

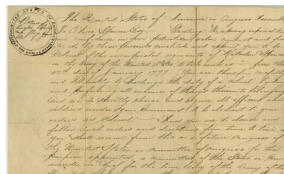


## Kentucky Social Studies Resource Guide

### Grade 5: Colonization to Constitution

Use the suggested sources below to help teach the Kentucky strand of the KAS for Social Studies.

#### 5.C.KGO.1 Explain the roles and responsibilities of a Kentucky citizen.

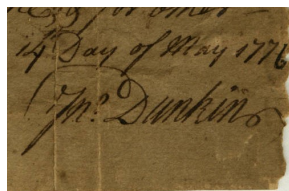


**Title:** Oliver Spencer Revolutionary War Commission, October 23, 1774

**Context:** This Proclamation from the Continental Congress gave Oliver Spencer a commission, or authority, in the U.S. Army.

**Questions:** What traits make Spencer trusted with a commission? What responsibilities are given to him in this document? Give an example from the text. Do you think serving your country is your responsibility? Why or why not?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25812/rec/1>

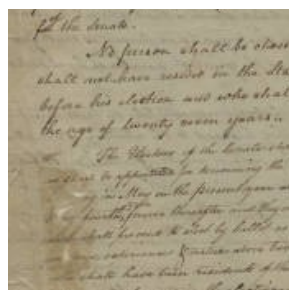


**Title:** Simon Oxer Oath of Allegiance, May, 1776

**Context:** An oath of allegiance, or loyalty, by Kentuckian Simon Oxer.

**Questions:** What specifically does Oxer promise? Why do you think Oxer took this oath? Why would it have been necessary at this time?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25852>

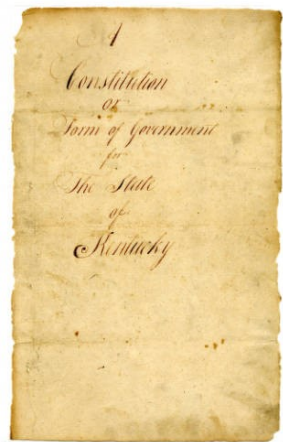


**Title:** Constitutional Convention Journal, 1788-1792

**Context:** This journal documents the discussion and debates that shaped the Kentucky Constitution of 1792.

**Questions:** How is the voting process described in the transcript on pages 83-85? Is the voting process still the same today? Is it important for every citizen to vote? Explain your reasoning.

**Link:** <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/MS/id/10649/rec/10>



**Title:** A Constitution or Form of Government for The State of Kentucky, April 19, 1792

**Context:** The Kentucky Constitution was written over a span of several years in Danville. It followed the example of the U.S. Constitution with a tripartite government, bicameral legislature and a bill of rights.

**Questions:** Does the 1792 Constitution continue to shape Kentucky today? Why or why not? How is the Kentucky Constitution the same as and different to the U.S. Constitution? What responsibilities do citizens have to Kentucky? What responsibilities does Kentucky have to its citizens?

**Link:** <http://kyhistory.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/MS/id/9926/rec/1>



**Title:** Library Poster, ca. 1952

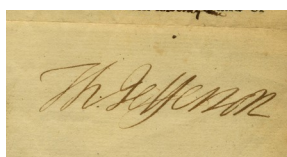
**Context:** In 1952, the American Library Association worked to increase voter turnout by sharing election information and arranging discussion groups and activities in libraries. This poster hung in the library in Glasgow, Kentucky.

**Questions:** Who promotes the importance of voting today? Do you think it is a citizen's responsibility to vote? Why or why not? Have the responsibilities of voting changed since 1792? Explain. How does this 1950s poster remind citizens of responsibilities determined at the U.S.'s founding?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/0D513C6C-39B4-4682-B7AE-492621143939>

5.E.KE.1

**Analyze how incentives and opportunity costs impact decision making, using examples from Kentucky history.**

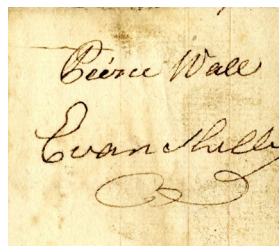


**Title:** Edmund Taylor Land Grant, October 23, 1779

**Context:** This land was granted by Thomas Jefferson, the Governor of Virginia (1779-1781), for military service performed by Captain Thomas Waggoner during the French and Indian War. Taylor was the assignee, or deputy, for Andrew Waggoner, the captain's heir.

**Questions:** How is the tract of land described in this document? Who granted the land? What was his role? Do you think land grants were a good or bad thing in early Kentucky? Explain your reasoning. How did land grants impact the economy of early Kentucky?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25708/rec/1>



**Title:** Agreement between Evan Shelby and Pierce Wall to manufacture rye whiskey, February 19, 1780

**Context:** This signed document is an agreement between Colonel Evan Shelby and distiller Pierce Wall.

**Questions:** What trade did these two men agree on? Why do you think an exchange of money did not take place? Do people still buy and sell goods and materials like this today? Why or why not?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25850/rec/1>



**Title:** Letter from Stephen Trigg, December 8, 1781

**Context:** Stephen Trigg (1744-1782) was a Virginia native and political representative of Kentucky County. This letter describes efforts to claim and settle land in Kentucky, exchanging enslaved people for land. However the deal was complicated when several of the enslaved people go missing and he encounters "troublesome" American Indians.

**Questions:** Do you think Trigg's challenges were typical of white settlers of this time period? Why or why not? How closely connected are Trigg's business deals regarding the buying and selling of land and enslaved people? Why did he consider the American Indians "troublesome"? Do you think the American Indians thought of themselves as "troublesome"? Explain your reasoning.

**Link:** <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/compoundobject/collection/MS/id/231/rec/4>



**Title:** Road from Limestone to Frankfort in the State of Kentucky in 1795, published in 1826

**Context:** This map was created by a French traveler who surveyed the rivers, towns, commercial development, and topography of the New World.

**Questions:** Why do you think the mapmaker only depicted the geography along the roadway? How could a map like this influence where people lived, how they made their living, or how and where goods were transported?

**Link:** <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/singleitem/collection/Maps/id/47/rec/2>



**Titles:** Buckner Thruston Letter, dated February 18, 1808 and Buckner Thruston Letter to Robert Alexander, dated May 15, 1808

**Context:** Thruston's first letter to his friend Robert Alexander of Frankfort, describes the deterioration of U.S. relations with England and France, as well as France's embargo on U.S. commerce. The second letter discusses the embargo's effect on U.S. commerce as well as that of France and Britain.

**Questions:** In the February letter, read the first few lines of page 1. What is an embargo and how would it impact U.S. trade? Read the middle section of text on page 2. What two nations is the U.S. torn between? What will happen if the U.S. aligns itself with one or the other? In the May letter, read the bottom half of the text on page 1. How are Americans reacting to this political situation? How is the embargo impacting Americans? How does the lack of raw materials from the U.S. impact their enemies?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25803> and <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25844>

**5.G.KGE.1 Compare the lives of Kentucky settlers to those living in other areas during the early years of the United States.**

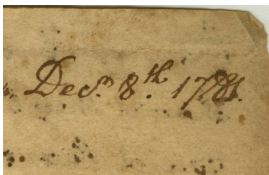


**Title:** A Map of the British American Plantations... , by Emanuel Bowen, 1754

**Context:** This map shows sites such as English and French forts, American Indian groups, trails, "The Falls 6 miles Long" (Louisville), and more.

**Questions:** Who was living on the land that would become Kentucky in the mid-1700s? How did the lifestyle of people living there differ from that of those elsewhere in North America? Did all Kentuckians live the same way? Explain.

**Link:** <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/singleitem/collection/Maps/id/165/rec/2>



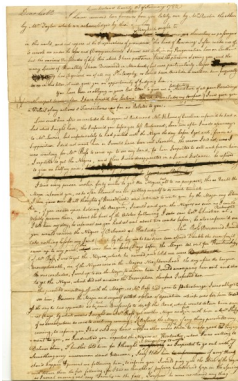
**Title:** Letter from Stephen Trigg to unknown, December 8, 1781

**Context:** In this letter Trigg defends his actions in a business deal, promising a tract of land for enslaved people. While the deal didn't go as planned, he urges the unknown recipient to trust his good intentions.

**Questions:** Do you think this was a common situation for early white Kentuckians to be in and a typical way of conducting business? Describe Trigg's views on enslaved people and American Indians. Were his views representative of other white Americans at this time? How do you think these groups interacted with each other? Did their views ever conflict? Explain your reasoning.

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25762/rec/3>



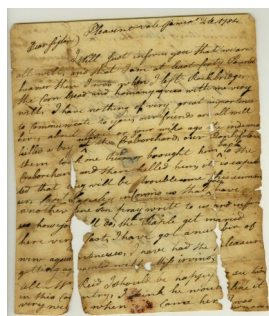


**Title:** Letter from John Cobbs to Stephen Trigg, January 31, 1782

**Context:** This letter discusses the purchase and transport of enslaved people and Cobbs' various land deals.

**Questions:** What miscommunication is being addressed by Cobbs in this letter? Do you think miscommunication like this was common in the late 1700s? Explain your reasoning. What peace does Cobbs refer to at the bottom of page 3? Do you think his interest in land is somehow related?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25761/rec/1>

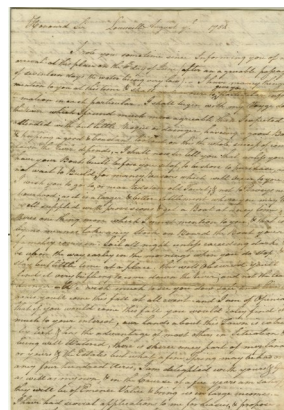


**Title:** Letter from Patsey McDowell to Magdalene Reid, January 26, 1784

**Context:** In this personal letter between two sisters, one shares family and local news.

**Questions:** What recent incident occurred between the white settlers and the American Indians in the area? Does it sound as if this was a regular occurrence? Explain. Does McDowell give her impressions or feelings about this event? Did incidents like this between settlers and American Indians only happen in Kentucky? Do you think letters between women at this time as frequent as and as similar to those of men? Explain your reasoning.

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25796/rec/1>



**Title:** Letter from Nicholas Meriwether to William Meriwether, August 7, 1784

**Context:** Here Nicholas Meriwether writes to his father-in-law to relate his arrival in Louisville after a seventeen day journey.

**Questions:** How does Meriwether describe Louisville? Does he view it favorably? Give an example from the text to support your reasoning. Do you think this description is typical of other large cities of the time? Do you think this description would or would not be typical of a smaller, rural town? Give an example that supports your reasoning.

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25797/rec/2>

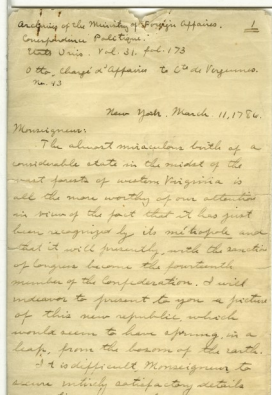


**Title:** Indian Fortifications Map, 1785

**Context:** This map and notations show an area of land at the juncture of the Ohio and Muskingum Rivers.

**Questions:** Who do you think was the intended audience for this map? What are some of the references noted on the map? How do you think they would have helped the reader? What features of this map are specific to Kentucky? What does this document tell you about American Indian-settler relationships?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/Maps/id/230/rec/1>



**Title:** M. Otto Letter Translation, March 11, 1786

**Context:** This letter was written by a man named Otto (no first name was recorded) to Charles Gravier, the Comte de Vergennes, and described the land, crops, population, cities, and more of Kentucky. This is a handwritten copy of the original from a French archive.

**Questions:** What is the overall tone of the letter? Do you think Otto has a favorable opinion of Kentucky? Do you think his nationality influenced his opinion? Why or why not? Otto discusses many various aspects of Kentucky. Pick one and summarize his findings. Do you agree with his assessment? Explain your reasoning.

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25712/rec/2>

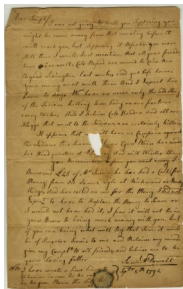
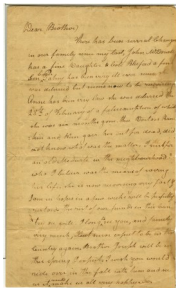


**Title:** Incidents in the Life of Captain Bland Williams Ballard, undated

**Context:** This account was written in 1941 by the great-grandson of Captain Ballard as part of his family genealogy record.

**Questions:** What time period and location does this document cover? Choose one page from the document and analyze it. Why do you think those particular incidents were recorded? What is the tone of the poem at the end of the document?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25437/rec/1>

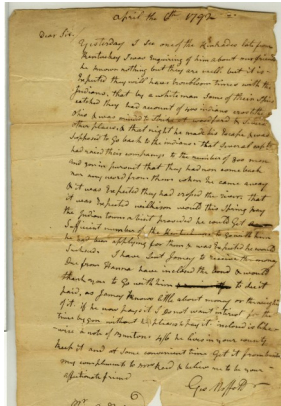


**Titles:** Letter from Samuel McDowell, Jr., to Andrew Reid, March 16, 1792 and Letter from Samuel McDowell to Joseph McDowell, September 8, 1792

**Context:** Samuel McDowell (1735-1817) was one of Kentucky's early white settlers, receiving a land grant in Mercer County for his military service during the Revolutionary War and the French and Indian War. He was involved in the convention that decided to separate from Virginia and helped write the Kentucky state constitution. Around the time of statehood, McDowell writes to discuss the relationship between white settlers and local American Indians, the possibility of war and its economic impact.

**Questions:** Does McDowell think an Indian War would be a good or bad thing? Give an example from the text that supports your reasoning. What is the "Grand Convention" that he refers to on page 2 of the March letter? What was the relationship between white settlers and American Indians in the first months of Kentucky's statehood? How do you think the American Indians would have felt about the prospect of war and/or statehood?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25877/rec/2> and <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25873>

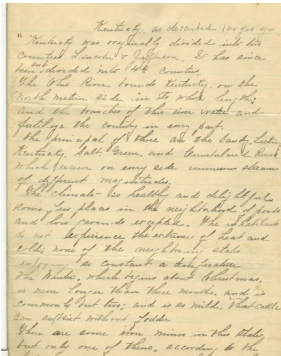


**Title:** Letter from George Moffett to Andrew Reid, April 6, 1792

**Context:** This letter attempts to relate interactions between Kentucky's white settlers and local American Indians.

**Questions:** Describe the types of interactions white settlers and American Indians were having at this time. Do you think the author of this letter was being completely truthful in his assessment of events? Why or why not? Were these sentiments typical of settlers in the western U.S. or specific to Kentucky? Give an example that supports your reasoning. Do you think the American Indians saw these events in the same way? Explain.

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25744/rec/1>



**Title:** Kentucky as Described 100 Years Ago, 1900

**Context:** This writing by an unknown author describes Kentucky as it was at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century in regards to its climate, economy and demographics.

**Questions:** What do you think was the purpose of this writing? Who do you think wrote it? Pick a page to analyze. Why do you think a record of those particular facts was important? How had Kentucky changed between 1800 and 1900, when this document was written? How has Kentucky changed in the 100 years since then?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25684/rec/1>

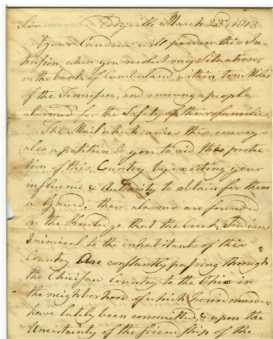


**Title:** Reproduction of Captain Jack Hart's Kentucky Long Rifle, 1790

**Context:** One of the first African Americans in the area, Hart was present at the signing of the Treaty of Sycamore Shoals that resulted in the purchase of Kentucky from the Cherokee. Enslaved by Nathaniel Hart, Jack Hart served as a guide for Daniel Boone and helped construct Fort Boonesborough. He was later emancipated on July 27, 1803.

**Questions:** Do you think this artifact appropriately represents Hart and his life? Explain your reasoning. Do you think Hart's experiences were typical of an enslaved person in the early 1800s? Why or why not? How did technology like this impact life on the frontier?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/1C15EA32-2704-4A2B-960B-604339551942>



**Title:** Letter from Matthew Lyon to Isaac Shelby, March 23, 1813

**Context:** This letter was written by a resident of Eddyville to the governor requesting protection from local Creek and Chickasaw Indians.

**Questions:** Why are Lyon and other settlers concerned about the proximity of local American Indians? How did the Creek and Chickasaw respond to white settlement? What does he request from Shelby? Do you think it was a typical request of settlers at the time?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25792/rec/1>





**Titles:** Wawpawwawquaw Saves Spencer's Life and Spencer's Encounter with the Wildcat from *The Back-Woodsmen or Tales of the Borders*, published 1883

**Context:** The first image shows an American Indian saving the life of a white boy. The second image shows a boy defending himself from a wildcat.

**Questions:** What can you learn about the relationship between white settlers and American Indians from these images? Do you think the images are trustworthy and an accurate depiction of life at this time? Could the date the images were published impact their message? Explain your reasoning.

**Links:** <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/singleitem/collection/RB/id/1081/rec/6> and <http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/singleitem/collection/RB/id/1079/rec/4>



## 5.H.KH.1 Describe the role of Kentucky settlers in the American Revolution.

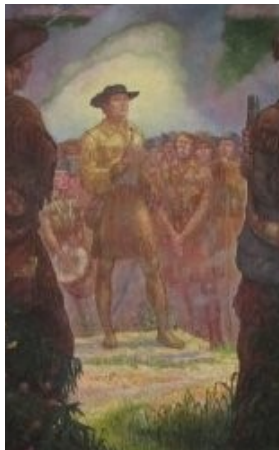


**Title:** Powder Horn, ca. 1776

**Context:** Used by a Revolutionary War soldier, this powder horn features decorative nature scenes and inscriptions.

**Questions:** How was this item used by a soldier in the 1770s? Would it have been used in civilian life as well? What other tools or supplies would a Revolutionary War soldier have needed?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/3B60D7B4-EC9F-4844-9B0B-210938344980>



**Title:** George Rogers Clark with Soldiers, by George Gray, 1938

**Context:** George Rogers Clark (1752-1818) was the leader of the Kentucky militia and the highest-ranking American military officer during the Revolutionary War. He is best known during this period for his victories during the Illinois Campaign, significantly weakening Britain's hold on the Northwest Territory. This mural was made by the Works Progress Administration during the Great Depression.

**Questions:** How does this scene compare to how you think of an Army today? Why do you think an artist would paint this scene 160 years after it occurred? Do you think the artist approved of Clark's legacy? Explain.

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/F68FFD8A-2EB4-4A90-AAC4-308443721509>

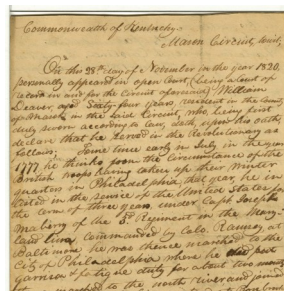


**Title:** Battle of Blue Licks, by George Gray, 1938

**Context:** Blue Licks was the last battle of the Revolutionary War, fought on August 19, 1782, in northeastern Kentucky. There, the Kentucky militia, led by George Rogers Clark, John Todd, Stephen Trigg, Daniel Boone, and others were defeated by British Loyalists and their American Indian allies. The Kentuckians retaliated and burned the villages and crops of the American Indians. This mural was made by the Works Progress Administration during the Great Depression (1930-1941).

**Questions:** Why is this an important moment in American history? How are the white Kentuckians and the American Indians portrayed? Are both depictions accurate? Why or why not? Has war changed today?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/7F6D9746-D1DE-4A24-8548-950243044171>

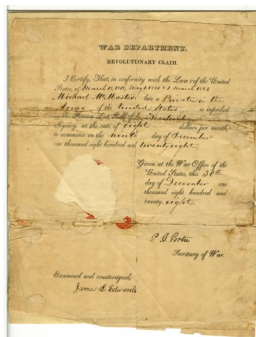


**Title:** William Deaver Declaration, November 28, 1820

**Context:** This declaration describes the Revolutionary War service of William Deaver in his pursuit of a pension.

**Questions:** What is a pension? What information does this declaration contain? Why do you think it is included? How does information such as a list of family members, impact the request for a pension? Why did it take so long after the war for Deaver to apply for a pension?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25816/rec/1>

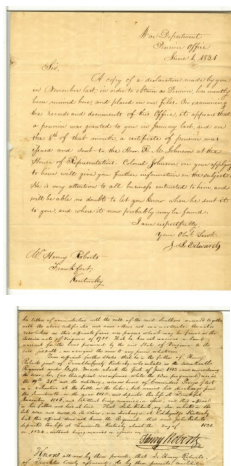


**Title:** Michael McMasters Papers, 1828-29

**Context:** This collection of four documents deals with McMasters' request for a pension for his Revolutionary War service.

**Questions:** What was the purpose of providing pensions for disabled soldiers and the families of deceased service members? What is the purpose of these documents? Look at page one of the oath. What reasons did McMasters give for not applying for a pension earlier? What does he give as his current occupation? Do think this these was a common circumstances for veterans? What about today?

**Link:** <https://www.kyhistory.com/digital/search/searchterm/mcmasters>



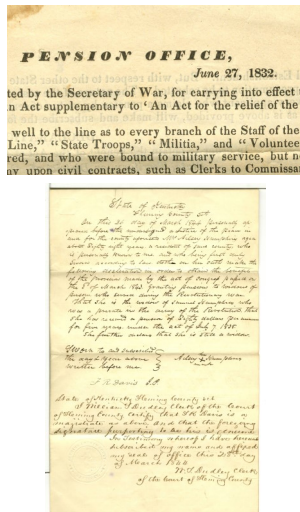
**Titles:** Letter from J.L. Edwards to W. Henry Roberts, June 1, 1831 and Henry Roberts Revolutionary War Bounty Land Claim, April 28, 1832

**Context:** These two documents relate to Henry Roberts' request for a Revolutionary War pension.

**Questions:** What was the purpose of providing pensions for disabled soldiers and the families of deceased service members? What evidence did Roberts need to provide in order to obtain his pension? Give an example of Roberts' activities while serving. Who else in Roberts' family served? Do you think it was common to have multiple generations of a family serve in the military? Is this the case today? Do you think U.S. servicemembers deserve a pension? Why or why not?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25700/rec/1> and <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25883/rec/2>





**Titles:** Pension Office Regulations, June 27, 1832 and Ailsey Humphries Widow Certification Document, March 26, 1844

**Context:** These documents show the regulations providing for Revolutionary War veteran pensions along with a Fleming County woman's request for her deceased husband's pension.

**Questions:** What was the purpose of providing pensions for disabled soldiers and the families of deceased service members? Do these servicemembers still receive a pension today? What was required in order to receive a pension? What did Ailsey Humphries receive?

**Link:** <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25567/rec/1> and <https://kyhistory.com/digital/collection/MS/id/25822>

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