AARON (Clinton Co.): [ɛ/ən] (Wolf Creek Dam). On March 11, 1908 Adison R. Aaron established the Aaron post office at a point one mile north of its present site on US127, 7 miles nnw of Albany. Rosie Conner's store occupies the old post office site which is still identified as Aaron on current maps. [Eva Conner, interview, 3/22/1979] /263

ABERDEEN (Butler Co.): [Aeb/er/deen] (Flener, Morgantown).
A village with an active post office and some 150 residents
extending n for a mile along US 231 (KY 70, 79) from a point
just across the Green River from Morgantown, the county seat.
This was a thriving 19th century river port from which were
shipped the products of area coal mines and lumber mills.
The post office was established July 14, 1871 with Andrew
Duncan, postmaster, and if the name did not precede the post
office, it is probable that Duncan, a native of Ayshire,
Scotland, had seen fit to name it for the Scottish city.
[Betty Higgins "Aberdeen" PARK CITY DAILY NEWS, 12/17/1975, P1] 472

ABSHER (Adair Co.): [Aeb/shər] (Cane Valley). This extinct
post office at the junction of KY 551 and the Snake Creek Rd.,
4½ air miles nne of Columbia, was established June 20, 1884
with Samuel M. Humble, postmaster, and named for a local
family. The vicinity is now on a Columbia rural route.
[Nancy Berley, interviewed by Henry Giles, 7/1979] 1426

ACORN (Pulaski Co.): [Ā/kawrn, Ā/kern, Āk/rən] (Shopville). Several
accounts have been offered for the name of this active post office on
Ky. 1675, 1 mile south of Ky. 80 and 11 air miles east of Somerset.
According to one, J.N. Mayfield, while considering some possible names
to suggest to the Post Office Department, was hit on the head by a
falling acorn. In a variant account, he was feeding acorns to his
hogs when the idea for the name occurred to him. Or, a stranger noting
the large number of acorns on the ground and the unusually large oak
trees that had produced them, casually remarked to a resident that the
place ought to be called Acorn; three years later, when the name for
the post office was being sought, the resident recalled his suggestion
submitted it, and it was accepted. In any event, Mayfield's wife,
Mary became the first postmaster on March 20, 1896. [(1) Mary Weaver,
interview, 3/23/1979; (2) From the folklore coll'n. of Jeffrey
Wheeldon, for Lyn Montell, Campbellsville Coll., 1967, in the WKU Folk
lore Arch. 1972-137] 100P, 1410

ADAIRVILLE (Logan Co.): [ə/dɛɔ/vəl] (Adairville). This 5th class city where US431 crosses the South Fork of the Red River, a mile from the Tennessee line, was on the site of one of the first settlements in the county. Historians, however, disagree on which of two pioneer station was located here. Some say it was Kilgore's Station; others that it wa: Dromgoole's Station [Druhm/ghūlz] , said to have been established in 1788 by James Dromgoole. In either case, this site, 10½ air miles south of Russellville, was laid off on Nov. 10, 1818 by General Rober Ewing and Michael Traughber, who had deeded the land for the town, an named by Ewing for General John Adair, the commander of Kentucky forces at the Battle of New Orleans and later (1820-1824) Kentucky's 8th governor. The active post office was established on April 20, 1832 with John Farmer, postmaster, and the town was incorporated in 1833. With a current population of some 1,050, the community has long enjoyed considerable prominence as the farm trade center of South Logan County. [(1) Kerr, Vol. 2, P. 1102; (2) Stratton, P.N. of Logan Co. 2nd ed. 1947, n.p.; (3) Edward Coffman, THE STORY OF LOGAN CO. 1962, P. 260] 42,125,206

ADAMS (Lawrence Co.): [Aed/əmz] (Adams). An active post office
at the junction of KY 32 and 1760, on the Right Fork of Little
Blaine Creek, 6 air miles sw of Louisa. The office was estab-
lished Aug. 17, 1888 and named for its first postmaster, James
Adams or his family. [Louise Kingsmore, letter to me, 2/27/1979] 1095

ADDISON (Breckinridge Co.): [Aed/əs/ən] (Rome). An extinct
post office and L&N Railroad station in the upper end of Holt's
Bottom of the Ohio River, 10 air miles nw of Hardinsburg. The
office was established as Holt [Huhlt] on June 3, 1880 with
Christopher C. Monroe, postmaster. On March 6, 1889 Lloyd D.
Addison, who had become postmaster in 1886, had the office
renamed for him. On March 2, 1889 William H. Boltinghouse
established another Holt post office, a mile below Addison,
on the grounds of the 14 room Joseph Holt mansion, the birth-
place of Joseph Holt (1807-1894), a member of President
Buchanan's cabinet and Lincoln's Judge Advocate General. The
Holt and Addison post offices closed in 1958 and 1965, respec-
tively. [(1) Bill Thompson HIST. AND LEGEND OF BRECK. CO., KY.
n.d., Pp. 115-16; (2) Chuck Poehlein, "Holt House at Clover-
port" OWENSB. MESS-INQ. 11/17/1968] 214,663

ADELE (INSKO P.O.) (Morgan Co.): [A̅/dehl, Ihn/skoh] (Cannel City).
A hamlet with an active post office at the junction of KY 134 and
191, just off the Mountain Parkway, 3/4 mile n of the Wolfe County
line and 11 air miles s of West Liberty. It was established as a
station on the old Ohio and Kentucky Railroad and named for the
daughter of the railroad's first president, W. Delancey Walbridge
(See Helechawa). The post office, established Feb. 18, 1903 with
John H. Stricklin, postmaster, is said to have been named for a
post office inspector. The community is now locally called Adele,
with the Insko name applying only to the post office. [(1) Mrs.
Dorothy Murphy, W. Liberty, Ky., in letter to me, 2/2/1970; (2)
Everett Bach, Jackson, Ky., interview, 6/30/1978]

ADOLPHUS (Allen Co.) [ə/dahl/fəs] (Adolphus). A hamlet with an active post office on US 31e less than 3/4 mile from the Tenn. line and 6½ air miles ssw of Scottsville. The community may first have been called Alexander for Adolphus Alexander, a Scottsville attorney who is said to have represented the Chesapeake & Nashville Ry. (now L&N) when it built its line through this place to the county seat in 1886. When Elonzo P. Hinton established the post office here on March 20, 1888, he named it Adolphus since there already was an Alexander post office near Hopkinsville. A recent flood left little of this community but its store, post office, and community center. [(1) Mildred & Jewell Eubank, interviews, 9/5/72 and 7/22/78; (2) J. Class, Scottsv. H.S. in CITIZEN TIMES 1/28/1965, from data supplied by Marjorie Miller & L.P. House; (3) Louise Horton, HILLS OF PENNYROYAL, P. 70] 101, 488, 1281

AFLEX (Pike Co.): [Ā/flehx] (Delbarton). A coal town with an
active post office extending along KY 292 and up Cutler Hollow,
on the south bank of the Tug Fork of the Big Sandy River, just
above Williamson, W.Va., and 17 air miles ne of Pikeville. The
post office was established March 16, 1916 with Walter P. Beale
and, like the town, was named for A.F. Leckie, the president of
Leckie Collieries there. [E.W. Mellekan, asst. pm, Aflex, Ky.
p.o., letter to Wm. G. Steel, 9/21/1923] [20]

AGES and BROOKSIDE (Harlan Co.): [Adj/əz, Brook/sahd] (Evarts, Harlan). Two almost contiguous but still separate coal towns, now served by a single post office, on KY 38 and Clover Fork of the Cumberland River, 3½ air miles e of Harlan. In Feb. 1975 the 2 separate 4th class post offices of Ages and Brookside, only 1200 feet apart (thus the closest in the US) were combined into one called Ages-Brookside, located in the Eastover Mining Co. offices at Brookside. The Ages post office had been established June 8, 1892 with Loyd Ball, postmaster, and named for Ages Creek which joins Clover Fork at this point. (The creek is said to have been named for a Mr. Ages). In 1917 Harlan Collieries was established at what, in the following year, came to be called

✓ Brookside by Anne Keyes Whitfield for its location between 2 creeks or brooks. To serve the company more directly than the Ages post office apparently could do, the Brookside post office was established March 24, 1930 with John H. McKinley, postmaster. In 1970 the company was purchased by the Eastover Mining Co., an affiliate of Duke Power. [B.W. Whitfield, letter; 6/28/1980]

12/5/80

Anne Keyes Whitfield should read Amime Keyes Whitfield

AGES and BROOKSIDE (Harlan Co.): [Adj/əz, Brook/sahd] (Evarts, Harlan). Two almost contiguous but still separate coal towns, now served by a single post office, on KY 38 and Clover Fork of the Cumberland River, 3½ air miles e of Harlan. In Feb. 1975 the 2 separate 4th class post offices of Ages and Brookside, only 1200 feet apart (thus the closest in the US) were combined into one called Ages-Brookside, located in the Eastover Mining Co. offices at Brookside. The Ages post office had been established June 8, 1892 with Loyd Ball, postmaster, and named for Ages Creek which joins Clover Fork at this point. (The creek is said to have been named for a Mr. Ages). In 1917 Harlan Collieries was established at what, in the following year, came to be called Brookside by Amme Keyes Whitfield for its location between 2 creeks or brooks. To serve the company more directly than the Ages post office apparently could do, the Brookside post office was established March 24, 1930 with John H. McKinley, postmaster. In 1970 the company was purchased by the Eastover Mining Co., an affiliate of Duke Power. [B.W. Whitfield, letter, 6/28/1980] 1173

this is correct spelling →

1134

AIRDRIE (Muhlenberg Co.): (Ad/ree, E/dree) (Paradise). This ^ long abandone[d]
village on a bluff overlooking the Green River, 10 air miles ene of
Greenville, has long been locally referred to as "Old Airdrie." It
was founded in 1855 by Sir Robert S.C.A. Alexander for the workers of
his local iron furnace and named for the small city in Scotland that
was home to the titled Alexanders of the House of Airdrie of which he
was an American-born descendant. For a brief period, from 1856 to
1859, the post office at Paradise (q.v.),a mile up river, was relocat-
ed at Airdrie and by this name the community was incorporated in 1858
with a peak population of some 200. But the furnace failed in 1859
and nearly everyone moved away. A later attempt by Gen'l. Don Carlos
Buell to develop the abundant coal resources of the area also failed,
and with the destruction of his home in 1907 only the ruins of the
furnace's old brick chimney have remained to mark the site. [C. Hall
Allen, "Old Airdrie, Wealthy in Coal and History" LCJ, 1/2/1927] 244

95²

AKERSVILLE (Monroe Co.): [Āk/erz/vih̄l] (Fountain Run). A hamlet with an extinct post office on Ky. 87, 1½ miles from the Tennessee line, less than 3/4 of a mile from the Allen Co. line, and 13 air miles wsw of Tompkinsville. According to tradition, when the postal inspector was told that local citizens were having a "slow go" of selecting a name for their new post office, he suggested that they name it Slowgo [Sloh/ghoh], and by this name the office was established on Oct. 10, 1882 with John N. Akers, postmaster. In 1885, apparently from the embarrassment of such a name, it was changed to Akersville for the family of a nearby storekeeper. The community has also been known as Highoaka or Highoakie [Hah/oh/kɔ, Hah/oh/kee], from the local Baptist church so named in 1881 for its site on a hill, in a grove of tall oaks. Oldtimers still refer to the place by this name though the church, in 1908, was renamed the Akersville Baptist Church. Since the post office closed in 1956, local people have been getting their mail from the Fountain Run post office, 6 road miles north. [(1) R.D. Holder, "Akersville Church Has Had Three Names" 50th anni.ed. of the TOMP. NEWS, 10/28/1954, sec. 5, P. 4:1-3; (2) Mae Carter Taylor, interview, 6/29/1972] 497, 1395

ALBANY (Clinton Co.): [Awl/ban/ee] (Albany, Savage). A 5th class city
~~of 1900 residents~~ and the ^county^ seat ~~of Clinton Co.~~, on US127, 105 air miles
sse of downtown Louisville. When the county was organized in 1835, it
seat was ~~located~~ at Paoli, now an extinct village 2 miles south of the
present court house. Here a post office was established on July 25,
1833. When an election was held in 1837 to find a permanent location
for the seat, the contenders included Paoli, some place to the north,
and, allegedly, the ~~site~~ site of the popular Benny Dowell's tavern
between the two. The tavern location was chosen and while it is now
generally believed to have been named for the capital of New York
State, ~~for reasons unknown~~, it ~~has been~~ ^is^ said ^that^ as the voting began, some
of the more mellowed citizens began shouting "all for Benny" which got
slurred to "All Benny" [awl/behn/ee], ~~even yet~~ ^still^ a variant pronunciation
~~At any rate,~~ the Paoli post office was moved to this site on Sept. 4,
1837 and renamed Albany with ~~(the future Kentucky governor)~~Preston H.
Leslie, ~~as~~ postmaster. It was incorporated the following year. While
clothing, charcoal, and cheese factories contribute to its economic
support, it is now basically a resort town due to its location between
Lake Cumberland and Dale Hollow Lake. (1) Eva Conner, interview, 3/22/
1979; (2) Opal Smith, WPA ms] 966, 1263

131

ALCALDE (Pulaski Co.): [Ael/kael/də](Somerset). A hamlet whose activ

post office, on Ky. 769, just north of Pitman Creek and 2 air miles se

of Somerset, was established May 22, 1907 by Benjamin F. Hamilton.

Hamilton, a veteran of the Spanish-American War, had come across this

Spanish word for mayor in Cuba, liked the sound of it, and applied it

to his post office. [Mary Weaver, interview, 3/23/1979] 1410

ALEXANDRIA (Campbell Co.): [Ael/ǝx/aen/dree/ǝ] (Alexandia).
A 5th class city of some 4400 residents and the centrally
located seat of Campbell Co., on US 27 and KY 10, 7½ air miles
sse of downtown Newport. It is said to have been settled
sometime before 1793 by Frank Spilman and his family who
probably came from King George Co., Va., and may have been
named by them for Alexandria, Va. The (post office of)
Alexandria, Ky. was established May 17, 1819 with William
DeCoursey, postmaster. By September of that year Spilman
had laid out the town and begun selling lots. The city was
incorporated (by the Kentucky Legislature) in 1834. The seat
(of government) of Campbell Co., after its formation in 1794,
had several locations until it was permanently established
here by the act that separated Kenton Co. in 1840. Since
then, (Alexandria has been little more than a county seat,
its distance from a rail line or navigable waterway having
precluded any commercial or industrial development of con-
sequence. [Margaret S. Hartman CAMPBELL CO. HIST. & GENEAL.
12/15/1978 supplement to the FALMOUTH OUTLOOK, P. 30]

ALLEGRE (Todd Co.): [Ael/ə/gree] (Allegre). (A still active) The trade center
of a rural neighborhood extending several miles from the junction of Ky.
106 and 178, 8 air miles nnw of Elkton. Two related historical deriva-
tions have been offered for its name along with a folk etymology. In
1884 when local residents requested a post office, Wm. B. Brewer, then
postmaster of nearby Fairview, was asked by postal authorities to inspect
the site and name the new office. He was accompanied by a Col. Allegree,
a Fairview school teacher, and named it for him. 635 Mrs. Ida Kranz, however,
insists that the namesake was Wm. Allegree who taught a subscription
school (in-the-vicinity-of-the-new-office) locally referred to as Allegree
Schoolhouse, in the vicinity of the proposed office. 928 The folk etymology,
credited to a joke by an older resident, relates that citizens gathered
to choose a name spent all day but couldnt agree. Anxious to go home, one
suggested that "we all agree on something." This inspired another to say
"That's it, let's all call her allegree." In any case, the Allegree post office
was established Oct. 20, 1884 with J.A. Brasher, postmaster, and still
serves the community of 150 persons. The Post Office Dept. later dropped
the final "e". Though it's now officially (spelled) given as Allegre, many local
persons still use the original spelling. (1) "Old Timer" col. in TODD
CO. STANDARD, 1/19/1950; (2) Ida Lacy Kranz, unpub. ms. hist. of Allegre
May, 1971] 635,928

ALLEN (Floyd Co.): [Ael/ə n] (Harold). A 6th class city of some 800 residents, incorporated as Allen City, at the confluence of Beaver Creek and the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River, 3½ air miles s of Prestonsburg. The site was probably settled early in the 19th century and had a shortlived post office called Mouth of Beaver, established Aug. 21, 1854 with Thomas P. Johns, postmaster, and a store run by Andy Hatcher until it was destroyed by a flood in 1862. The town as such developed around the C&O Railroad station, which opened in 1904-5, and the post office, established as Allen on May 16, 1905, which may have been named for T.J. Allen, an early resident and storekeeper (c.1880s). The station and community were called Beaver Creek or Beaver Creek Junction until, in 1936, both adopted the post office name. Soon after the highway bridge across the river was opened to traffic in 1937, the population of Allen City, or what's now locally called Old Allen, began to spill across the river into what came to be called East Allen and is now known as New Allen. Most of the community's new businesses and homes and its active post office are located in New Allen. [(1) John I. Sturgill, WPA ms; (2) G.C. Ratliff "Big Sandy--Past & Present" ASH. DAILY IND. 7/6/1952] 678,976

1216

ALLENDALE (Green Co.): [Ael/ən/dāl] (Summersville). / This hamlet on Ky. 61,
8½ air miles nnw of Greensburg, may be traced back to the establishmen
of the Brush Creek post office on Feb. 17, 1841. This was named by
George Ellmore, the first postmaster, for its location between Little
and Big Brush Creeks, the latter a north bank tributary of the Green
River. On July 24, 1846 it was moved to and/or renamed Allendale
{xix} by postmaster Thomas J. Town and was discontinued in 1863. On
Feb. 24, 1865, Town moved the early Summersville post office (q.v.)
to the Allendale site and renamed it for his early office. The second
Allendale office, in turn, closed in 1919 and the community (now one
store and several homes) is served by the new Summersville post office
almost 4 road miles se. It is assumed that Allendale was named for the
local Allen family.

910

ALLEN SPRINGS (Allen Co.) [Ael/ən Sprihŋz] (Allen Springs). In 1836, Jas. T. Harney had a boarding house at this site near the Warren Co. line, midway between Bowling Green and Scottsville, for those who "came to drink the curative sulphur water." On Nov. 16 of that year, Carpenter Mill post office was established by H.L. Mitchell on nearby Trammel Fk. (of Drakes Creek) and may have been named for the mill owned by Fed (or Frederick) Carpenter on the Warren Co. line. Then, on Feb. 18, 1837, Harney saw fit to establish an Allen Springs p.o. at his boarding house but this was discontinued 7 months later when the Post Office Dept. realized its mistake in permitting two post offices so close together. On Jan. 14, 1848, the Carpenters Mill office was moved to Allen Springs and adopted the latter name with John Shanks, postmaster. A thriving place in the 1870s, Allen Springs, on US231, 0.3 mile from the Warren Co. line and 8 air miles nw of Scottsville, now has only a store and its residents secure their mail from Alvaton, 3½ mile nw. [Louise Horton, HILLS OF PENNYROYAL, Pp. 18, 71-2] 101

ALLENSVILLE (Todd Co.): [Ael/ənz/vəl] (Allensville). A one time
rail shipping center on the present Ky. 102, a mile from its junction
with US 79, about 100 yards from the Logan Co. line, and 7 air miles
se of Elkton. It is believed to be one of the oldest settled areas
of the county for the name was applied as early as 1810 to a place
near its present site probably to honor a pioneer Allen family. The
Allensville post office was established at the original site on
April 26, 1819 with William B. Scott, postmaster. When a branch of
the L&N Railroad was completed to the present Allensville site in
1860 on land then owned by E.A. Anderson and E.W. Hughes, the town
was moved to it, becoming known colloquially as New Allensville. It
was incorporated as Allensville on Jan. 30, 1867. By the 1890s the
town had become an important farm trading center and one of the main
tobacco, livestock, and grain shipping points between Bowling Green
and Memphis. When the station closed in 1947 and improved roads
attracted local farmers to the larger area towns, its economic sig-
nificance declined and now only the post office, feed and seed pro-
cessing plants, a factory making labels for clothing, and two stores
are left to serve the 270 or so local residents. [(1) Geo. Boone,
interview, 7/23/1971; (2) Marion Williams, THE STORY OF TODD CO. KY.
1972, Pp. 97-112; (3) J.H. Battle, TODD CO. HIST. in Perrin & B.
COUNTIES OF TODD AND CHRISTIAN, Chi., 1884] 168, 325, 1234

135°

ALLOCK (Perry Co.): [Ael/ahk] (Vicco). Now a residential community with an active post office on Stacy Branch of Carr Fork Creek, just n of the city of Vicco, ½ mile from the Knott Co. line and 5½ air miles ese of Hazard. First called simply Stacy Branch, this was, for years, the camp for the Carrs Fork Coal Co. and was named for J.B. Allen and H.E. Bullock, the company's owners. The Allock post office was established July 14, 1920 with Edward H. Griffith, postmaster. [(1) W.E. Baker, letter to Wm. G. Steel, 4/21/1922; (2) Estill McIntyre, interview, 7/7/1977] 1186, 1327

ALMO (Calloway Co.): [Ael/moh] (Dexter). Five air miles north of Murray
is this L&N Railroad town of 100 persons probably built and named by the
old Nashville Chattanooga and St. Louis RR (forerunner in those parts of
the L&N) in the early 1890s. No one seems to know when or by whom the
vicinity was first settled or why this name was applied to a post office
that was first called Buena when established on Feb. 11, 1891 with Jas.
W. Craig, postmaster. Acc. to Brown Tucker, a county historian, it may
first have been called Buena Vista, for reasons unknown, though a
beautiful view can be seen from the top of the nearby bluff. On Nov.
18, 1892, the post office was renamed Almo with Mr. Craig remaining
as postmaster. The late Manning Stewart suggested that the name might
have been a shortening of Alamo, of Texas independence fame, though he too
(was-in-the-dark) was ignorant of the reason for its application. As a
railroad shipping point, its prosperity peaked in the 1920s and '30s.
With the coming of the present US641, 1¼ miles west and the development
there of the now thriving Almo Heights, whose name is self-explanatory,
the old railroad town suffered an inevitable decline though its post
office still serves the area's farmers, its Almo Heights neighbor, and
Floyd Nixon's Ky. Candy Corp. factory in the old Almo Schoolhouse. (1)
Brown Tucker, interview, 8/4/1977; (2) Manning Stewart papers, MSU Spec.
Coll.; (3) Lochie B. Hart, "Origin of Names of the Towns in Calloway"
HIST. OF CALLOWAY CO., 1931, n.p.; (4) Lowell Atchey, Leisure Scene
Mag. Section of the BENTON TRIB-COURIER, 7/22/1977, P. 14 258, 972, 1401,
1441

142

ALONZO (Allen Co.), [ə/lahn/zoh] (Adolphus). A hamlet with
extinct post office centering on James Goodman's store on KY
100 near the Middle Fork of Drake's Creek, 8 air miles sw of
Scottsville. It was probably named by and for Alonzo D.
Brashear who established the local post office on April 9,
1886. When this was discontinued in 1905, its papers were
transferred to Adolphus, 7½ road miles se. [(1) The Eubanks,
interview, 7/22/1978; (2) Louise Horton, HILLS OF PENNYROYAL,
P. 74] 101, 1281

42°

ALPHA (Clinton Co.): [Ael/fə] (Cumberland City). An active post office
which, until Dec. 6, 1975, was located on old Ky. 90, 1000 feet south
of the new Ky. 90, .8 of a mile west of the Wayne Co. line and 7 air
miles ne of Albany. It was established Jan. 28, 1852 and named by
the first postmaster, John M. Davis, for Alpha Davis, a member of his
family. Hers is said to have been one of the 3 names submitted to
the Post Office Department. It is not known if she was the Alpha E.
Davis who postal records indicate was the second postmaster. After
an intermittent/existence over the past 124 years, the office was
moved from the late Marion Perdew's grocery to a point about midway
between it and the old Zula post office in Wayne Co. (q.v.) and,
while retaining the Alpha name, is thus now in Wayne Co. [(1) Eva
Conner, interview, 3/22/1977; (2) Jos. Conn, articles in Wayne Co.
OUTLOOK, 12/25/1975 and 2/19/1976] 338, 1263

ALPHA (Clinton Co.):   [Ael/fə] (Cumberland City).

884

ALPINE (Pulaski Co.): [Ael/peyen] (Burnside). A settlement
with extinct post office on US 27 (KY 90), 1½ miles from the
McCreary Co. line and 10½ air miles sse of Somerset. About
3/4 mile s, on the old route of the Cincinnati New Orleans &
Texas Pacific (now Southern) Railway, a town called Happy
Hollow grew up around a coal mine. The local post office,
established in this name on Feb. 15, 1888 with Irvin Williams,
postmaster, was renamed Alpine in 1892, a name apparently felt
by the patrons as more suited to the area's high rugged
terrain and many pine trees. As the coal was mined out, resi-
dents began moving to the highway n of the site, an exodus
accelerated by a disastrous fire in 1911. The post office,
which moved too, remained in operation until it   closed in
1976 and its papers were transferred to the Burnside post
office, 7 road miles nw. In 1934 the original site was acquired
by the Federal Government and converted into a park. [(1) Delta
Mills, letters to me, 1/9,15,25/1980; (2) Mary Weaver, interview,
3/23/1979] 113, 1410

ALTON (Anderson Co.): [Ahl/tɔn] (Lawrenceburg). A village strung out
for about 1½ miles along US 127, from just s of the Franklin Co. line, to
a point 2½ air miles nnw of Lawrenceburg. Alton was once officially
called Rough and Ready for President Zachary Taylor in whose administra-
tion the post office of this name was established on Feb. 6, 1850. By
this name also the place was incorporated in 1854. On May 22, 1876, the
post office and community were renamed Alton but no one knows why or for
what. It has been assumed by some that the name refers to the town's
altitude, 839 feet above sea level, which is somewhat higher than the
rest of the valley in which it is situated. The town enjoyed consider-
able prosperity as a trading center until the Southern Railway built
Alton Station on its line less than a mile sw and established a post
office by this name on April 22, 1890. Alton's businesses began drift-
ing to the new community that sprang up around the station and much of
what was left was later destroyed by a series of fires. The Alton post
office closed in 1910, and now 160 or so residents secure their mail
from Lawrenceburg. Alton Station whose P.o. closed in 1963, is now considered a separate community
strung out along Ky. 512, e   of its junction with the railroad. [(1)
J.W. Gaines in Souv. Supple. to ANDERSON NEWS, 6/1906, P. 19, repro-
duced in Ibid., 1/31/1974, Sect. 3, P. 6:4-6; (2) Wyatt Shely, col. in
ibid., 7/16/1971] 439, 711

ALTONA (Marshall Co.): [Ael/tohn/ə] (Little Cypress). The
history of this now virtually extinct town on the Tennessee
River, some 3 road miles nw of Calvert City and 12½ air miles
n of Benton, has never been accurately recorded and is, at
best, confusing. It is known that the first settlements in
Marshall Co. were made in this vicinity around 1820. A Mr.
Patterson or a Mr. Covington ran a ferry across the Tennessee
River in the 1820s to connect with the road from Smithland on
the Ohio River, 6½ miles n. The community came to be known as
Patterson's Ferry or Covington's Ferry. Sometime later, Mr.
Autney Burradel or Anthony Birdwell opened a store at the ferry
site. Steamboats began landing there and the place became
known as Buradell's Landing or Birdwell's Landing. (Meanwhile,
in the 1830s, a hotel had been built for early tourists
attracted by the picturesque view of the river from this point).
According to Post Office Department records, a Covington's Ferry
post office was established Oct. 25, 1865 with William D.
Covington, postmaster. A year later Anthony Birdwell became
postmaster, and in the following March he secured a change of
name to Birdwell. Newton J. Robertson renamed it Altona on
April 27, 1870 but no one knows why. In 1872 the Paducah &
Elizabethtown RR bypassed Altona and established its station
for that area at what came to be known as Calvert City (q.v.).
Meanwhile, the Altona post office was renamed Caldwell on June
4, 1873 with Conrad P. Cloud, postmaster, and closed the follow-
ing year, ostensibly in deference to the increasing economic
importance of the new town on the railroad. (Was this later
what became known as Cloud Crossing on the Illinois Central RR?)

1736

Another _Altona_ post office, at the same site as the original,
was in operation from 1894 to 1905 when its papers were trans-
ferred to Calvert City. George R. Stewart, in _American Place_
Names, has implied that all the _Altonas_ in the U.S. ultimately
derive from the name of a city in Germany. [(1) Freeman & Olds
1933, Pp. 13-4; (2) Rayburn Watkins, "Marshall Co. Will Cele-
brate Centennial..." PADUCAH SUN-DEMO. 5/31/1942; (3) Geo. R.
Stewart, AM. P.N. P. 11] 76 204 801

ALTRO (Breathitt Co.): [Ael/troh] (Canoe). This hamlet with an active post office on the North Fork of the Kentucky River, just above the mouth of Bush Branch, 11 air miles s of Jackson, was for years the home of section gangs employed to maintain the tracks of the L&N Railroad which had a station, now closed, at this point. The first post office to serve this area was established Sept. 5, 1892 at Bush Branch, a small settlement on the branch that had been named for the pioneer Bush family. In 1916 the office was moved 1½ miles ne to the Altro station that the railroad had established, and for an unknown reason had so named, around 1912. [(1) Woodrow Turner, letter to me, 4/28/80; (2) Mrs. Clara Jackson, interview, 6/30/1978] 1164,1310.

693

ALUMBAUGH (Estill Co.): [Ael/əm/bâw] (Leighton). A settlement
"on Station Camp Creek, just below the mouth of Sparks Branch, [6]____
[air] miles sse of Irvine. Its now extinct post office, established
May 14, 1891, was named for its first postmaster, John P. Alumbaugh. (1848-1925)
The office was discontinued in 1895 and re-established in 1927
with John's son, Daniel B. as postmaster. It closed for good in
1959 with its papers transferred to Wagersville, 2.8 road miles n.
[Kathryn Carter, interview, 2/11/1978] 865   manuscript

5²°

ALVATON (Warren Co.): [Ael/və/tən] (Allen Springs, Polkville).
A hamlet with an active post office at the junction of US 231
and KY 872 (the Old Scottsville Rd.), 5 air miles se of Bowling
Green. The post office was established June 18, 1883 with
Samuel J. Witherspoon, postmaster, and named for Alva Dickerson
Larmon, wife of John Larmon of nearby Larmon's Mill. [Malcolm H.
Crump of Bowling Green, Ky., in a letter to Wm. G. Steel, 4/20/
1922] 1191

AMANDA FURNACE (Greenup Co.): [ə/maen/də] (Ironton). A
community by this name once existed around an early charcoal-
fueled iron furnace on the banks of the Ohio River, just below
the mouth of White Oak Creek and a little over a mile nw of
the present Boyd Co. line (in short, within the limits of the
present city of Russell, some 8 air miles ese of Greenup).
According to Donald Rist, an historian of the Hanging Rock
Iron Furnace Region, this furnace was built in 1829 by James
E. McDowell and the Poage brothers and named for Amanda Jane,
the infant daughter of co-owner William Lindsay Poage. (She
later married John Paull Jones). It ceased operation in 1861.
Curiously, though, Inexplicably, a post office called simply Amanda was
established by E.R. Hollingsworth on July 12, 1828 somewhere
within the present limits of Boyd Co. and was discontinued in
Aug. 1862. The remains of the original furnace were destroyed
when US 23 was widened some years ago. The present day blast
furance of Amanda, one mile se of the original furnace site,
was built in 1963 by Armco Steel and named for the older
furnace. The hill between Ashland and Russell is still sometimes
locally called Amanda Hill. [(1) Rist, KY. IRON FURNACES, 1974,
Pp. 13-5; (2) The Savages, interview, 8/18/1977; (3) Kozee, P.
512; (4) Evelyn Jackson, letter, 10/7/1973] 128, 188, 1092, 1451

AMANDAVILLE   (Cumberland Co.): [(ə)/maen(d)/ə/vəl] (Amandaville).
A rural settlement with extinct post office on KY 704 and the
west bank of Crocus Creek, across from the mouth of Puncheon Camp
Creek, 2 miles from the Adair Co. line and 7 air miles nne of
Burkesville.   On Dec. 17, 1856 Nathan Elliott established and
named the post office Amandaville for his wife or daughter. It
was discontinued in 1872 and re-established as Amanda on April
11, 1884 (in the same vicinity if not at the same site). Two
months later, though, its then postmaster, Asa O. Baker had the
name returned to its original Amandaville.   This office was
closed in 1957.   Only a church remains to serve the local resi-
dents who get their mail from Bakerton, 5.3 miles s. [W.J. Wells,
HIST. OF CUMB. CO. 1947, P. 184] 223

AMBA (Floyd Co.): [Aem/bee] (Harold). A hamlet with extinct post office and an estimated 125 residents (1971) extending for about a mile up KY 979/1426 in the Mud Creek valley from a point 1 mile (up Mud Creek from i.e.) sw of Harold (on the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River), 1¼ miles from the Pike Co. line and 10½ air miles se of Prestonsburg. The post office was named for Amba Walters, the daughter of a Harold physician who had helped to get it established on June 7, 1902 with Andrew J. (Jack) Roberts as postmaster. The office closed in 1959 and the Harold post office now serves the community, popularly known as Ambytown. [Lois Tackett, Amba, Ky., interviews, 4/19/1971, 4/28/1971] 1394

660

ANCHORAGE (Jefferson Co.): [Aeŋk/rədj] (Anchorage). A 5th class
city and residential suburb (of some 1740 residents) centering at
the junction of Evergreen Ave. and LaGrange Rd. (KY 146), 12¼
air miles e of the court house in downtown Louisville. It was
founded by Edward Dorsey Hobbs (1810-1888), the President of
the Louisville and Frankfort (now L&N) Railroad when the tracks
were laid through the area in the 1840s and was first called
Hobbs Station. By this name the post office was established on
Jan. 5, 1865 with William Henry Cox, postmaster. In 1872 the
station, post office, and community were renamed Anchorage,
allegedly at Hobbs' suggestion, for the home to which his friend,
a riverboat Captain James W. Goslee, had retired in 1857. It is
said that Goslee had taken the anchor from his last boat and
placed it on his front lawn to signify that he had come to his
final anchorage. Encircled in the rim of a locomotive wheel, the/anchor
now hangs as the town's symbol across the street from the
Louisville branch post office that serves the community. The
town was incorporated in 1878.   [Leone W. Hallenberg,
ANCHORAGE, Anch: Anch: Press, 1959, Pp. xi, 1-2, 6, 39, 52] 91

ANCO (Knott Co.): [Aen/koh] (Vicco, Carrie). A recently discontinued post office at the head of Yellow Creek, 2 miles from its confluence with Carr Fork Creek on the Perry-Knott Co. line, and 6 air miles ssw of ~~Hazard~~ Hindman. The post office was established Oct. 6, 1922 and named for its first postmaster, Anderson Combs. [Lucille Combs, interview, 3/9/ 1979] 1262

ANNETA (Grayson Co.): [Ae/neh/tə] (Nolin Reservoir). A hamlet on Ky.259
7 air miles ese of Leitchfield, whose businesses cater to Nolin Reser-
voir tourists. Though the vicinity was first settled by Van Meters in
the early 19th century, its post office was not established until Nov.28,
1882 when Peter Decker, the 1st postmaster, named it for his daughter.
The office today is but a rural branch of the Leitchfield post office.
[Barry W. Downs, "Communities" section of the Bicen. Ed. of the LEITCH.
GAZETTE, c1976, P. 8:1-3] 387

ANNVILLE (Jackson Co.): [Aen/vəl] (Tyner). Village with an active post office (and some 400 residents) extending for a mile) along Ky. 30, 4 miles west) of its junction with US421 at Tyner, and 7 air miles south) of McKee. This is the home of famed Annville Institute, a boarding school founded there in 1909 by the Reformed Church of America. The post office (was) established) as <u>Chinquapin Rough</u> by Franklin P. Riley on July 17, 1878, was (changed to)/ renamed <u>Annville</u> in 1886. for Nancy Ann, the wife of Edward W. local storekeeper, ("Ned") Johnson, storekeeper). Numerous chinquapin [Chihn/ə/pihn] or dwarf chestnut trees grew on the banks of the Pond Creek rough at that site. These have since largely been destroyed by blight. [(1) Betty De Jong of Gray Hawk, Ky. in a letter to me, 4/10/1969; (2) Jess Wilson interview, 7/9/1977 105Y, 1418

<u>ANSEL</u> (Pulaski Co.): [Aen/səl] (Science Hill). This extinct post office on the west bank of Fishing Creek, opposite the mouth of Buncombe Branch and 7 air miles nw of Somerset, was established June 18, 1886 and named for its first postmaster Ansel L. Wood (1835-1890). Mail is now secured from the Science Hill post office, 5 road miles ese. [Mary Weaver, letter to me, 9/1/1979] 1170

408

ANTHOSTON (Henderson Co.): [Aen/thahs/tən] (Henderson). This /residential
settlement (of some 200 persons) on Ky. 136, between US41 and the Penny-
rile Parkway, 3½ air miles south) of Henderson,   was first called
Bloomington. Since Kentucky already had a post office by this name,
local landowner Dr. H.H. Farmer suggested a translation into the Greek
word "anthos". Thus the office was established June 26, 1884 with Wm.]
Roll, postmaster, and discontinued in 1902. (The community is now on a
Henderson rural route.) [Maralea Arnett, ANNALS AND SCANDALS OF HENDER-
SON CO. KY. 1775-1975, 1976, P. 203] 12

ANTON (Hopkins Co.): [Aen/tahn] (Madisonville East). A (rural) settlement
extending for almost a mile) along Ky. 85 near the Madisonville Munici-
pal Airport and 3 air miles east) of that city. Several names had been
rejected by the Post Office Dept. as already in use when Anton Brucken's
given name was submitted for the post office (was-so-named) est(ablished)
March 5, 1900. Brucken, who had moved there from Evansville in the
late 19th century to establish a saw mill, was described as "a good
natured Dutchman, always willing to lend a hand whenever he was needed."
The office closed in 1906 and the community is now on a Madisonville
rural route. [ORIG. ATLAS AND HIST. DATA OF HOPKINS CO. KY. 1974, P.41]
159

APEX (Christian Co.): [Ā/pehx] (Haleys Mill). This post office estab-
                                                              originally
lished by Robert W. Sharber and in operation from 1902 to 1915 was/loca-
ted some 2 miles east of what is now called Apex on Ky. 189, 16 air
                                                          pinpoint
miles nne of Hopkinsville. I have not been able to find its original
          have been
location but am assured that it was named for its being on the highest
point of northeastern Christian County and that nothing marks that site
today. Nor do I know when the store and post office were moved but,
according to old maps, it was probably sometime before 1911. A store and
church continue to serve this area. [Wm T. Turner, interview, 5/7/77]

ARGILLITE (Greenup Co.): [Ahrgh/əl/eyet,   Ahr/ghyū/leyet] (Argillite).

This   hamlet on the east bank of the Little Sandy River, at the jct

of Ky. 1 and 207, 5 air miles s. of Greenup, was named for the first

iron furnace built in the Hanging Rock Region of ne Kentucky and south-
                                    (kind of)   mostly
ern Ohio. The word refers to a slate consisting primarily of clay

minerals discovered in the bluff into which the charcoal-burning furnace
                                                           John
was built in 1818 by Richard Deering and the brothers Thomas and David

Trimble. Deering, a Pennsylvanian who had settled here shortly after

1800, had discovered rich surface deposits of iron on his land and built
                                 failed to survive the crash of 1837
the first rude smelter there in 1815. The furnace's last blast was in
         x
1837. A nearby post office,·   established as Argylite on June 14, 1860
                                was
with James Lampton, postmaster, discontinued in Oct. 1861, and re-estab-
                                   c Cread milstead, EK agent + co.storek
lished as Argillite on June 24, 1874. (with Cread Milstead) A lumber mill
              at this point
was built there in 1864 by the Eastern Kentucky Improvment Company, and

over the next few decades crossties, telephone poles, lime, charcoal,

and later coal were produced and shipped from there to the Ohio River on
                       This still active small v/.
the Eastern Kentucky Ry. Now, several stores, a post office, and a church

serve some 40 residents and their neighbors, along with the consolidated

Argillite School, 1½ miles below the post office. [(1) Biggs & Mackoy,

1951, P. 103; (2) Evelyn Jackson, letter to me, 10/7/1973; (3) A HIST.

OF ASHLAND, KY. 1786-1954, 1954,. P. 6] 7, 23, 1092

x the 1st po to serve this vic was Trimble's Iron works c

John

ARGO (Pike Co.): [Ahr/ghoh] (Hurley). A hamlet with an active
post office now on KY 194 and Knox Creek, at the mouth of Camp
Creek, 3/4 mile from the Virginia state line and 23 air miles e
of Pikeville. The post office, established July 13, 1906 with
Eli Hurley, postmaster, is said to have been named for Argo
Starch. It was first located 1½ miles down Knox Creek, a tribu-
tary of the Tug Fork of the Big Sandy River, at the mouth of
Middle Elk Creek, at what was then also known as Middle Elk
Station of the Big Sandy and Cumberland (now Norfolk & Western)
Railroad. This station is now called Bill Siding. The office
was moved to its present site in 1936. [PM, letter to me, 12/1/80]

ARJAY (Bell Co.): [Ahr/djā] (Pineville). The name of this coal town extending along KY 66 and the Left Fork of Straight Creek from a point nearly 3 air miles ne of Pineville, was derived from the initials of R. J. Asher, a coal operator. Its active post office, established Feb. 23, 1911 with George W. Hairston, postmaster, serves an estimated 2000 persons in the vicinity. [Lucille Messer, letter to me, 3/31/1980]

ARLINGTON (Carlisle Co.): [Ahr/lihy/tuhn] (Arlington). A 6th class city with an active post office (and some 540 residents) at the junction of US 51 and KY 80, (a little over) a mile from the Hickman Co. line and 5 air miles s of Bardwell. In 1872 Robert Buckner Neville bought a 160 acre farm on the old Richard Taylor Military Survey that had first been settled in 1831 by Eli Porter and his family from Henry Co., Ky. In May 1873 the Mississippi Central (now Illinois Central Gulf) RR secured some of Neville's property for a depot and right-of-way and that summer a town was laid out and called Neville. According to some accounts, a faction in the developing community had preferred to call it Holtsville for Tom Holt who co-owned the local store. To avoid friction, railroad officials sought another name and accepted the suggestion of one of their number who had noted the resemblance of a small knoll some 3 miles n of town to his home in Arlington Heights, Va. On Feb. 11, 1874 the Mixville post office was moved to this site and renamed Arlington with Phillip Read, postmaster. By this name the town was incorporated on Feb. 5, 1876. Its selection as the seat of the newly established Carlisle Co. 10 years later was challenged by the city of Bardwell (q.v.). But when it was discovered that the latter was only 3 miles w of the center of the county and Arlington was in the extreme south, a commission unanimously chose Bardwell instead. (1) Ran Graves, 1958, Pp. 46, 68-70; (2) Ralph E. Graves, etal. editors, A HIST. OF CARLISLE CO., KY. FOR THE YEARS 1820-1900, July, 1976, Vol. 1, Pp. 20, 46; (3) Dick Barclay "Porter Family was Probably the First to Settle Arlington in 1831" Purch. Ed. of the MAYFIELD MESS. 12/27/1969, P. J4:1-4 85, 86, 261

ARNOLD (Ohio Co.) [Ahr/nᵊld] (Rosine). This settlement with an
abandoned store building and extinct post office, 1¼ miles from the
Butler Co. line and over 13 air miles ese of Hartford, was first
called Havens for Ancel Havens, an early storekeeper and grist mill
owner. When the post office was established July 14, 1884 it was
renamed for William Arnold on whose land it was located. The first
postmaster was Vitula (Mrs. David) Arnold, the daughter of Dr. Duvall,
MD. [Mail is now routed from the office at Horse Branch, 6 road miles
north.] (1)"M.L. Evans Recollects about Arnold-Havens" OHIO CO. NEWS;
Cent. Ed. 12/26/1974, III, Pp. 9-10; (2) Musker L. Heavrin, P.N. OF
OHIO CO. ms. 3/20/1925 560,905

omit

ARTEMUS (Knox Co.): [Ahr/teem/əs] (Artemus). A village with
an active post office, L&N Railroad station, and some 600
residents on the n bank of the Cumberland River, opposite the
mouth of Brush Creek, 2½ air miles se of Barbourville. The
station was named for Artemus Herndon who donated the right
of way and depot site in 1888. On Sept. 8th of that year,
James Durham established the local post office of Elon which
was renamed Brush Creek in 1889 and Artemus 2 years later.
Loading ramps for coal shipments trucked in from the area and
a number of small businesses continue to provide the economic
base for a thriving community that is nothing near what it had
been when the coal industry was in boom early this century.
[(1) Philip Fox, Sr., in letter to me, 6/27/1978; (2) K. Sol
Warren, interview, 6/23/1978] 1068,1409

ARTHURMABEL (Magoffin Co.): $[Ahr/th\vartheta r/m\bar{a}/b\vartheta l]$ (David). An
extinct post office on KY 7 and the e bank of the Licking
River, 12 air miles se of Salyersville. It was established
Jan. 5, 1925 by Burney Arnett at his home on KY 7, ½ mile
above the mouth of Molly Branch (of Licking) and was named
for his two oldest children. It was later moved 2½ miles
down the road (north) to the site of the present John T.
Arnett store (just below the present John T. Arnett School)
where it remained until it closed in 1959 when Ella Arnett,
the second postmaster, retired. Arthur recently died and
Mabel is now Mrs. Irv Hopkins. The Fredville post office,
over 1½ road miles n, now provides mail service to the homes
in this vicinity. [Connie Wireman; interview, 4/20|79] 1422

748

ASHBROOK (Anderson Co.): [Aesh/brook] (Ashbrook). A once thriving farm trade center, but now extinct, on Ky. 53, less than 2 miles north of the Blue Grass Parkway and 9½ air miles sw of Lawrenceburg. It was founded by Capt. John H. McBrayer around 1878 when he started a business there and named it for the many ash trees in the vicinity. The post office, established on June 6, 1890 by Thomas N. Calvert, a storekeeper, was discontinued in 1913 (and mail is now carried along a rural route from Lawrenceburg) (1) Mrs. Mary Hedger, Souv. Supplement to the ANDERSON NEWS, 6/1906, P. 19; (2) Wyatt Shely col. in Ibid., 9/16/1971, P. 12:3; (3) Philip Spencer, interview, 8/4/1978] 4 80, 711, 1387

ASHBYBURG (Hopkins Co.): |Aesh/bee/bergh| (Calhoun). Little remains on
Ky. 370, 13 air miles nne of Madisonville, of this early steamboat land-
ing (with bank, hotel, mills, and tobacco warehouses) across the Green
River from McLean Co. and about a mile below the mouth of Pond River.
It was settled around 1808 by Stephen Ashby (1776-1841), a Virginian,
and named for him. On Jan. 3, 1829, it became the first incorporated
town in/the Hopkins county. The post office was in operation from 1849 to 1969
and the area is now served by a rural route out of Slaughter, 9 road
miles sw. [Nancy Carlisle Martin, "The Founding of Ashbyburg" in the
Yearbook of the Hist. Soc. of H. Co., Ky. 7/1977, Pp. 41-3] 577

ASHCAMP (Pike Co.): [Aesh/kaemp] (Hellier). A hamlet with
an active post office centering at the junction of KY 195
and 197, at the mouth of Ashcamp Branch of Elkhorn Creek,
14½ air miles sse of Pikeville. The stream and the post
office, established as Ash Camp on Sept. 13, 1870 with George
Barclay, postmaster, were probably named for the ashes found
there by early settlers who attributed them to an old Indian
campsite, or possibly for the residue of a pioneer potash
producing operation there. at the site. Area historians refer to the many
local ash trees which, before the turn of the present century,
attracted a fairly large scale logging operation there. [(1)
Lynn Tilford Johnson, Pikev. Col. student for Leonard Roberts;
(2) John S. O'Quinn, Prestonsburg, Ky., formerly of Ashcamp,
interview, 3/8/1971] 921, 1347

ASHER (Leslie Co.): [Aesh/ər] (Hoskinston). A hamlet with an active post office centering at the junction of US 421 and KY 1780, and on the Middle Fork of the Kentucky River at the mouth of Beech Fork, 7½ air miles s of Hyden. The post office was established May 22, 1900 with Henry M. Hensley, postmaster, and named for the prominent Asher family of se Kentucky. One of their number, the late John Asher, a Hyden attorney and wealthy landowner, had a sawmill here. The eastern Kentucky Ashers are descended from Dillion Asher (1777-1844), an English born Revolutionary War veteran who had settled on Red Bird River around 1810. [R.B. Campbell, interview, 5/27/1978] 1248

ASHERS FORK (Clay Co.): [Aesh/ərz Fawrk] (Creekville).
A recently discontinued post office serving a community of
about 150 persons near the head of the Left Fork of Ashers
Fork of Goose Creek, 2.7 miles from the latter, and 13 air
miles se of Manchester. The community and the office, estab-
lished July 25, 1940 with Mrs. Daisy H. Schaffer, postmaster,
were named for the stream which had been named for the
descendants of pioneer Dillion Asher (1777-1844) who, around
1810, claimed a large acreage at the head of Redbird Creek
and other land on Goose Creek. [(1) Kelly Morgan, P. 86; (2)
Jess Wilson, interview, 3/24/1979] 150, 1418

ASHLAND (Boyd Co.): [Aesh/lənd] (Ashland). A 2nd class industrial city on the Ohio River, just nw of Catlettsburg, whose (estimated) 27,000 residents make it the largest community in eastern Kentucky. The site was part of a large tract between the Big and Little Sandy Rivers, that was settled around 1790 by Virginia-born George Poage, Sr. (1754-1821) and his family and was first called Poage's Settlement. To develop this site as a major shipping center for the area's resources, the Kentucky Iron, Coal and Manufacturing Co. was organized in 1853, secured 1500 acres there, laid out the town, and convinced the Lexington and Big Sandy (now C&O) Railroad to extend its line to this point. Poage's Settlement was considered unsuitable as the name of a developing city, and at the suggestion of Levi Hampton, an admirer and friend of the late Henry Clay, it was replaced by the name of Clay's Lexington estate. The post office at Pollard's Mill, established Dec. 23, 1847, was changed to Ashland on Dec. 20, 1854 and the town was incorporated as such in that year. Pollard's Mill had been named for the grist mill which Henry B. Pollard owned in the nw section of the present city. (Ashland is the home of the Ashland Oil Company.) [(1) A HIST. OF ASHLAND, KY. 1786-to 1854, Cent. Souv. 1954, Pp. 4-13, 45, 57-9, 66-8, 96; (2) Kozee, P. 506] 7,128

ASHLOCK (Cumberland Co.): [Aesh/lahk] (Blacks Ferry). A hamlet (with an active store) on a high ridge in the extreme sw part of the county, several hundred yards from the Monroe Co. line and 11½ air miles ssw of Burkesville. The history of this community is unknown but it is believed to have been named for the Ashlock family, one Isaac Ashlock having been mentioned in the county deed book as a recipient of land in 1817. Until recently, to get to this place from other sections of the county, one had to go into Tennessee, less than ½ mile away, and back up, so it has long been ~~functionally~~/more tied to Celina, from whence it still gets its mail, than to Burkesville. [R.N. Smith, interview, 9/22/1979] 1385.

ASPHALT (Edmonson Co.): [Aes/fáhlt] (Brownsville). This post office, in operation about a mile n of the Green River and 4 air miles w of Brownsville from May 5, 1920 to Aug. 31, 1958, was named for the rock asphalt that has been quarried extensively throughout the area. [Lancie Meredith ms. on Edmonson Co. P.N., 1972] 942

ATCHISON (Taylor Co.): [Aech/ə/sən] (Campbellsville). This
hamlet with extinct post office on KY 372, 2½ air miles se
of Campbellsville, is now also known as Smith Ridge for its
location on the elevation of this name. Both the post
office, established June 21, 1899 with Jesse C. Atchley,
postmaster, and the ridge were named for local families. It
is not known why or how Atchley was corrupted to Atchison.
The post office closed in 1918 and the place is now on a
Campbellsville rural route. [(1) Betty Jane Gorin, interview,
10/18/1978; (2) Mrs. Mildred Barnett "Hist. of Atchinson--
Part One" (sic) CENTRAL KY. NEWS, 6/28/1973, P. B6:1-2] 263,1291

ATHENS (Fayette Co.): [Ā/thənz] (Ford). A village (of some 175 persons) at the junction of Ky. 418 and 1973, 6½ miles se of Lexington's New Circle Rd. First known as Cross Plains for its location at the crossing of 2 buffalo traces, it is said to have been established in or about 1783 and laid out as a village by Harvey Bledsoe in 1826 about which time he became the first postmaster of Athens. By this name also it was formally recognized by an act of the Kentucky Legislature on Dec. 14, 1825. No one (really) knows why it was called Athens (or why the name has such an unusual local pronunciation). According to one theory, as Cross Plains the community had a pretty unsavory reputation for lawlessness, and when the respectable folks of that vicinity decided to clean it up they thought its image could be considerably improved by changing its name. Perhaps "Athens" was suggested by Lexington's nickname, "The Athens of the West" which, it is fairly certain, preceded the renaming of Cross Plains. (☰) 1335 (In any event, Athens, with its hemp and woolen mills, distilleries, and stores and shops, became an early competitor of Lexington for economic dominance of the county, but due to its lack of sufficient water its dreams never materialized. Further, it never recovered from several disastrous fires in the 1840s and '50s.) The post office closed in 1909. [(1) Burton Milward, interview, 4/27/1978; (2) Robert Peter, HIST. OF FAYETTE CO. 1882, P. 491; (3) Fred Luigart, "Athens: Growing Pains May Wake a Sleepy Village" LCJ MAG. 1/10/1965; (4) Ranck, BOONESBOROUGH, Lou, 1901, P. 121] 175, 182, 557, 1335

ATHERTONVILLE (LaRue Co.): /Aeth/er/tən/vihl/ (New Haven). (Nevitt's store, the Seagrams Distillery, and the homes of some 150 residents remain of this) once prosperous distillery town on US31e, a mile from the Rolling Fork River (which forms the Nelson Co. line) and 8 air miles ne of Hodgenville. A short distance away, at the confluence of Knob Creek and Rolling Fork, Wattie Boone is said to have opened, in 1780, what may have been the first commercial distillery in Kentucky.

It was to this site (of-the-future-Athertonville) that Peter Lee Atherton brought his family around 1790, and here his son, John McDougall built his distillery in 1867 and established a company town for his workers. The local post office was first called Medcalf, for another local family, when established April 10, 1884 but was renamed Atherton-ville the following month. (The community is now on a Hodgenville mail route.) Opinions differ on whether the place was named for Peter, John or for the family as a whole. [(1) "Distillery at Athertonville Since 1780" LaRUE CO. HER-NEWS, 8/29/1974, P. 7B:1-6; (2) Jim Larue, interview, 10/18/1978] 383, 1319

ATHOL (Lee Co.): [Aeth/əl] (Tallega). This L&N Railroad station (with Crawford's store) and post office is at the junction of KY 52 and 315, less than ¼ mile from the Breathitt Co. line and 7½ air miles e of Beattyville. Bowman, the first post office in this vicnity, was established in Breathitt Co. June 20, 1890 with Stephen J. Crawford, postmaster, and renamed Athol in 1892 by a Scotsman for his home district in Scotland. In 1927 Thomas C. Spencer moved the office to its present Lee Co. location. [Nevyle Shackelford, interview, 6/8/1978] 1372

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ATTERSON (Casey Co.): [Aed/ə/sən] (Clementsville). This was Once a thriving farm trade center (whose store, school, church, and grist mill served) sewing the Gum Lick Creek valley below Chicken Gizzard Ridge, a comparatively isolated section of the county 7½ air miles (west) of Liberty. The community was named for and probably by Atterson Belton when he established the post office there on Jan. 2, 1883. (Since its) closed in 1944, (mail service has been provided from Clementsville, 3½ miles south,) and only farmsteads remain to mark the community. [Gladys Thomas, interview, 9/21/1978] 1397

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AUBURN (Logan Co.): [Aw/bə(r)n] (Auburn). This ^ fifth class city on US68, 8
air miles east of Russellville,   is believed to occupy the site of the
Clark Brothers Virginia military grant at the head of Black Lick Creek.
In the early 19th century, the Hayden and Blackey families, attracted by
the economic possibilities of a grove of maple trees, settled here and
called the place Federal Grove. Some say it was also called the Black
Lick Settlement for the sluggish stream whose accumulation of leaves
seemed to have given it a very dark appearance. By the Black Lick name
the first post office was established on March 3, 1860 by John H. Wood.
According to some historians, by 1860, when the Memphis Branch of the L&
was being built through, the place was called Woodville for John or
Harrison Wood who had arrived sometime before to establish a woman's
academy. Wood and John H. Viers (or Veirs), a plowright, are said to
have vied for the site of the station. Wood, who wanted it named for
his little settlement, lost, and the station was built near Viers!
foundry. Viers succeeded Wood as postmaster in June 1861. However, a
year later, Harrison Woodward (the spelling given in the postal records)
assumed this position, moved the office to its present site, ½ to 3/4
of a mile away, and renamed it Auburn. Historians seem to agree that
the name was suggested by A.J. Carney, a surveyor and native of Auburn,
N.Y. who had been hired by Wood (or Woodward) to teach at his academy
and who may have either laid out the town or assisted in this. By this
name it was incorporated in 1865. Though it's generally accepted that
Carney had named the place for his hometown, some persons prefer a deri-
vation from the oft-quoted lines in Goldsmith's The Deserted Village:
"Sweet Auburn, loveliest village of the plain", which, it may be noted,
was the origin of the New York namesake source, in 1805. The name has even in-
spired a local folk etymology, which is hardly taken seriously, about a
(early) pioneer hunter who, unable to light his fire, was heard to ex-
claim, 'Aw burn, dam it, burn'' (This prosperous industrial and commerci

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town with an active post office has nearly 100/residents and is
the county's second largest community.) [(1) Stratton, P.N. OF
LOGAN CO. 2nd ed. 1947, n.p.; (2) May Belle Morton, interview,
11/6/1977; (3) Edward Coffman, THE STORY OF LOGAN CO. 1962, P.
266; (4) Geo. R. Stewart, AM. P.N., P. 27] 42, 204, 206, 1344

AUGUSTA (Bracken Co.). [Aw/ghuhs/tə](Felicity, Higginsport). A 4th class city (of some 1450 residents) on the Ohio River floodplain, 6 air miles nne of Brooksville. It was part of a large Revolutionary War grant by Virginia to Capt. Philip Buckner who laid off 600 acres for a town which he placed on sale by public auction in 1795. The new property owners then petitioned the Kentucky Legislature for the establishment of a town to be called Augusta possibly for the large Virginia county formed in 1738 which once included all of Kentucky. (Actually no one knows why this name was selected.) The county's seat was established located here from 1797 to 1800 and from 1802 to 1839 when it was removed to Brooksville again, a more centrally located place, (qv). The post office was established as Augusta or Bracken Court House on Jan. 1, 1801 with Wm. Brooks, postmaster [(1) Walter Rankins, HIST'C. AUGUSTA AND AUGUSTA COLLEGE, 1949, P. 3; (2) James O. Cracraft, "Most Came--Some Meet Them" ROBERTSON REVIEW CENT. ED. 7/1971, P. 19:1-5] 183, 345

AULT (Elliott Co.): [Ahlt] (Ault). An extinct post office on Ky. 504, at the head of Sinking Creek, 1 mile from the Carter Co. line and 8 ai miles nw of Sandy Hook. The office was established Dec. 23, 1914 by Joh M. Catron who named it for John Ault, a highly respected grocery sales- man from Grayson. (Actually Ault's name was suggested after four other names had been rejected by the Post Office Dept. as then in use in Ky.) (1) John M. Catron in a letter to Wm. G. Steel, 4/20/1925; (2) Lucy & Bert White, interview, 7/28/1978

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AUSTERLITZ (Bourbon Co.): [Aw/stər/lihts] *austerlitt* (Paris). An extinct
post office and railroad station at the junction of Thatchers
Mill Rd. (KY 956) and the L&N Railroad's Cincinnati Division
tracks, ½ mile from the Clark Co. line, and 7½ air miles s of
Paris. The station was on land taken from the Grimes family
farm and its name is said to have been suggested by an early
resident after he had visited the site in Moravia of Napoleon's
1805 victory over the combined Austrian and Russian armies. The
post office was established April 23, 1884 with James M. Whaley,
postmaster, (but the area is now on a Paris rural route.) [(1)
Edna Whitley, interview, 4/6/1977; (2) Blanche Lilleston, "Place
Names of Bourbon Co." KENTUCKIAN-CITIZEN, 1/21/1924] 538, 1414

AUSTIN (Barren Co.): [Ahs/tən] (Austin). A settlement and active
post office centering at the junction of KY 87 and the Jeff Hicks
Rd., 11 air miles ssw of Glasgow. The post office was establish-
ed May 23, 1887 by Hezekiah J. Kelley who is said to have named
it for Austin, Texas and a Rev. Austin, a Baptist preacher. [Mrs.
J. Wood Vance, "Barren Towns: What's in a Name?" anni. ed. of
GLASGOW TIMES, 3/10/1968] 791

AUXIER (Floyd Co.): [Ahk/shər] (Prestonsburg). A village
with an active post office(and a 1970 population of 800,)
across the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River from US 23/
460, ¼ mile above the mouth of Johns Creek (an east bank
branch of the Levisa which, there, forms the Johnson Co.
line), and 3 air miles n of Prestonsburg. It was founded
around the turn of the present century to house the workers
of the N.E. Coal Co. and was named for the shortlived post
office established just over the Johnson Co. line on Dec.
1, 1897. The office was re-established in the same name on
Feb. 18, 1902, and the C&O Railroad built the Auxier station
of its Big Sandy Valley run the following year. Historians
dont agree on which, if any particular, member of the
pioneer Auxier family the post office, town, and station
were named for. Some allege it was John B. Auxier, then an
old man, who had earlier distinguished himself as a surveyor
and had been responsible for marking the southern boundary
of Johnson Co. when it was created in part out of Floyd Co.
                                local
in 1843. With the closing of the/mines and the departure of
the NE Coal Co., the town has become a residential community
for commuters to the larger towns and other mines in the Big
Sandy Valley. A local sewing factory attracts mostly out-
side workers. [(1) Glennora Montgomery "A Study of the Commu-
nity of Auxier, Ky." t.p. PCC, spring, 1971; (2) Mitchell
Hall, HIST. OF JOHNSON CO. 1928, Vol. 2, Pp. 40-1] 89, 9Y3

AWE (Lewis Co.): [Aw] (Head of Grassy). An extinct post office
6½ miles up Straight Fork of Kinniconick Creek and 11 air miles S
of Vanceburg. The post office was established May 20, 1898 and
named for and by its first postmaster, Anthony Wayne Everman.
This unusual name, (which is now all but forgotten by Lewis
Countians,) once inspired newspaperman J.S. Mavity to write:
"Straight Fork..dashes its water against the rocks and crags
down a narrow valley probably 50 yards wide from hill to hill,
and he who has looked upward through the tops of the tall spruce,
pine, and hemlock endeavoring to see the sun at any time except
noonday may feel the solemn awe which probably gave this post
office its name." The office closed in 1935. [(1) Beulah Faye
Lykins, interview, 6/20/1977; (2) Mavity to Steel, letter, 5/19/
1922] 1103, 1200

AXTEL (Breckinridge Co.): [Aex/tehl] (Kingswood). Some 8½ air miles) south) of Hardinsburg is a community, that extending for about 1½ miles along Ky. 79, whose businesses cater to summer campers on the nearby Rough River Reservoir. It may have first been called St. Anthony, which name still applies to the local Catholic church, and was near the site of an early tanyard owned by Billy Cannon. Soon after its settlement, Cannon is said to have applied for a post office and in his accompanying letter to the postal officials in Washington, he wrote "We have wrote to ax yo to tel us a name fo our post office" (sic). According to local tradition, his request was granted and the post office, when it opened on Oct. 3, 1891 with Samuel Bennett, postmaster, was named Axtel. It closed in (the summer of) 1977. [(1) Bill Thompson, HIST. AND LEGEND OF BRECK. CO., KY., n.d. Pp. 58-9; (2) Ibid., interview, 9/28/1977; (3) Lin Bowling, "Hist. of Breck. Co. Postoffices" BRECK. CO. HER-NEWS, 7/24/1975] 214, 290, 1398

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