ACCESSING THE COLLECTION

Book materials and periodicals in the Kentucky Library are accessible via TOPCAT, the libraries’ catalog. TOPCAT is available from the University Libraries’ homepage at http://www.wku.edu/library/.

Non-book items from museum holdings and from the Manuscripts and Archives section are not listed in TOPCAT, but are listed in KenCat, the Kentucky Library & Museum’s specialized catalog. Items that may be searched in KenCat include:

• Manuscripts
• Letters
• Sheet music
• Photographs
• Museum exhibits
• Images
• Journals
• Books

Although most items are listed only in the card catalog and print inventories at the Kentucky Library & Museum, some collections have descriptive inventories available online.

For further assistance, contact the research specialists at the Kentucky Library & Museum:

Kentucky Library: (270) 745-5083
University Archives: (270) 745-4793
Manuscripts & Archives: (270) 745-6434
Kentucky Museum: (270) 745-2592
E-mail: klmref@wku.edu

http://www.wku.edu/library/kylm

FROM I-65 North- or South-bound:

Take Exit 26 (KY-234, Cemetery Road) to Bowling Green. Cemetery Road becomes Fairview Avenue, then 6th Street. Turn Left on Adams Street (Business Route 68). Just past 14th Street, look for the directional sign to the Kentucky Museum. Use the U-Turn lane at the traffic island for Kentucky Street. The Kentucky Library & Museum is ½ block down Kentucky Street on the Right. Visitor parking is located on both the left and right. The Kentucky Library & Museum is approximately 4 1/2 miles from Exit 26.

From William H. Natcher Parkway (formerly Green River Parkway):

Take Exit 6 (Russellville Road, U.S-68 & KY-80) to Bowling Green. Drive about 3 miles and cross under the train tracks. Turn left at the stoplight on University Blvd. (Business Route 68). After Smith Stadium and Diddle Arena, the road curves to the right at a traffic island and becomes Kentucky Street. The Kentucky Library & Museum is ½ block down Kentucky Street on the Right. Visitor parking is located on both the left and right.

Hours

• Monday – Saturday
  9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
• Sunday (Museum Only)
  1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Holiday and interim hours may vary.

THE KENTUCKY Library & Museum

Western Kentucky University

www.wku.edu/library/kylm
THE KENTUCKY LIBRARY
The Kentucky Library collects printed materials about Kentucky. The collection includes approximately 70,000 volumes of books and over 1,000 volumes of periodicals.

Holdings in the Kentucky Library include:
- Mammoth Cave and other caves
- Religious denominations (including the Shakers)
- State, county, and town histories
- Biographies and travelers’ accounts
- Geological survey reports
- State documents
- 19th century children’s books
- Robert Penn Warren
- Genealogical compilations

The Kentucky Library also contains a variety of other subjects related to Kentucky, as well as rare books and periodicals of subjects other than Kentucky. Collections also contain non-book materials, such as:
- Maps
- Photographs and postcards
- Engravings
- Newspapers and broadsides
- Sheet music and hymnals
- Scrapbooks
- Phonograph records and ephemera

Materials in the Kentucky Library do not circulate. Unless their fragility prohibits, most items may be photocopied. Microform reader-printers are also available for use in the library.

MANUSCRIPTS & ARCHIVES
The Manuscripts Collection contains non-circulating unpublished materials that document local, national, and international events, with a focus on 19th and 20th century Kentucky. Items reveal details about day-to-day life in many levels and settings. Collections include:
- Letters, diaries, and literary papers
- Account books & business papers
- Church and institutional minutes
- Land grants
- Political papers and court records
- Military records from the War of 1812 to Iraq & Afghanistan

Major manuscript collections include Robert Penn Warren, William H. Natcher, Tim Lee Carter, The Civil War and 20th Century Wars, Courtney Ellis, Janice Holt Giles, Alice Hegan Rice, Green family, South Union Shakers, and the Underwood family.

The Folklife Archives contains non-circulating papers and projects created by folk studies students and faculty members, including audio and video interviews, transcripts, and performances dealing with regional songs, beliefs, folkways, and speech patterns. The collection includes research from outstanding folklorists such as Lynwood Montell and Sarah Gertrude Knott.

Limited photocopying, scanning, or photography is available for a fee.

UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
University Archives houses records which document the history of Western Kentucky University, including Western President’ papers, the College Heights Herald student newspaper, yearbooks, catalogs, brochures and other publications, as well as faculty, administrative, and alumni personal papers. The University Archives also has a large collection of photographs and clippings related to WKU buildings, organizations, faculty, staff, and the student body.

The collection includes materials relating to schools that either predated Western on “the Hill” or to which Western is related, including Potter College for Young Ladies, Ogden College, Southern Normal School, and Bowling Green Business University.

THE KENTUCKY MUSEUM
The Kentucky Museum collects, preserves, and exhibits Kentucky artifacts, providing educational opportunities for students, and contributing to tourism and the cultural life of the region.

The Felts Log House is located adjacent to the museum. This early nineteenth century double-pen, story and a half log house with its dog-trot floor plan and poplar, oak, and walnut construction are typical of the folk architecture of the region. The structure interprets folklife in rural south central Kentucky in the eighteen-thirties using reproduction household furnishings and equipment, tools, and clothing accurate to the period.