issued by various Land Commissions may be viewed on the Kentucky Secretary of State's "Certificates of Settlement & Preemption Warrants Database" at <http://apps.sos.ky.gov/land/nonmilitary/settlements/> The online database is not limited to certificates issued by the Land Commission for the Kentucky District.

Color scanned images of patent files associated with Certificates of Settlement and Preemption Warrants used in Kentucky are also available on the Kentucky Secretary of State's "Certificates of Settlement & Preemption Warrants Database" at <http://apps.sos.ky.gov/land/nonmilitary/settlements/>

Contact the Library of Virginia for further research regarding certificates issued by commissioners of the following districts: Monongalia, Yohogania & Ohio; Augusta, Botetourt, & Greenbrier; Washington & Montgomery. (Note: We have found a few instances in which Kentucky patents were authorized by commissioners from the other districts.)

Patents issued to "Certain Poor Persons" were inadvertently included on the database, however, the listing is incomplete. Eventually those records will be moved to a "Virginia" and "Old Kentucky" database now under construction.

The online Gazetteer linked to the "Certificates of Settlement & Preemption Warrants Database" identifies the county location for many of the areas



## Secretary of State's Land Records Database, *continued*

described in the Land Commissioners' Certificates.

Subsequent conveyances of patents are recorded on the county level with the county clerk's office. Many county records are also available at the Kentucky Department for Libraries & Archives in Frankfort. Remember to study county formation dates when tracing chain of title.

There is no master patent map that depicts the location of patents authorized by Certificates of Settlement, Preemption Warrants, or any other type of patent.

Researchers are reminded the counties identified as Washington and Montgomery are not the Kentucky counties with the same names. Washington County, Kentucky, was not established until 1792; Montgomery County, Kentucky, was not established until 1797.

The online database reflects Certificates of Settlement & Preemption Warrants as the required fees were paid and the Preemption Warrants were issued. Although the Commissioners' Certificate Book indicates the first claimant at St. Asaph's (or Logan's Fort) on October 13, 1779, was Captain John Logan "for and behalf of Isaac Shelby," Preemption Warrant #1 was issued to Daniel Hawkins. Shelby's "Knob Lick" claim may be found by accessing Preemption Warrant #18.

Certificates of Settlement & Preemption Warrants issued to officers and soldiers authorized patents for lands claimed by the soldier prior to the Revolutionary War. The patents were not issued as payment for military service, therefore the lands may be located outside the Military District.

Information on the "Certificates of Settlement & Preemption Warrants Database" may be accessed by county (use the drop-box for a complete listing); Preemption Warrant Number (if known); Name (includes persons qualifying for allotments and possibly their heirs or assigns and names in the "Note" field); Watercourse/Location (search for locations and other key words such as cabin, trace, or buffalo. Note: Additional information will be added as certificates are re-edited.

Patents authorized by Certificates of Settlement and Preemption Warrants are identified in the "Authorized" field. Additional patents may be added as certificates are reedited.

Complete text of early Virginia land laws may be

researched by accessing the "Land Office," "Reference Library," "Legislation," then "Virginia & Old Kentucky" pages on the Kentucky Secretary of State's website at <http://sos.ky.gov>.

Documents appearing on all Land Office Web sites may be printed or saved to personal files. Payment is not required to access these records.

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St Asaphs or Logan's Fort October  
13<sup>th</sup> 1779

William Fleming Edmond Lyne and John Barber Esquires, this day produced a Commission from under the hand of his Excellency the Governor, sealed with the seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia, bearing date the 20<sup>th</sup> day of June 1779, constituting and appointing them Commissioners for the purpose of carrying into execution the act of Assembly entitled an Act, for adjusting and settling the titles of Claimers, under the present and former Governments, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth Land Office. James Barber Esq. this day administered the Oath of a Commissioner to William Fleming, & he the said William Fleming requires to Edmond Lyne & James Barber requires according to Law. After which they are chosen of John Williams Junior Clerk who was sworn according to the Court being attended by the Sheriff of the District until to Morrow 15<sup>th</sup> October

William Fleming  
At Court held Continued I shall for adjusting  
disputed Titles to the Kentucky Lands at St. Asaphs or  
Logans Fort. Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> 1779 Present William Fleming, Edmond Lyne  
James Barber Esquires.

On 13 October 1779, at St. Asaph's or Logan's Fort, William Fleming, Edmond Lyne, and John Barber (Barbour) identified themselves as land commissioners for the Kentucky District. On 28 October 1779, at Harrodsburg, Stephen Trigg was added as the fourth member of the Land Commission. He replaced the former appointee, James Steptoe. ("Copy of the Land Commissioners Certificates," Kentucky Secretary of State's Land Office, Frankfort, Ky.)

## Kentucky Families in Congressional Pension Claims, *continued*

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<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Sarah P. Cully Petition, September 14, 1872; in *ibid.*

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Leonard Duvall to William B. Read, December 4, 1873; in *ibid.*

<sup>8</sup> "Report on the Matter of Sarah Cully, Widow of Thomas Cully, Soldier of the Revolutionary War," undated; Harvey Crittenton Folder; Accompanying Papers File [43A-D1]; Records of Legislative Proceedings; 43<sup>rd</sup> Congress; RG 233; NAB.

<sup>9</sup> Affidavit of Linza Maynard, January 17, 1871; Sarah Maynard Pension File, No. 140.300; Case Files of Disapproved Pension Applications (Civil War and Later Widows' Originals); Civil War and Later Pension Files, 1861-1942 (Civil War Files); Records Relating to Pension and Bounty-Land Claims, 1773-1942 (Pension and Bounty-Land Claims); Records of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Record Group 15 (RG 15); NAB.

<sup>10</sup> Report of Frank Wolford, Adjutant General of Kentucky, May 14, 1869, in *ibid.*

<sup>11</sup> Petition of Sarah Maynard, January 29, 1872; Sarah Maynard Folder; Accompanying Papers File [44A-D1]; Records of Legislative Proceedings; 44<sup>th</sup> Congress; RG 233; NAB.

<sup>12</sup> Petition of Sarah Maynard; Sarah Maynard Pension File, No. 140.300; Civil War and Later Widows' Originals; Civil

War Files; Pension and Bounty-Land Claims; RG 15; NAB; U.S. *House Journal*, 42<sup>nd</sup> Congress, 2<sup>nd</sup> sess., 24 April 1872, 750; *Senate Report* No. 398, 42<sup>nd</sup> Cong., 3<sup>rd</sup> sess. (1873).

<sup>13</sup> Schamel et al, *Guide to Records of the House of Representatives*, 75-85; Robert Coren, Mary Rephlo, David Kepley, and Charles South, *Guide to the Records of the United States Senate at the National Archives, 1789-1989* (1989; Senate Document 100-42, 100<sup>th</sup> Congress, 2<sup>nd</sup> sess., Serial 13853), 54-58.

<sup>14</sup> Chris Naylor, "Those Elusive Early Americans," 60-61; Anne Bruner Eales and Robert M. Kvasnicka, *Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives of the United States*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (Washington, DC: National Archives & Records Administration, 2000), 307-8.

<sup>15</sup> Serial Set volumes with indexes for House claims include Vols. 653-55 (1st to 31st Congress, 1789-1851), Vol. 1574 (32nd to 41st Congress, 1851-71), Vol. 2036 (42nd to 46th Congress, 1871-81), and Vol. 3268 (47th to 51st Congress, 1881-91). Indexes for Senate claims appear in Vols. 1945-1946 (14th to 46th Congress, 1815-81), Vol. 3175 (47th to 51st Congress, 1881-91), Vol. 3881 (52nd to 55th Congress, 1891-99), Vol. 4433 (56th to 57th Congress, 1899-1903), Vol. 4917 (58th Congress, 1903-05), and Vol. 6165 (59th to 60th Congress, 1905-09).

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## Secretary of State's Land Records Database, *continued*

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*Continued from Page 71*

For optimal printing results, click "Hide All Options" then submit. The document will be "branded" with the abbreviation of the patent series (VA = Virginia Series & OK = Old Kentucky Series) and the patent file number. The document may also be saved in photo software.

Copies of patent files may be requested by contacting: Kentucky Secretary of State's Land Office,

Room T40, Capitol Annex, Frankfort, KY 40601; Martin F. Schmidt Research Library, Kentucky Historical Society, 100 W. Broadway, Frankfort, KY 40602; or the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, Coffee Tree Road, Frankfort, KY 40601.

Next article in this series: "Lincoln Entries Database"