

This is an example of how to format a post so that it is easier to edit and move to the blog.

- Indicates a suggested title and subheadings. Her keyword was “Scots-Irish” which appears multiple times in the post.
- Notice the author indicates where artwork should be inserted and the name of the artwork.
- Placed hyperlinks in the text instead of a long source list at end
- Included a short bio at the end.

[Here is a link to Judy’s final post on the blog.](#)

Scots-Irish: Brief History of Those Who Settled the Appalachians

By Judy Owens

For part of my undergraduate career in the mid-1970s, I was a work-study student at the University of Kentucky’s Margaret I. King Library. One day I was assigned to the reserve desk, and a sociology student asked to check out the library copy of [Jack Weller’s Yesterday’s People](#).

Insert “Artwork 01 Yesterday’s People Book Cover”

Caption: Yesterday’s People Source: Archive.Org

I pulled the book, vaguely noticed the cover photograph of a wizened man in bib overalls and sunken cheeks, and pushed it across the counter to her. I said, “If you don’t mind, please sign here.”

She noticed my accent and asked, “Are you from Appalachia?”

“Well yes, I’m from Bell County.”

She looked at me for a minute and slid the book back toward me. “Here,” she said. “You need this more than I do.”

Despite the condescension, eventually, I read Jack Weller’s book. There I learned my people settled in the Appalachians because they “had been embittered by civilized life in England and Scotland and had come to these shores in rebellion against the very kind of society which they found already entrenched on the eastern shore.” ([Weller, page 10](#)).

Understanding the Scots-Irish Influence in Kentucky

A Presbyterian minister, Weller wrote his book partly to understand why methods he had used in the past to gain acceptance to a community just didn’t work with Appalachians. While they criticized him for stereotyping mountaineers at the time of publication, when I revisited his book recently, I found him unexpectedly prescient.

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Insert “Artwork 02 – Encyclopedia of Appalachia Book Cover”

Caption: Encyclopedia of Appalachia Source: [Google Books](#)

Weller connects these qualities with Scots-Irish heritage. Documentary evidence confirms that early settlers of Appalachia were in fact from the Anglo-Scottish border area, according to [David Newhall's Encyclopedia of Appalachia](#) (pp 253-55).

It's in the Scots-Irish Blood

DNA studies also bear this out. For example, my Ancestry DNA test shows that 84 percent of my genetic material comes from England, Ireland and Scotland. If you throw in my Palatinate German ancestors, along with the Welsh, that accounts for 93 percent. More than a half-million of those who took Ancestry's DNA test share a similar genetic heritage to those who settled Eastern Kentucky and Northeastern Tennessee.

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Insert "Artwork 03 – Born Fighting Book Cover"

Caption: Born Fighting Source: [Google Books](#)

I'll leave it to [Horace Walpole](#), English man of letters during the Revolutionary period. He told Parliament that "there is no use crying about it. Cousin America has run off with a Presbyterian parson, and that is the end of it."

About the Author

Judy Owens is a lawyer, writer and journalist. Judy grew up in Bell County, Kentucky and worked for more than 25 years in Appalachian communities including Hyden and Hazard. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Kentucky, a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing from Murray State University and a law degree from the UK College of Law.

You can read more [Kentucky history and genealogy tips at Owen's blog](#).