

General Guidelines for Manuscript Submission to *The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*

The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society is a refereed journal that publishes scholarly nonfiction articles examining the history and culture of Kentucky and its people. Fiction and poetry are not considered, and neither in most cases is material that has been previously published. Genealogy/family history articles should be directed to *Kentucky Ancestors*.

The editors cannot judge article ideas or abstracts; full, completed manuscripts must be submitted for consideration. Submission of a manuscript by no means guarantees that it will be published. Manuscripts undergo a rigorous review process, and only some are chosen for publication. For others, rewriting and resubmission may be recommended.

Authors of potential articles for *The Register* need not be professional historians, but all should understand that their work will be judged by professional historians and held to high scholarly standards. Manuscripts making the initial cut with the *Register* staff are sent out to scholars with expertise related to the article topic for double-blind peer review. This means that the scholars are not told the identity of authors, and authors are not informed who has critiqued their manuscript. This process can take a few months.

Subject Matter

Subject matter of potential articles can range widely, from broad-based studies to local topics or biographical pieces. Any time period is acceptable, from the presettlement era to modern times, although recent occurrences should qualify as historical and not current affairs. *The Register* also publishes edited and annotated diaries, letters collections, and oral history transcripts.

There should be a Kentucky connection to the article, but the main action may not necessarily take place in Kentucky. For example, there are articles about Kentuckians in military service overseas or politicians working in Washington, D.C.

Manuscript Format and Length

Authors interested in submitting manuscripts for consideration by *The Register* are strongly encouraged to look at recent issues of the publication to note the style and format. Style should conform to the scholarly standard, the *Chicago Manual of Style*, 15th edition. *The Register* uses the *Merriam-Webster Collegiate Dictionary*, 11th edition, for questions of spelling and hyphenation.

Manuscripts should be double-spaced, in a standard font, and with footnotes instead of endnotes if possible. Since the manuscripts may be sent out for blind review, do not include the author's name on the title page or reveal the author's identity in footnotes.

There is no standard length for prospective articles; generally, they should be in the range of twenty to thirty-five pages (double-spaced), including notes. The editors can consider longer manuscripts but very likely will require substantial cuts before these pieces can be accepted for publication.

Manuscript Submission

Manuscripts must be submitted for consideration in hard-copy form, with four nonreturnable copies sent to the editor. Do not send computer disks or e-mail files at this stage of the process. Do not send original illustrations or maps, only photocopies.

Send four copies of the manuscript to:

Nelson Dawson
Editor, *The Register*
Kentucky Historical Society
100 West Broadway
Frankfort, KY 40601-1931

Illustrations and Maps

The Register publishes illustrations and maps with its articles. These are not required for consideration of manuscripts, but if the author already has some collected, photocopies may be submitted along with the manuscripts. Please do not send original photographs or maps with article submissions, only photocopies or prints from scans.

If a manuscript is accepted for publication, the *Register* staff will help in locating images, and the *Register* will help toward the cost of photo reproduction and/or scanning (within the confines of a limited budget). *The Register* must have written permission from the person or repository that owns an image before that image can be published.

Acceptance, Copyright, and Publication

If a manuscript is accepted for publication, the author is expected to sign a standard journal copyright agreement. Authors will then submit their updated article draft to the *Register* editor in digital form (via disk or e-mail). At the time *The Register* is ready to publish the article, the *Register* staff will work with the author on the final editing and revisions.

After an article is accepted for publication, it is the author's responsibility to obtain the necessary written permissions to quote from unpublished documents, to quote at length from published material, and to reproduce illustrations not owned by the author or the Kentucky Historical Society.

Authors receive fifteen offprints of the published article and five copies of the issue in which it appears.

For further information, contact editor Nelson Dawson via e-mail (Nelson.Dawson@ky.gov) or phone (502-564-1792, ext. 4437).