MAC (Taylor Co.). "Maek" (Saloma, Hibernia). A hamlet that, in recent years, was moved to its present location on KY 210, 8½ air miles nw of Campbellsville, from a crossroads site (the junction of KY 424 and 569), 1½ road miles to the sw and 3/4 mile from the Green Co. line. Nothing remains at the original site, popularly identified as Old Mac, but the old building that housed the Mac post office. This was established June 21, 1899 and is said to have been named for Mac Beans, then the boyfriend of the daughter of the first postmaster, William W. Kirtley. The office is no longer in operation and the vicinity is now on a Campbellsville rural route. [Betty Jane Gorin, interview, 10/18/1978]
McAFEE (Mercer Co.): [Mcæk/ə/feɪ] (Harrodsburg). A hamlet with extinct post office centering at the junction of US 127 and KY 1160, 4½ air miles n of Harrodsburg. It is a part of the 1400 acre McAfee Brothers pre-emption which they had surveyed in 1773 and 1½ miles e of James McAfee's Station on Salt River. Another brother, Robert McAfee wrote in his journal of having reached "Eldorado" when he arrived in this vicinity, and the town of McAfee, established in 1851, was sometimes referred to as Eldorado. In fact, on June 8, 1849, the McAfee post office, which had been established 4 months before, with James M. Thompson, postmaster, actually adopted the Eldorado name on the suggestion of Peter Dunn, the area's wealthiest landowner. Since most of his neighbors preferred McAfee, however, the post office returned to that name on Jan. 9, 1850. It is now on a Harrodsburg rural route. [Rebecca Conover, interview, 4/21/1978]
McANDREWS (Pike Co.): [Maek/aen/drüz] (Belfry). A village with an active post office extending for over a mile s along KY 199 and Pond Creek, from the mouth of Mullen Fork to a po'n+ above the mouth of Pinson Fork. The post office, established Jan. 10, 1921 with Isaac L. Andrews (sic), postmaster, is located some 13 air miles ene of Pikeville, at the original site of the Pinsonfork post office which is now 1½ miles s (q.v.). McAndrews was named for the owner of a store at the mouth of Pinson Fork. For years the Norfolk and Western Railroad station ½ mile n of the post office was called Pinson, the name of an important Pike Co. family. [Clyde Runyon, letter to me, 12/13/1979]
McCOMBS (Pike Co.): [Ma/kohmark] (Thomas). A hamlet with an active post office on KY 194 and Johns Creek, 1 mile e of the Floyd Co. line and 11 air miles n of Pikeville. The post office was established Aug. 11, 1905 with Miles E. Hunt, postmaster, and named for Miles McCombs, a local resident. [T.M. Kiddle, asst. pm, Pikeville, Ky. in letter to Wm. G. Steel, 4/19/1930]

Seat: Paducah. Established in 1824 from part of Hickman Co. and named for Capt. Virgil McCracken, one of the 9 officers killed in the Battle of River Raisin, Jan. 22, 1813, for whom Kentucky counties were named.
McDANIELS (Breckinridge Co.): McDaniels. This hamlet with an active post office on KY 259, 11 air miles s of Hardinsburg, was one of the earliest settlements in the county. It is said that its founder, Sam Spencer, a pioneer and Indian fighter, named it for William McDaniels, a fellow member of Col. William Hardin's party at Fort Hardin (now Hardinsburg). McDaniels, who arrived at Fort Hardin in 1780, having recently lost his family in an Indian massacre, was himself to be killed by Indians before the turn of the century. On Sept. 4, 1860 William McDaniel (sic), no known kin to the pioneer, established the short lived post office of McDaniels Store. On July 7, 1874 another post office was established by James F. Armes across the road from the site of the first and was called McDaniels. In 1976 the office was moved about a mile down the road. McDaniels' prosperity as a trade center was cut short by its having been bypassed by the Louisville Hardinsburg & Western Railroad's so-called "Fordsville Spur" in 1891. (1) Bill Thompson, HIST. & LEG. OF BRECK. CO. KY., n.d., Pp. 60-63; (2) Ibid., interview, 9/28/1977; (3) Fr. John A. Lyons in ms. hist. of St. Theresa's Chu. in Meade Co., c1950, P. 3, on file in the Meade Co. Publ. Libr.
McDOWELL (Floyd Co.): [Mc/dow/əl] (McDowell). A coal town with an active post office on Hall Fork of the Left Fork of Beaver Creek and KY 680, just e of its junction with KY 122, 14 air miles s of Prestonsburg. Little is known of its early history. It may have been named by and for Walter B. McDowell, a North Carolina-born school teacher who had settled there in the 1870s. He is said to have been instrumental in getting the post office established on July 17, 1879 with Wilburn Hall, postmaster. East McDowell, a separate community with its own post office, is contiguous with McDowell on the e. They had a combined population of about 1000 in 1970. [Henry P. Scalf, interview, 5/16/1971]
MACEO (Daviess Co.): [Mā/see/oh] (Maceo). Stretched out for over a mile on US 60 is this village of some 350 residents with an active post office and railroad station, 8 air miles nw of Owensboro. The community was settled just after the Civil War by freed slaves on land given to them by their ex-masters. There the Louisville Henderson & St. Louis (now L&N) Railroad laid out a town and established a post office in 1890 or '91 which they named Powers Station for Col. J.D. Powers of Owensboro, a railroad official. To avoid confusion with Powers Store, another Kentucky post office, postmaster Edwin P. Taylor suggested that his office be renamed Maceo for Capt. Alonzo Maceo, a Cuban mulatto then in the news for having been killed in the early stages of the Cuban revolt against Spain. This change was effected on Feb. 3, 1897. The community's population is still predominantly Negro. [(1) The Orrahoods, interview, 9/30/1977; (2) Cecilia M. Laswell, "Towns & Villages of Daviess Co." WPA ms, 6/19/1936]
McHARGUE (Laurel Co.): [Mc/kehrz] (Lily). A settlement 1 1/2 miles from the Knox Co. line and 8 air miles sse of London, named for William McHargue, the progenitor of a large family, who arrived here from Pennsylvania in 1806. In 1812 he built a grist mill on Robinson Creek, a e' bank tributary of Laurel River, which his family operated until the 1920s. Another William McHargue established the post office of at this site McHargues Mills (sic) on Jan. 21, 1851, but it closed in 1853. In 1939 the mill was moved to its present site in the Levi Jackson State Park, 2 miles se of London, where it continues to produce for the London market. William McHargue's farm, near the old mill site, is now owned by his descendants. [Logan Ewell, interview, 4/29/1972]
McHENRY (Ohio Co.): [Maek/hehn/ree] (Hartford, Paradise). Once a thriving coal mining town, this 6th class city on US 62, 4 air miles s of Hartford, still serves its 430 residents with a post office, several stores and other businesses. At or close to this site was a village identified as Hamelton (sic) in the 1850 Ohio Co. Census, by which name the community that became McHenry was incorporated on Feb. 23, 1874. The post office of Render Coal Mines—established March 29, 1872 and named for the local Render Mine which opened in 1871—was renamed McHenry in 1874 with Andrew Duncan, the superintendent of the local McHenry Mine, as postmaster. McHenry was named for Col. Henry D. McHenry (1826-1890), an Ohio Co. lawyer and U.S. Congressman from Kentucky's 4th District who, with Duncan, established the McHenry Coal Co. in 1873 to mine the local coal. The town, re-incorporated as McHenry in 1880, soon grew to be an important coal town and home to an estimated 700 persons by the 1920s. It was not a company town in the strictest sense though the company owned the site and all but controlled its commerce. Since the last of the deep mines closed in 1938, the town has become essentially a residential settlement for those who continue to work in the area mines. (1) M. David Orrahood, "Hist. of Coal in Ohio Co., Ky. 1870-1953" OHIO CO. NEWS 12/26/1974, Pp. 10-11; (2) Glendon Minton, "A Salute to Coal Mining in Ohio Co.—Past and Present" OHIO CO. NEWS, cent. ed. 12/26/1974, Sec. 3, Pp. 14-7; (3) Helen Winternitz, "Memories of Old McHenry" OWENSBORO MESS-INQUIRER, 4/20/1976, P. 1C:1-6
McKEE (Jackson Co.): McKee, Sandgap. A 5th class city and the more or less centrally located seat of Jackson Co. at the junction of US 421 and KY 89, 104 air miles se of downtown Louisville. It was founded as the county's seat in 1858 and probably named for George R. McKee, a county judge and state legislator from that area. The McKee post office was established Oct. 25, 1858 with Harris Freeman, postmaster, and the town was incorporated in 1882. Its 270 residents now make it Kentucky's second smallest county seat. [Jess Wilson, interview, 7/9/1977]
McKINNEY (Lincoln Co.): [Mc/Kihn/e] (Hustonville). This village with an active post office and some 250 residents at the junction of KY. 198 and the Southern Railway, 6½ air miles sw of Stanford, was close by the site of the pioneer fort built by William Montgomery in 1779. It was destroyed by Indians sometime before 1789 when Archibald McKinney (1750-1823) arrived from Bourbon Co., rebuilt it and renamed it McKinney's Fort. It is said to have been one of the first trading posts in Kentucky. By this name the community built up around it, was called until 1874 when the Cincinnati Southern (now Southern) Railway came through and the name was changed to McKinney Station. It soon became a prosperous industrial and commercial town and served western Lincoln and adjacent counties in the rail shipment of timber products. The post office, established as McKinney's Station on Sept. 12, 1877 with Thomas J. Christerson, postmaster, was renamed McKinney in 1880. [Shirley Dunn, HIST'C. HOMES & OLD BUILDINGS OF LINC. CO., KY. n.d. Pp. 39, 50-2] 60
McKINNEYSBURG (Pendleton Co.): This extinct post office and settlement on the Licking River, 1 1/2 miles from the Harrison Co. line and 6 air miles sse of Falmouth, was named for the many McKinneys in that vicinity. The post office, established Dec. 3, 1890 with Jacob D. Doubman, postmaster, closed in 1929 and residents now get their mail from Falmouth.

Ethel Bell, interview, 10/17/1978
MACKVILLE (Washington Co.): [Mackville]. A 6th class city (with an active post office and some 200 residents) extending east for a mile along KY 152 from a point 7 3/4 air miles east of Springfield. An act to establish the town of Maxville (sic) on part of a 700 acre tract granted by the Virginia government to Capt. John M. McKelrick, a Revolutionary War veteran, was approved by the Kentucky Legislature on Dec. 28, 1818. It is not known why the name of Capt. McKelrick, for whom the town is said to have been named, was corrupted to Maxville or why the post office was established on Jan. 9, 1826 as Mackville. In any event, it would have become the seat of a new county of McDonald to be created out of parts of Washington and Mercer Counties if the act of creation had not been defeated by the Kentucky General Assembly by a 19-12 vote in Feb. 1835. By the 1840s the town had become an important manufacturing town with cigar, shoe and hat factories and a tanyard. [(1) Mrs. Dudley Thompson, ms hist. of the town; (2) Orval W. Taylor EARLY TIMES IN WASH. CO. Cynthiana: Hobson Press, 1942, Pp. 80-7]
COUNTY:

McLEAN [Mc/klän]. 257 sq. miles. Pop. 10,800. Seat:

Calhoun. Established in 1854 from parts of Daviess, Ohio, and Muhlenberg Co's. and named for Judge Alney McLean (1779-1841), US Congressman (1815-17, 1819-21) and Circuit Judge (1821-41) for the district which included this future county.
McQUADY (Breckinridge Co.): [Mc/kwa/dee] (Glen Dean). This crossroads hamlet with an active post office at the junction of KY 105 and 261, 5 air miles sw of Hardinsburg, grew up around a stage coach stop and store called Jolly Station for the family of Nelson Jolly, the local landowner. On August 25, 1890, when the Fordsville Branch of the Louisville Hardinsburg & Western (later a branch of the Louisville Henderson & St. Louis) Railroad was completed to this site, a post office was established and named for the family of its first postmaster, Annie McQuady. [1] Bill Thompson, interview, 9/28/1977; [2] Grace Whitler Lyons, "McQuady" BRECK. CO. HERALD-NEWS, BiCent. Ed. 7/4/1976, n.p.
McROBERTS (Letcher Co.): [Mc/rah/b/arts] (Jenkins West). This coal town strung out along the upper reaches of Wrights Fork of Boone (a tributary of the North Fork of the Kentucky River), and its several branches, at least a mile above Fleming and 9 1/2 air miles ne of Whitesburg, was founded by the Consolidation Coal Co. in 1912 and named for Samuel McRoberts, a New York City banker and later (1918-28) a company director. On March 30, 1912 the still active McRoberts post office was established with Daniel P. Looney, postmaster, and in November of that year the town became the terminus of the Eastern Kentucky Subdivision of the L&N Railroad. In the late 1940s the company ended its ownership of the town and sold their homes to its residents. This once very active community, which had a 1970 population of some 1000, is on an unmistakable decline. The main part of the town is largely gone, a number of its buildings in dilapidated condition. In their midst is one of the largest slag heaps in the country.

[Wm. T. Cornett, interview, 12/24/1977]
McWHORTER (Laurel Co.): (Portersburg, London).
A hamlet with a recently discontinued post office on KY 578/638 and the South Fork of the Rockcastle River, 1½ miles from the Jackson Co. line and 7 air miles ne of London. The post office was established Feb. 8, 1884 with Elijah C. McWhorter, postmaster, and named for his family of farmers and timber and stock raisers, perhaps specifically for Cannon McWhorter, a local merchant. [Logan Ewell, interview, 4/29/1972].
MADDOXTOWN (Fayette Co.): [Maddox/own] (Centerville). A predominantly black community of about 100 residents extending for about ½ mile along Huffman Mill Rd., just w. of its junction with Russell Cave Road (KY 353), 4 miles nne of Lexington's New Circle Rd. It was founded by Samuel Maddox, a Maryland native and Scott Co. farmer, on land he subdivided in 1871 and sold in lots to freed slaves to help them form their own village. Government maps today err in spelling it "Mattoxtown." Donald Burrell & Michael Putnam, Part 2, "Rural Settlement Housing Study of 1971, Housing Rept. of City-County Planning Comm." May 1971, P. 61
MADGE (Lawrence Co.): [Maedj] (Adams). An extinct post office somewhere on Dry Ridge, between KY 32 and Blaine Creek, about 6 air miles wsw of Louisa. The office, established June 21, 1893 with Jesse K. Woods, postmaster, was named for Madge Carter (Mrs. George) Swetnam, the daughter of Millard and Jennie Clayton Carter of that vicinity. The office was discontinued in 1927. [Georgia Lee Curnutte, letter to me, 5/11/1969]
COUNTY:

MADISON 446 sq. miles. Pop. 53,315. Seat: Richmond. Established in 1785 from part of Lincoln Co. and was one of the 9 counties formed while Kentucky was still a part of Virginia. It was named for James Madison who was to become the 4th president of the U.S. From its original territory all of 5 and part of 9 other counties were later created.
MADISONVILLE (Hopkins Co.): [Madisonville East, Madisonville West). A 4th class industrial city of some 17,900 persons and the seat of Hopkins Co., at the junction of US 41 and 41A and the Illinois Central Gulf and L&N Railroads, and 106 air miles sw of downtown Louisville. In 1807 it was established as the seat of Hopkins Co. on 40 acres donated by Daniel McGary and Solomon Silkwood and named for James Madison, then U.S. Secretary of State and later its 4th president. The Hopkins Court House post office, established Oct. 1, 1809 with Joshua Barnes, postmaster, was renamed Madisonville in 1813.

[ORIG. ATLAS & HIST. DATA OF HOP. CO. KY. 1974, Pp. 49-50]
MAGGARD (Magoffin Co.): [Mag-ard] (Salyersville North). A hamlet with an active post office on KY 1081 and Raccoon Creek, just above the mouth of Rock Lick Branch and 4½ air miles n of Salyersville. The office, established Jan. 30, 1929 with Reuben Arnett, postmaster, is said to have been named for Hiram Maggard, local storekeeper. [Connie Wireman, interview, 4/20/1979]
MAGGIE (Trigg Co.): [Maegh/e] (Cadiz). An extinct post office in what is now aptly called the Oakland Community [Oakland], centered around the Oakland Church, less than ½ mile e of KY 139 farm and 5½ air miles s of Cadiz. This had been a sawmill and trade center whose post office was established June 4, 1894 and named for Maggie L. Porter (later Mrs. M.L. Clark) who, herself, was postmaster from 1900 until the office closed in 1907. Oldtimers still identify the vicinity, on a Cadiz rural route, as Maggie.

MAGNESS (Marshall Co.): [Maegh/nas] (Oak Level). This extinct post office on KY 299, midway between the Calloway Co. line, ½ mile s, and KY 80, and 5½ air miles s of Benton, was in operation from 1891 to 1907. It was probably named for its first postmaster, Zachariah Magness, or his family. [Ray Mofield, interview, 8/28/1978]
MAGNOLIA (LaRue Co.): [Maegh/nohl/yə] (Magnolia). This village with an active post office and some 350 residents centering at the junction of US 31e and KY 470, ½ mile from the Hart Co. line and 8 air miles s of Hodgenville, extends for about a mile along both roads. The post office was established April 14, 1851 at a stage stop on the Louisville-Nashville Turnpike (now US 31e), 1 mile n of its present site, and is said to have been named by the first postmaster, David J. Harris, for his wife. After the Civil War, Aaron F. Smith moved the office to its present site, then and earlier called Centerpoint either for its location (1) on the dividing line of the headwaters of the Green and Nolin Rivers, (2) midway between Louisville and Nashville and its being the highest point on the pike between those 2 cities, or (3) between Hodgenville and Aetna Furnace (it's known to have early served as a shipping point for the iron works there); or because (4) it was midway between the stage stop and the Tate house to the s, or (5) it served as the neighborhood social center. [(1) Edna B. Nichols, interview, 10/18/1978; (2) Ibid., "Magnolia Was on Early Coach Route" LaRUE CO. HER-NEWS, 8/29/1974, P. 18C:1-2]
COUNTY:  

\text{MAGOFFIN}  \quad 303 \text{ sq. miles. Pop. 13,455.}  

Seat: Salyersville. Established in 1860 from part of Morgan, Johnson, and Floyd Co's. and named for Beriah Magoffin (1815-1885), Governor of Kentucky (1859-62) who is said to have resigned when his southern sympathies precluded his meeting Lincoln's call for troops.
MAJESTIC (Pike Co.): [Mədjeʃtɪk] (Majestic). A once booming coal town with a 1970 population of some 500, on KY 194 and Poplar Creek, 1 mile s of the Tug Fork River which forms the Kentucky-West Virginia state line, and 21 3/4 air miles e of Pikeville. It was named for the operator of the local mines, the Majestic Collieries, so named for the presumed magnitude of the deposit. Yet the mines closed in the early 1950s and many of its residents moved away. The still active post office was established July 13, 1909 with Thornton M. Epperson, postmaster.

(1) Eva Powell, interview, 8/16/1977; (2) Frank Ashley, "Spy! Scare at Majestic" LCJ, 11/3/1971, P. 1-7
MALONE (Morgan Co.): [Malone] (Cannel City). A hamlet with an active post office in the Caney Creek Valley and on KY 191, 2½ air miles s of West Liberty. The community is said to have been first called Mudville for the condition of its roads in the winter. The post office, established March 20, 1896 with Lula M. Lykins, postmaster, was named for Malone Lykins, a resident and descendant of pioneer John Barker who had settled in 1821 near the mouth of Barker Branch of Caney, ½ mile below (n.of) the post office site. (1) Raymond Benton, Caney, Ky., letter to me, 6/11/1979; (2) Arthur C. Johnson, EARLY MORGAN CO. 1974, Pp. 69-70.
MALONETON (Greenup Co.): [Məˈloʊnənˈtɑn] (Portsmouth). A rural settlement with an active post office on K-7 and Tygarts Creek, 5 air miles SE of Portsmouth and 8.5 air miles NNW of Greenup. It was probably named for its first postmaster, Wm. Malone when the office was established on June 20, 1884. It was then and afterwards also referred to as Fairview Community, probably a commendatory name, by which the local school (now closed) and church have also been called. About 100 persons call this home. [(1) M.M. Stevens, letter to Wm. G. Steel, 4/20/1922; (2) RUSSELL TIMES, 9/25/1942, Sec. 4, P. 6:4] 12/12/1937
MALT (LaRue Co.): [Mahlt] (Hibernia). An extinct mill town and post office on the West Fork of Otter Creek (a branch of the Rolling Fork River), 2 miles n of the Green Co. line, and 8 air miles se of Hodgenville. At the site of his mill and store, James M. Howell established the Otter Post Office [Aht/er] on July 31, 1886 which he named for the creek that, in turn, had undoubtedly been named for the animals found by early settlers on its banks. In Dec. 1897 the post-office was moved by Robert J. Skaggs to a point some 3 miles w where it continued to operate as Otter. In 1899 Howell requested another post office at the original site but since the Otter name was still in use, another was sought. According to local accounts, the name Malt was suggested by a store clerk who had spotted some cans of malt on a grocery shelf. [(1) Carl Howell, interview, 10/18/1978; (2) E.W. Creal, article in the LaRUE CO. HERALD-NEWS, 8/29/1974, P. 10D:1-4]
MAMMOTH CAVE (Edmonson Co.): An active post office at the Mammoth Cave Historic Entrance, 3 miles north of KY 70 at Sloans Crossing, ½ mile east of Green River, and 8½ air miles east of Brownsville. In this immediate vicinity are the hotels, restaurant, picnic and camping grounds, and ranger station that serves the National Park visitors and here was the terminus of the long defunct Mammoth Cave Railroad spur from Glasgow Junction (now Park City). The post office of Mammoth Cave was established Dec. 23, 1842 with Archibald Miller, postmaster. After an intermittent existence it closed in 1874 to be re-established as Mammoth on May 20, 1881 and renamed Mammoth Cave some 3 months later. It also became an incorporated city on Mar. 9, 1871.
MANCHESTER (Clay Co.): MANCHESTER. A 4th class city of some 1920 residents and the seat of Clay Co., at the junction of US 421 and KY 11, 123 air miles SE of downtown Louisville. In May 1807 the newly organized Clay Co. Court authorized the location of the county seat on a 10 acre tract ½ mile below the Lower Goose Creek Salt Works and stipulated that it be called Greenville for Gen'l. Green Clay (1757-1826), the Virginia-born legislator and later hero of the War of 1812, for whom the county was also named. Another Greenville in Kentucky led to its replacement, in Dec. 1807, by another name, Manchester, but the derivation of this name seems to have long been in dispute. The popular notion that it was suggested by Lucy Burman Lees, the second wife of Gen'. Theophilus Toulmin Garrard, for her hometown in England, is unfounded. She was born in 1825, long after the Manchester name had come into use, and it is thought she came from Virginia. The more credible explanation is that it was named by its founders, members of the White, Garrard, and Gilbert families, following their development of the famed Goose Creek Salt Works, who envisioned the genesis of an industrial city on the order of Manchester, England. The post office was established Jan. 1, 1813 as Clay County Court House with John M. Slaughter, postmaster. (1) Roy R. White, "Y Hollow Was Location of Organization of Clay Co. Held in 1807", THE MANCH. ENTERPRISE, 8/28/1952, Pp. 1, 6; (2) Jess Wilson, interview, 7/9/1977; (3) Marian Martin, interview, 6/29/1977; (4) Bige Hensley, interview, 9/26/1969. 
MANGUM (Pulaski Co.): [Mangum] (Mintonville). This active post office on KY. 1676, 1½ miles from the Casey Co. line and 9 air miles nw of Somerset, was established Aug. 31, 1908 by George Cleve Gifford who named it for Mangum, the seat of s.w. Oklahoma's Greer County where he had formerly lived. [Mary Weaver, interview, 3/23/1979]
MANILA (Johnson Co.): [Manila] (Oil Springs). A hamlet whose active post office, 1 1/2 miles up Colvin Branch of Paint Creek and 5 1/2 air miles wnw of Paintsville, was established July 1, 1898 with William McDowell, postmaster, and named for the Spanish-American War battle of Manila Bay (May 1, 1898). [Arthur Pope, interview, 3/28/1971]
MANITOU (Hopkins Co.): [Maen/a/tū] (Madisonville West). Only the sulphur spring, 2 stores, and the post office remain of this community at the junction of US 41A and KY 630, 3 air miles wnw of Madisonville. At what may have been called Tywhopity [Te/wahn/ih/tee], allegedly the aboriginal name for the local spring whose sulphur and salt content is said to have so appealed to Indian and pioneer settler alike, a community was founded and named Steubens Lick [Stū/ban iz Lihk]. For his services to the American cause in the Revolutionary War, the Virginia legislature granted Friederich Wilhelm, Baron von Steuben (1730-1794) a large acreage in this vicinity and the name was allegedly applied after his exploratory visit in 1787. A shortlived Steubens Lick post office (1878-79) was re-established Nov. 7, 1882 as Manitou, this name having been suggested by one C.J. Pratt who had noted on a recent visit to Manitou (Springs), Colorado the close similarity between the 2 springs. Manitou, an Algonquian word referring to the spirit or presence believed to pervade all living things, has a secondary meaning of "powerful" which was said to aptly describe the healing effects of the water which led to the town's becoming a late 19th century health resort. Most of the town was later destroyed by fire. A folk etymology has also been offered for the name: the man sent by the L&N Railroad to investigate the possibility of extending its line through that place, when asked what he had seen replied "only a man or two." (1) ORIG. ATLAS AND HIST. DATA OF HOPKINS CO. KY. 1974, Pp. 59-60; (2) Harold Ledbetter, interview, 10/1/1977; (3) Violetta M. Halpert, "Place Name Stories about W. Ky. Towns" KFR, Vol. 7, 7-9/1961, Pp. 110-11
 Probably the first permanent settlement in what became Taylor Co., this community on Robinson Creek, at the junction of KY 70 and 337, 7½ air miles e of Campbellsville, dates back to the late 18th century and was an early rival of Greensburg, in adjacent Green Co., for the trading center of the upper Green River area. It was first called Manns Lick for a local salt deposit on land owned by its pioneer settler, Moses Mann (1757-1849), a Revolutionary War veteran and Indian fighter. It became known as Mannsville before or at the time the still active post office was established on March 4, 1852 with Lewis G. Pennington, postmaster. It may also have been called Buena Vista for the Mexican War battle. It was incorporated in 1860. The community was almost completely destroyed by the April 3, 1974 tornado but has since been rebuilt.

[Betty Jane Gorin, interview, 10/18/1978]
MANSE (Garrard Co.): [Maens] (Paint Lick). This hamlet on KY 52, centering on the Old Paint Lick (Presbyterian) Church, 7½ air miles e of Lancaster, may first have been called Old Paint Lick for the church built around 1784. According to local tradition, it was renamed for the home of the preacher by residents who wished to distinguish their community from the village of Paint Lick, 2 miles ne. The Manse post office was in operation from 1890 to 1906 and mail service is now provided by Paint Lick. [Ora Spaid, LCJ, 7/3/ 1961, P. A12:1-6]
MANUEL (Perry Co.): [Maen'-yu-s'l] (Krypton). This extinct post office on Grapevine Creek and KY 28, 8 air miles nw of Hazard, was established June 25, 1910 and said to have been named by its first postmaster, Shade Davidson, for his son, Manuel, a carpenter. The small farmsteads in that vicinity are now on a Hazard rural route. [Roscoe Davis, interview, 7/29/1978]
MAPLE GROVE (Trigg Co.): [Map: el Grohly] (Canton). This extinct post office on Beech Fork of Donaldson Creek and KY 1062, 6 air miles ssw of Cadiz, was in operation from 1873 to 1913. Named for a grove of large maple trees, it served an area among whose earliest settlers were Drewry Bridges and his family who had arrived from Edgecomb Co., N.C. in 1804. Drewry's grandson, Cullen T. Bridges, was the only postmaster. The area is now served by the Cadiz post office. [HIST. RECORD OF TRIGG CO. 1820-1970, c1970, n.p.]
MAPLESVILLE (Laurel Co.): [Map/əlz/viəl] (London). This extinct post office on KY 586, less than ¼ mile n of its junction with KY 472 and 2½ air miles e of London, was not named for the trees but for the family of its first postmaster, William R. Maples. The office was established May 14, 1890. The vicinity is now on a London rural route.

[Logan Ewell, interview, 4/29/1972]
MARCUM (Clay Co.): [Mahr/kərm]. An active post office on KY 66 and the w bank of Red Bird River, 3/4 mile from the Leslie Co. line, and 11 air miles ese of Manchester. It was established near the mouth of Big Creek, over 4 miles downstream, on March 11, 1908 with Henry B. Marcum, Jr., postmaster, and named for the family of Thomas Marcum, a Clay Co. pioneer. It was later moved to its present site. [1] Kelly Morgan, interview, 3/24/1979; (2) Jess Wilson, interview, 3/24/1979.
MARETBURG (Rockcastle Co.): [Mehr/ät/bergh] (Maretburg).

This hamlet on US 150, 1 1/2 air miles w of Mount Vernon, was once a station on the L&N, Lebanon Branch called Mt. Guthrie for James Guthrie, the railroad's third president (q.v. Guthrie). Around 1882 it was renamed by the railroad for James Maret (1855-1936), then station agent and telegraph operator at the Mount Vernon station after he had prevented the collision of two trains at this point. Maret, later a Mount Vernon businessman, was to found the county's first newspaper and telephone exchange but was best known as the promoter of the famed Boone Way which later became the Dixie Highway or US 25. The Maretburgh post office, since discontinued, was established March 27, 1885 with Benjamin F. Sutton, postmaster. [Opp Bussell, Jr., THE BOONE WAY MAN, 1971, passim.]
MARIBA (Menifee Co.): [NE/a/bee, MS/a/ba] (Scranton). This hamlet with an active post office on US 460, 3 air miles SE of Frenchburg, is said to have been named by William C. Taylor, merchant, lumberman, county judge, school superintendent, postmaster, and large landowner, for his wife, Mariba Osborne Taylor. The post office was established as Hariba, probably a spelling error, on May 10, 1882 with Jonathan Osborne, postmaster. Taylor became postmaster in 1883 and Mariba herself succeeded him in 1886 and got the name changed to Mariba. The community, which may also have been nicknamed Pokeberry, was an early producer of barrel staves and tanbark.

[(1) Geneva Thompson, ms. for Geo. Boswell, MSU, c1965; (2) Clint Sorrell, letter to me, 12/12/1979]
MARION (Crittenden Co.): A 4th class city of some 2900 residents and the centrally located seat of Crittenden Co., on US 60 and 641, 132 air miles sw of downtown Louisville. It was founded in 1842 on land donated by Dr. John S. Gilliam for the new county's seat and named for Revolutionary War General Francis Marion. It was incorporated 2 years later. The post office established as Oxford April 29, 1843 on the grounds of the Oxford Academy, several miles se, was moved to, and renamed, Marion in 1846. [Robert M. Wheeler, "Hist. of Marion" 12 page supplement to the CRITTENDEN PRESS, 12/7/1972]
MARKSBURY (Garrard Co.): [Mahrx/behr/e] (Bryantsville).

An extinct post office on US 27, 4 1/2 air miles NW of Lancaster, that was named by and for Wm. D. Marksbury, the local storekeeper, who established the office on April 4, 1883. It closed in 1915. Now only a filling station and the nearby Forks of Dix River Church mark the place. [Fat Ballard, interview, 4/21/1978]
MARLOWE (Letcher Co.): [Mahr/1oh] (Mayking). Now considered suburban Whitesburg, this former coal camp, on KY 931 (old KY 15), ½ road mile due n of Whitesburg's nw city limits, was established in the early 1920s and named for M.K. Marlowe, the co-founder of the local Elkhorn and Jellico Coal Co. The camp and most of the local institutions are gone and 90 per cent of the homes strung out along Sandlick Creek and Thompson Branch have been torn down in the last 20 years. [(1) Wm. T. Cornett, interview, 12/24/1977; (2) MT. EAGLE, 5/28/193]
MARROWBONE (Cumberland Co.): [Maer/bohn] (Dubre, Waterview).

This village of some 200 residents with a bank, school, stores, factories, and an active post office is strung out for almost 2 miles along KY 90 and the n bank of the stream for which it was named. The community, 6½ air miles wnw of Burkesville, was founded in 1809 and its post office established Jan. 15, 1829 with Richard Wade, postmaster. Several accounts have been given for the naming of the highly fertile Marrowbone Creek which heads near Beaumont in Metcalfe Co. and flows ese to join the Cumberland River below Burkesville. The most fanciful of these refers to one of the 11 children of pioneer settler, Jane Allen, who became violently ill from eating the marrow of a bear shot by his older brothers. It is said he would eat no more of "that marrowbone meat". Or the creek was named by early settlers who likened the rich farm land there to the marrow of a bone. Contemporary historians are fairly sure that the creek was named around the turn of the 19th century by either the Allens or the children of Capt. John Pace, the earliest settlers, for the Marrowbone Creek in their native Henry Co., Va.  

COUNTY:

MARSHALL 303 sq. miles. Pop. 24,700. Seat:

Benton. Established in 1842 from part of Calloway Co. and named for John Marshall (1755-1835), the first Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court (1801-35).
MARSHALLVILLE (Magoffin Co.): [Mahrshəl/vi hl] (Ivyton).
An active post office on KY 867, 5½ air miles se of Salyersville, serving the families of upper Gun Creek, an e bank tributary of Licking River. The office, established in 1941, was named for local families. [Connie Wireman, interview, 4/20/1979]
Established in 1870 from parts of Johnson, Floyd, Pike, and Lawrence Co's. and named for John P. Martin (1811-1862),
Kentucky legislator (1841-43, 1857-61) and U.S. Congressman (1845-47).
MARTIN (Floyd Co.): [Mahr'tan] (Martin, Harold). A 4th class city with an active post office and some 850 residents at the forks of Beaver Creek, 5 miles ssw of its confluence with the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River at Allen, and 6 air miles s of Prestonsburg. It was founded as a coal mining community and developed with the construction of the C&O Railroad to this strategic location after 1911. The post office, which had been established March 7, 1910 as Bucks Branch for this w bank tributary of Beaver Creek, was renamed Smalley in 1913 for Smalley Crisp, the local land owner, when Martin Van Allen was appointed postmaster. Though in 1926 the office officially assumed Allen's given name, a 1915 map shows that this name had already come to identify the community at the mouth of Bucks Branch. The town grew to a peak population of 1170 in 1950 at the height of the coal boom in that area.
MARTINSVILLE (Warren Co.) [Mahr/tanz/vihl] (Meador).

An extinct community with a post office in operation from 1820 to 1850, 1 mile n of the Barren River and the Allen Co. line, 1 1/2 miles s of the junction of KY 101 and 1402, and 10 1/2 air miles e of Bowling Green. It was laid off as a town in 1820 by its first settler, the pioneer physician Hudson Martin who most likely named it for himself.

[Nathan Perry Allen, ms. hist. of Smith's Grove area of Warren Co. no date, in Ky. Libr., WKU]
MARTWICK (Muhlenberg Co.): [Mahrt/wihk] (Central City East). A coal town that grew up around the Martwick Mine opened in 1910 by two Greenville coal operators Charles M. Martin and Judge William A. Wickliffe for whom it was named. It is on KY. 1381, just n of the Ill. Central Gulf Railroad, USP2, and the Western Kentucky Parkway, about 1½ miles from the Green River and the Ohio Co. line, and 10 air miles ne of Greenville. The post office, established on March 15, 1912, with Arthur C. Howard, postmaster, is now a rural branch of the Central City post office. (1) Alex' r. Cather, interview, 8/8/1977; (2) "They are Prominent Representatives of the Coal Industry in W. Ky." LOU. HERALD, 3/21/1923.
MARY ALICE (Harlan Co.): [Mary Alice] (Harlan). A coal town with an active post office on KY 72 and Catron Creek (a branch of Martins Fork of the Cumberland River), 3½ air miles s of Harlan. It was named by the owner of the Mary Alice Coal Co., Dr. H.K. Buttermore, for his 2 daughters, Mary Jane and Ruth Alice. The post office was established in 1945.

Letter from postmaster, Mary Alice, Ky. to Robt. K. Francis of the Postmark Collectors Club, Yalesville, Ct.
MARYDELL (Laurel Co.): [Marydell, Marydell] (Blackwater).

An active post office on KY 1803, less than ½ mile from the Clay Co. line, 3/4 mile s of the Daniel Boone Parkway and 8 ½ air miles e of London. The post office was established July 25, 1884 with Newton M. Gregory, postmaster, and named for either Mary, the daughter, or a local resident, and her friend, Dell Nicholson, or, possibly, a Ms. Marydell Spivey.' [(1) Julie Lee-Rudder, in letter to me, 3/18/1970; (2) Logan Ewell, interview, 4/29/1972]
MARY HELEN (Harlan Co.): [Mary Helen] (Harlan, Evarts).

A coal town with an active post office and a 1970 population of 375 extending up Turtle Creek and its branches from a point about 1 mile from the confluence of Turtle and Martins Fork of the Cumberland River, and 3 1/2 air miles SE of Harlan. It was founded and named around 1917 by the Mary Helen Coal Corp. The post office was established Nov. 1, 1919 by Silas J. Dickenson as Coalgood, the transposition of the words aptly describing the quality of the coal being mined there. While the post office still bears this name, the local L&N Railroad station has always been Merna for reasons as yet unknown. The community is now home to 3 preparation plants and the loading facilities of the Bow Valley Coal Resources Corp. [(1) B.W. Whitfield, Jr., letter to me, 6/28/1980; (2) Eliz. L. Benge, letter to me, 5/17/1980]
MARYHILL ESTATES (Jefferson Co.): [Maryhill Estates] (Jeffersonville). A 6th class city of some 225 residents between Cherrywood Village (on the s) and Brownsboro Rd. (on the n), 6 air miles e of the court house in downtown Louisville. Incorporated in 1963, it had been developed as a subdivision in 1960 by John A. Walser on hilly land purchased from the Archdiocese of Louisville just after the Second World War and named for both the Blessed Virgin Mary and Walser's mother and daughter. The Louisville post office has always provided mail service. [John A. Walser, letters to me, 1/9/1981 and 1/26/1981]
MASHFORK (Magoffin Co.): [Maesh/fawrk] (Oil Springs, Salyersville North). This active post office on new US 460, 4 air miles east of Salyersville, is at the eastern end of the community of Mashfork that extends for about a mile along the stream for which it is named, a branch of State Road Fork of the Licking River. The post office was established July 13, 1922 by Ogie Williams who is said to have wanted to name it Marsh Fork for the soggy and marshy land in that area but since this name was already in use, she settled for the name of the creek. Several explanations of the latter have been offered. Years ago hogs would be turned loose to feed on a mash of beechnuts and acorns and thus the name may be a corruption of "mast". Less likely would the name refer to the craft of whiskey making. (1) Connie Wireman, letter to me, 4/24/1979; (2) Austin Wireman, interview, 4/20/1979.
MASON \(\text{Ma/sən}\). 238 sq. miles. Pop. 17,534. Seat: Maysville.

Established in 1788 from part of Bourbon Co., it was one of the 9 counties formed while Kentucky was still a part of Virginia, and was named for George Mason (1725-1792) who drafted Virginia's Declaration of Rights (1776), the basis of the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution. All or part of 19 other counties were later carved from its original territory.
MASON (Grant Co.): A hamlet extending along US/25 and the Southern Railway for 1½ miles from KY. 1933 n. to a point 3½ air miles s of Williamstown. Its still active post office, established July 26, 1855 as Gouge's was named for a local tavern run by James Gouge and his brother who had arrived in the vicinity in 1798. In 1876 the Southern built a station there and named it Gouge's or Turner's Station (for the station agent). The following year the post office and station were renamed Mason presumably for one of the railroad's contractors. By the turn of the century the place had become a thriving shipping center for area tobacco and timber and as many as 300 families then patronized its post office. (1) Ona Morgan, interview, 4/30/1978; (2) Isabel Lanter, "Early Grant Co. Settlers a Hardy Lot by Necessity" GRANT CO, NEWS, 8/12/1976, P. 3B.
MASONVILLE (Christian Co.): [Mān/vən/viːl] (Hopkinsville). Best known today as the site of an underpass under the Illinois Central Railroad Gulf/Tracks on US 41A, just s of its junction with KY 1027 and 4½ air miles of Hopkinsville, this place was established in 1903 as a stop on the then Tennessee Central Railroad and named for the local landowning Mason family. Since the Mason farm was in the shape of a square, very unusual for this part of the country, local people came to refer to it simply as The Square. By this name, in fact, a post office was established there on May 7, 1891 with Clinton T. Mason, postmaster. Masonville still identifies this tiny settlement of several homes for when the post office closed in 1901, The Square ceased to exist as a name. Folks now get their mail from Hopkinsville. [Wm. T. Turner, 8/7/1977]
MASONVILLE (Daviess Co.): (Mas-en-vihl) (Sutherland). A community of prosperous homes extending N on US 231 for about 1½ miles from its junction with Lashbrook Rd., about 5 air miles SSE of Owensboro, to the Masonville School. This area, settled shortly after the War of 1812 possibly by a Mr. Wiley, was laid out as a town by Judge Triplett and named for George Mason (1725-1792), the author of Virginia’s Bill of Rights (1776), who had owned some 60,000 acres along Panther Creek and Green River or his grandson, George R. Mason, who lived at the site of the later Green River steel mill. The Masonville post office was established Aug. 21, 1856 with Henry F. Carpenter, postmaster, and closed in 1907. At some unknown location another Masonville post office was begun by Samuel Haynes on July 16, 1842. Eight years later it was moved to and/or renamed Fillmore and by this name was in operation until Dec. 1855. + 100 or so residents are now served by the Utica and Philpot post offices. [1) The Orrhoods, interview, 9/30/1977; (2) HIST. OF DAVIESS CO. KY. 1883, P. 659]
MASSAC (McCracken Co.): [Mass/aeck] (Paducah West). A crossroads settlement with extinct post office at the junction of KY 786 and 1322, 5 air miles SW of Paducah. The post office was established as Massack on June 30, 1851 with Thomas B. Hines, postmaster, and named for the nearby creek which, in turn, had been named for the old Fort Massac just E of Metropolis, Ill. on the Ohio River. The fort had been built in 1757 by the French to contain English settlement along the river. First called Ft. Ascension, it was later renamed Ft. Massiac for the French Minister of Marine in the Seven Years War. The fort was destroyed by a band of Cherokees and rebuilt in 1794 by Americans who simplified the spelling to its present Ft. Massac. It was abandoned after the War of 1812. It is now maintained as a state park. The post office of Massac in Kentucky was discontinued in 1908 and the area is now on a Paducah rural route. The name of the community and the nearby creek, 2 miles E, had been spelled as both Massac and Massack on maps for nearly a century until, in the 1930s, the Board on Geographic Names learned that local usage favored the former spelling. (1) Robt. G. Ferris, ed. EXPLORERS AND SETTLERS, US Dept. of Int. Nat’l. Surv. of Hist’c. Sites & Buildings, 1968, P. 336; (2) Geo. R. Stewart, AM. PLACE NAMES, P. 283; (3) Exchange of corresp. betw. BGN exec. and county officials, 1938.
MATANZAS (Ohio Co.): [Ma/taen/zas, Ma/taen/zas] (Equality).
This extinct post office on KY 85, 8 air miles w of Hartford, was established March 9, 1900 with Fritz J. Jenny, postmaster, and named for the Cuban seaport where U.S. soldiers were stationed during the Spanish-American War. It was discontinued in 1912 and mail has since been forwarded from the post office at Centertown, 5 road miles se. [Musker L. Heavrin, Place Names of Ohio Co., ms. 3/20/1925]
MATLOCK (Warren Co.): (Maet/lahk) (Drake). A hamlet with an extinct post office at the junction of I-65 and KY 240, 1 mile from the Simpson Co. line and 7 air miles s of Bowling Green. It may have been named for Rile Matlock, an early settler. The post office was established May 6, 1892 with Charles A. Matlock, postmaster, and closed in 1904. Residents now get their mail from Bowling Green. (Harry Jackson, interview, 8/31/1978)
MATTIE (Lawrence Co.): [Maet ee] (Adams). An extinct post
office on the Right Fork of Little Blaine Creek, some 9 air
miles sw of Louisa, that was established April 29, 1898 and
named for Mrs. Mattie Chaffin McKinster, the first postmaster.
It was discontinued in 1940. [Louise Kingsmore, letter to me,
2/27/1979]
MATTINGLY (Breckinridge Co.): [Mattingly] (Mattingly). A hamlet with extinct post office at the junction of KY 629 and 992, 7 air miles w of Hardinsburg. This site was called Balltown prior to the establishment, on Nov. 9, 1881, of the Mattingly post office.

The first postmaster, Richard T. Mattingly, was a descendant of Richard Mattingly, a Maryland native (ne 1756) who had settled his family on Long Lick Creek, in what was to become Breckinridge Co., in 1791. It is not known when or by whom the community of Balltown or Mattingly was first settled but the post office was probably named for the Mattingly family. Mail is now carried on a rural route from Cloverport, 5 air miles n. (1) Bill Thompson, HIST. & LEG. OF BRECK. CO., KY., n.d., P. 90; (2) Lim Bowling, "Hist. of Breck. Co. Postoffices" BRECK. CO. HER-NEWS, 7/24/1975.
MAUD (Washington Co.): [Maud]. A hamlet with an active post office on KY 55, just e of the Nelson Co. line and the Beech Fork of the Rolling Fork River, and 9 air miles nnw of Springfield. This early farm trade center and mill town was first called Ray's Mill for a water-powered grist mill built by a Mr. Ray. After a Mr. Bascum had settled in the vicinity, the settlement came to be known as Racum, and was later called Glenville for its picturesque valley location. Another post office with the latter name led to the adoption, on Aug. 2, 1880, of the name Maud for the local office honoring a famous trotting horse of that period. [Hazel C. Webb, ms. "A Interesting Story about Maud" 1969]
MAVITY (Boyd Co.): [Maev/iht/ee] (Boltsfork). A settlement with extinct post office at the junction of KY 3 and 1937, 1½ miles s of I 64 and 6 air miles sw of Catlettsburg. It is said to have been named for William Fletcher Mavity, a local farmer and preacher and the son of John Mavity, a native Virginian. The post office was established June 9, 1884 with Charles L. Williams, postmaster, and closed in 1912. It is now on a Catlettsburg rural route. [Evelyn Scyphers Jackson, col. "Boyd Co. Ancestors" BOYD CO. PRESS- OBS. 10/10/1974, P. 1:1-3]
MAXON (McCracken Co.): [Maon] (Paducah West). A settlement at the junction of KY 305 and 786, 3 1/2 air miles w of Paducah, which grew up around the Relief Mill, a grist mill on the banks of Massac Creek, established around 1870 by Morris I. Maxon (1831-1903), a Pennsylvania-born miller. According to local tradition, Maxon agreed to his customers' request to receive their mail for them at his mill, and soon mail was coming into the community addressed to Maxon's Mill. When the post office was opened there on Nov. 3, 1870 it was given this name and Maxon was appointed postmaster. The name was shortened to Maxonmill in 1895. When the Illinois Central Railroad's Paducah & Cairo line was built through in the 1920s, a station was erected at a point 3/4 mile sw of the mill that came to be known as Maxon Station. In 1925 the post office was moved to a site between the mill and station (i.e. at the junction of KY 305 and 725) and renamed West Paducah which it remains to the present. The settlement by the mill site is now known simply as Maxon. (1) Janis K. Daily, Place Names of McCracken Co., ms. in the WKU Folklore Coll., from John T. Donovan's ms. on the Catholic Church in Paducah, Ky.; (2) Postmaster, West Paducah, Ky., letter to me, 8/5/1980.
MAYFIELD (Graves Co.): [Má/feild] (Mayfield, Hickory, Farmington). A 3rd class industrial city of some 9,900 residents and the centrally located seat of Graves Co., on US 45 and KY 80, just off the Western Kentucky Parkway, and 177 air miles SW of downtown Louisville. It is believed to have been settled by Mr. and Mrs. John Anderson of South Carolina in 1819. This same John Anderson presumably established the Mayfield post office on August 15, 1823 while the Legislative act creating Graves Co. in December of that year also established Mayfield as its seat. The origin of this name has been much debated. While everyone agrees it was named for the nearby creek, on one is certain for whom the creek was named. One suggestion is that it was named for a George Mayfield, close friend and hunting companion of Davy Crockett, who had accompanied the latter to Texas where both were killed at the Alamo. There is, however, no record of a George Mayfield having been in this section of Kentucky. The more acceptable but still unauthenticated tradition refers to the kidnapping and murder of a Mr. Mayfield, a wealthy Mississippian. While enjoying himself at the races at or near the present Hickman, Ky., he was abducted and taken to the future site of Mayfield presumably to be held for ransom. While there, for some reason he saw fit to carve his name on a tree. Later, in an attempted escape, he was shot and his body fell into the creek and was never seen again. All that was ever found of him was his name carved on the tree. The creek was henceforth called Mayfield Creek and later the town was called Mayfield. The city's textile, clothing, ceramics, and tire
factories make it one of the leading industrial centers of western Kentucky while it is also one of the world's largest looseleaf tobacco markets. (1) Lon Carter Barton, interview, 8/5/1977; (2) D. Trabue Davis, STORY OF MAYFIELD THROUGH A CENTURY, 1823-1923, 1923, P. 9; (3) Lon C. Barton, "Young So. Carolinian and Wife Were First Settlers of Mayfield" MAYF. MESS., Dec. 27, 1969, P. 18; 1969.
MAYKING (Letcher Co.): [Mā/ken] (Mayking). A village with an active post office and some 750 residents on US 119, where Bottom Fork and Pine Creek join the North Fork of the Kentucky River, 2 1/2 air miles east of Whitesburg. It is believed to have been at or near the site of the so-called Adams Colony, the first settlement in 1803/4 in what became Letcher Co. The large bottom land in the immediate vicinity of Mayking may have been first settled by Benjamine (sic) Webb, the son of James, a leader of the Adams group, and an early community there may have been called Bottom Fork. Though first considered for the county's seat in 1842, it lost out to Whitesburg. The origin of the Mayking name has long been debated. Some say that when the first postmaster, Isom Gibson failed to win approval of any of the names he had submitted to the Post Office Department, he was forced to accept the name suggested to him, that of a recently deceased friend of a postal official. Gibson is said to have later received a letter from a Leominster, Mass. resident stating that she had named the post office for a girl friend. More likely it was named for the oldest daughter of an early settler named King, or for the wife of the man who had established in that vicinity one of eastern Kentucky's earliest locally financed coal operations. In any case, the post office has been in operation since Jan. 25, 1894. Though having a great potential for growth at one time, the place never really developed and it doesn't seem to be growing at all anymore. It is still largely a trading center for area truck mines and the home of some of the more successful business and professional persons in the county. [(1) Scalf, KLF, Pp. 153-5, 467-8; (2) Wm. T. Cornett,
interview, 12/24/1977; (3) Harry Caudill, interview, 7/26/1971; 
(4) FIRST TRIP, 9/1/1949, P. 16; (5) Walter Wampler, Mayking, Ky. 
to Kenny Garrett, Pikeville Coll. for Leonard Roberts
MAYNARD (Allen Co.): Maynord (Austin). On the Tompkinsville Rd. (now KY 98), over a mile west of the Barren River, a settlement that may once have been called Buncombe [Buhnm/ən] sprang up around a store opened by Hick Maynard, a Tennessean, during or just after the Civil War. The Maynard post office was established in this vicinity on Mar. 17, 1898 by Sim Maynard and allegedly named for Hick. The office was discontinued on Oct. 31, 1907 and the 50 or so residents, now served by two stores and the Bethel Baptist Church, get their mail from Scottsville, 5 air miles west. Camping and fishing opportunities are provided Allen Countians and others at nearby boat docks and camp sites by the Barren River Reservoir.1 (1) Louise Horton, HILLS OF THE PENNYROYAL, P. 76; (2) The Eubanks, interview, 7/22/1978.
MAYSLICK (Mason Co.): [Māz.Lihk] (Mayslick). A village with an active post office and some 400 residents at the junction of old US 62 and KY 324 (bypassed on the e by the new route of US 62) and 9 air miles ssw of Maysville. The vicinity was first settled in 1788 by 5 related families from Plainfield or Scotch Plains, N.J. who had purchased 1400 acres from William May (1752-c.1825) for whom, and a nearby salt spring, it was named. The post office was established July 1, 1800 with James Morris, postmaster. [FROM CABIN TO COLLEGE, 1976, P. 97]
MAYSVILLE (Mason Co.). [Max/viHL] (Maysville East and West). A 3rd class industrial and trade center of some 7,900 persons, the world's second largest tobacco market, and the seat of Mason Co., at the confluence of Limestone Creek and the Ohio River, 102 air miles e of downtown Louisville. In 1785, 800 surveyed acres at this site were granted by the Virginia legislature to John May, a delegate of the Kentucky District to that body, who had earlier been sent by it to Kentucky to adjudicate land disputes. The settlement that shortly developed there was Limestone for the creek which is said to have been so-named by Capt. John Hedges in 1773. On Dec. 11, 1787 a town called Maysville was formally created and named for May. Yet, for some inexplicable reason, the local post office was established Oct. 1, 1794 as Limestone with George Mitchell, postmaster, and not officially renamed Maysville until 1799 (or possibly a little earlier). The Limestone name actually persisted in use for many years; by 1824 the town was still being called by both names. Due to its strategic location on the river and its development as a major river port and the chief trading center for northeastern Kentucky, Maysville, in 1848, succeeded in attracting the county seat from Washington, 4 mile sw. (q.v.) [1) L. Alberta Brand, "Place Names of Mason Co." DAR ms, 1941, Pp. 1-4; (2) Jean Calvert, interview, 6/25/1977; (3) Marybelle C. Weis, "The Pollit Record" LEDGER-INDEPENDENT bicent. ed, 7/2/1976, P. 12; (4) John Ed Pearce, "Mason Co." LCJM, 9/24/1978, P. 12ff.]
MAYTOWN (LANGLEY POST OFFICE) (Floyd Co.): Maytown, Laey/lee (Martin). A village with an active post office and a 1970 population of some 700 on KY 80 and the Right Fork of Beaver Creek, 9 air miles s of Prestonsburg. The community has always been called Maytown for a prominent May family whose Beaver Creek ancestor, Reuben May, settled in the vicinity in the 1820s. But since that name had been pre-empted for a post office in Morgan Co., the office established Nov. 13, 1890 to serve the Floyd Co. community was named Langley probably for John W. Langley (c.1862-1932), a state legislator from 1887 to 1891 who was to represent that district in the U.S. Congress from 1907 to 1926. [Kozee, 1961, Pp. 446ff]
MAYTOWN (Morgan Co.): [Maytown] (Hazel Green). Little remains of this prosperous 19th century mill town at the head of Blackwater Creek but its post office at the junction of KY 946 and 1010, ½ mile n of the Wolfe Co. line and 12 air miles wsw of West Liberty. The post office was established Feb. 3, 1848 as Morgan, probably for the county, but in June, 1849 it became known as Blackwater for the creek and retained this name through its discontinuous existence until, in 1882, the then postmaster and storekeeper, Elijah B. May, had it changed again to Maytown for his family or, specifically, his father, Caleb. It was incorporated as a town in 1884. The creek is said to have been named for the dark appearance leaves made of its waters in the fall and winter. (1) Sarah Wills Ingram, "Maytown as it Once Was and as it Now Is" MT. STERLING ADVOCATE, 11/4/1954; (2) Mrs. Charlotte W. Sorrell, Wolfe, Co., in t.p. for Leonard Roberts, MSU, 1960.
MAZIE (Lawrence Co.): [Maze] (Mazie). An active post office on KY 32 and the Right Fork of Blaine Creek, just above the mouth of Mill Creek, and 20 air miles wsw of Louisa. Brit Maxie is said by some to have submitted his own name with his request for the local post office. But postal officials, unable to decipher his handwriting, apparently concluded it was Mazie and with this name the office was established on April 27, 1899 with Solvinon Sparks, postmaster. For some reason the error was never corrected. Others dispute this, claiming it was named for an elderly resident, the mother or grandmother of the local preacher. Maxie actually did not become postmaster until 1921.

(1) Louise Kingsmore, letter to me, 3/27/1969; (2) Marie Carey, interview, 10/14/1977; (3) Rufus Reed, interview, 8/1/1971.
Meade County

Established in 1823 from parts of Breckenridge and Hardin Co's. and named for Capt. James Meade, one of the 9 officers killed in the Battle of River Raisin, Jan. 22, 1813, for whom Kentucky counties were named.
MEADOR (Allen Co.): [Mead/ə] (Meador). This crossroads settlement with extinct post office on KY 101, 1½ miles S of the Barren River and 9 air miles N of Scottsville, was probably named for its first postmaster, Asberry P. Meador, who established the office March 9, 1891. The vicinity is now on a Scottsville rural route. [1] Louise Horton, IN THE HILLS OF PENNYROYAL, P. 76; (2) The Eubanks, interview, 7/22/1978
MEANS (Menifee Co.): [Meenz] (Frenchburg). A hamlet with an active post office extending for ½ mile along US 460, between the n and s routes of KY 713, just e of the Montgomery Co. line, and 7 air miles w of Frenchburg. The post office was established April 10, 1901 and named for the local storekeeper and its first postmaster, Wilbur W. Means.
MELBER (Mccracken-Graves intercounty feature) [Mehl/bar] (Melber).

A village with an active post office and a 1970 population of about 250, centering at the junction of KY 339 and 1820, roughly half in each county, 7½ air miles ssw of Paducah and 13 air miles nnw of Mayfield. The community was first called Lewisburg (not Louisberg as given in an 1880s Graves Co. atlas) for Lewis Helfer, the owner-operator of a water mill on Mayfield Creek, a mile n. When he established the local post office on April 17, 1882, he found that another office had pre-empted his name and, instead, offered that of the local Melber family whose descendants still live in the area. Oldtimers occasionally still refer to the village as Burg.

[Alma Good, Melber, Ky., in letter to me, 8/11/1980]
MELBOURNE (Campbell Co.): [Mehl/bern] (Withamsville). A 6th class city with an active post office and a 1978 estimated population of 300, in the Ohio River bottom n of KY 8, over 6½ air miles se of the Newport post office. The town was founded and laid out in 1890 on land owned mostly by Hubbard Helm and said to have been named by him for the city in Australia from whence he had come. The post office was established June 18, 1891 with Robert A. Carnes, postmaster, and the town was incorporated in 1912. ([1] Otto B. Good, letter to me, 11/2/1980; [2] Janis R. First, letter to me, 8/27/1980]
MEMPHIS JUNCTION (Warren Co.): [Mehm/ʃəs Djuhnhʃən]
(Bowling Green South). Now part of the suburban area s of the Bowling Green city limits, this small community grew up around the point where the L&N Railroad's Memphis line switched off from the main line to Nashville. During steam locomotive days, a coaling station and water tank here served through trains. The Memphis Junction post office was in operation from 1868 to 1909. The Junction is just s of the Green River Parkway, ¼ mile w of US 31w, and less than a mile s of Bowling Green. The several homes in the immediate vicinity are on a Bowling Green rural route.

[Chas. Castner, interview, 3/21/1972]
COUNTY:

MENIFEE. 210 sq. miles. Pop. 5,080. Seat:

Frenchburg. Kentucky's third smallest county in population, it was established in 1869 from parts of Bath, Morgan, Powell, Montgomery, and Wolfe Co's. and named for Richard Hickman Menefee (1809-1841) who represented this district in the Kentucky Legislature (1836-37) and in the US Congress (1837-39).

An explanation for the spelling discrepancy cannot be given.
County: Mercer

256 sq. miles. Pop. 18,844. Seat: Harrodsburg. Established in 1785 from part of Lincoln Co. and was one of the 9 counties formed while Kentucky was still a part of Virginia. It was named for Gen'l. Hugh Mercer (1725-1777), an officer in the Continental Army who was mortally wounded at the Battle of Princeton. Harrodsburg is generally considered the first permanent English settlement west of the Alleghany Mountains.
MEREDITH (Grayson Co.): [M2/3/dihth] (Clarkson). A rural settlement with extinct post office at the junction of KY 259 and 226, 5½ air miles sse of Leitchfield. The post office was established March 25, 1902 and named for the family of its first postmaster, Lewis T. Meredith. A thriving community at one time with stores, mills, and shops, there is now but one store on a Leitchfield rural route that caters to campers and vacationers at Nolin Reservoir several miles s. [Mrs. Woodrow Alexander, "Communities" sect. of BiCent. Ed. of LEITCHFIELD GAZETTE, c.1976, P. 8:6-7] 243
MERRIMAC (Taylor Co.): [Mehr/ee/maek, Me/ee/maek] (Bradforsville). An extinct post office near the head of Robinson Creek, a Green River tributary, 3 miles w of the junction of Marion, Taylor, and Casey Counties and 11 air miles ene of Campbellsville. To serve a community known as Robinson Creek Church since 1825, Ulysses C. Clarkson, on Sept. 28, 1882, established a post office which he named Merrimac at the suggestion of Oliver Murrell, a 12 year old schoolboy. The boy is said to have been impressed with the tale of the Civil War battle of the 2 ironclad warships, the Monitor and the Merrimac, that had fought to a draw in Hampton Roads, Va. on March 9, 1862 and felt that the Merrimac had been unduly slighted in memorials of the battle. Area residents now secure their mail from the Bradfordsville post office, 10 road miles nnw. [Central Kentucky News-Journal, 7/16/1931, P. 6]
MERRY OAKS (Barren Co.); [Mehre's Oak] (Park City). A hamlet with extinct post office at the junction of US 68 (KY 80) and KY 1186, 1 mile from the Warren Co. line and 9 air miles w of Glasgow. It is said to have been named for a large oak tree there, since removed, and, as horse racing was a popular early 19th century local pasttime, for the famed English track of the same name. The post office, established Jan. 30, 1836 with Isaac Denton, postmaster, was closed in 1904 and mail is now secured from the Warren Co. post office of Smiths Grove, 6 1/2 road miles w. (1) Janet Johnson "Barren Co. P.N." WKU Arch, 1970; (2) Virginia Snoddy, "The Merry Oaks of Long Ago" GLAS. TIMES, c. 6/8/1936
Mershons (Laurel Co.) [Mershons] (Livingston). An extinct post office on KY 490, 9 air miles N of London, that was probably named for William Titus Mershon (c.1756-1842), a native New Jersian and Revolutionary War veteran who, sometime before 1813, settled at the junction of the Wilderness Rd. and a road leading to the Clay Co. salt works. This allegedly became Mershons Cross Roads. By this name and presumably at this site a post office was established April 1, 1837 with Cornelius Mershon, postmaster. This was changed to Bethel Cross Roads in 1860 and discontinued on Feb. 19, 1861. On Sept. 13, 1861 another Mershons Cross Roads post office was established, either at the same site or nearby, and this was renamed Mershons in 1895. Since the present Mershons is not at a cross roads, it may be that the name was transferred from the other location. This area is now served by the East Bernstadt post office. [Carroll Evan Edmiston, OUR FAMILIES FROM THE ATLANTIC COAST COLONIES OF 1665 TO THE CALIFORNIA PACIFIC OF 1974, priv. printed, 1974, Pp. 140-44] 6-2
META (Pike Co.): [Mee/d2] (Meta). A hamlet with a recently closed post office centering at the junction of US 119 and KY 194, just ne of the mouth of Bent Branch of Johns Creek, and 6 air miles nne of Pikeville. The post office, established June 15, 1896 with Samuel M. Ford, postmaster, is said to have been named for Meta Smith, a West Virginia girl who was visiting the Fords at the time a name was being sought for the new post office. The vicinity is now served by a rural branch of the Pikeville post office. [Mrs. Winnie P. Murray, ex-P.M., Meta, Ky. interview, 5/16/1976]
COUNTY: METCALFE 296 sq. miles. Pop.: yy. Seat: Edmonton. Established in 1860 from parts of Adair, Barren, Cumberland, Green, and Monroe Co's. and named for Thomas Metcalfe (1780-1855), U.S. Congressman (1819-28) and Senator (1848-49), and tenth Governor of Kentucky (1828-32).
MEXICO (Crittenden Co.): [Mehx/ee/koh] (Fredonia). An important early 20th century producer of fluorspar, this hamlet, strung out along KY 70 and the Illinois Central Gulf Railroad, is ½ mile from the Caldwell Co. line and 6 air miles s of Marion. According to local tradition, people moved into the area when fluorspar mining operations began before the turn of the present century and the Mexico post office, established by John A. Myers on Jan. 13, 1896, may have been named in recognition of that country's role as a producer of the mineral. Only some "ground hog" mines remain in the area which, with the closing of the post office in 1957, is now on a rural route out of Fredonia, 3½ road miles se of the hamlet. [Braxton McDonald, interview, 8/28/1978]
MIDDLEBURG (Casey Co.): [Mind/əl/bergh] (Yosemite). A village with an active post office and some 200 residents on the n bank of the Green River, at the junction of KY 198 and 1552, 5 air miles ene of Liberty. This is said to have been the first settlement in the county, possibly dating as early as 1779. In 1784 Abraham Lincoln, the grandfather of the future president and himself a Revolutionary War veteran, laid off an 800 acre patent in this vicinity which was later acquired by pioneer settler, Christopher Riffe. Sometime after 1800, Riffe built near his home a water-powered mill which he sold to Jesse Coffey. As a trade center and meeting place the mill became the nucleus of a community first called Coffey's Mill. On Feb. 11, 1837 Coffey established a post office he called Middleburg either (or both) for Middleburg, Va. or for its location midway between Liberty and Hustonville and Liberty and McKinney. Though hardly to the extent it did in the late 19th century, Middleburg still enjoys some prosperity with a bank, post office, churches, stores, and a consolidated graded school. [(1) H.F. Lucas in CASEY CO., KY. 1806-1977: A FOLK HIST. comp. & ed. by Gladys C. Thomas, 1978, Pp. 202-3; (2) Gladys C. Thomas, interview, 9/21/1978]
MIDDLESBORO (Bell Co.): [Mihd/əlz/buhr/ə] (Middlesboro N. & S.)

A 3rd class city of some 14,600 residents a mile w of the Cumberland Gap and the convergence of the Virginia, Tennessee, and Kentucky state lines, and 8 air miles s of Pineville. At or near the site of a pioneer Yellow Creek settlement made around 1810 by John Turner, et al. of Virginia, Alexander Alan Arthur, a Canadian resources developer, envisioned the establishment of a great industrial city based on the exploitation of the area's extensive iron, coal, and limestone deposits. He bought up thousands of acres of Yellow Creek bottom land, attracted investment capital from a number of English businessmen, and, by 1889, began to build his city, attracting a population in excess of 15,000 by 1893. The Middlesborough post office had already been established Sept. 14, 1888 with George C. Whitlock, postmaster, the name having been selected from a list of names allegedly offered by the investors (or else suggested by a Mr. Watts, a hotel owner at the Gap who had come from the English city of Middlesbrough (sic). Arthur's boom busted with the crash of 1893 and the discovery of cheaper and richer iron ore deposits in Minnesota. The English investors withdrew their support, businesses closed, and people left. Recovery began some 20 years later with newly discovered area coal as its resource base. In 1960 the Board on Geographic Names ruled in favor of what had by then become the preferred spelling of the name, Middlesboro since the post office had assumed this in 1894 and the railroad and a number of local businesses had for years been using this spelling. Yet by the Act of Incorporation in 1890 it had been spelled "...borough" and this is still the official form. (1) Miriam Gaines, WPA ms; (2) Landon H. Smalling MIDDLESBORO AND BEFORE MIDDLESBORO WAS c1924, Pp. 6-7, 12, 17
MIDDLETON (Simpson Co.): [Mild/ston] (Auburn, Prices Mill).
This hamlet at the junction of KY 100, 103, and 665, 7 air miles w of Franklin, may have been named for its original location about halfway between Russellville and Franklin. James W. Baird is said to have opened a store on the Logan Co. side of the line around 1856. By 1869 the community had shifted to its present location ½ mile e of the county line. It was served by 2 post offices—Millikens Store, established Sept. 17, 1878 by George H. Milliken, the storekeeper and first postmaster, and discontinued in 1884, and Stowers, in operation in James Stowers' store from 1881 to 1910. The precise locations of these 2 offices are not known. Neither is the date of application of the Middleton name for, we are told, the names were not used interchangeably. It is also possible that the community, now on a Franklin rural route, was named for Thomas Middleton who early represented the county in the Kentucky legislature. (1) Mrs. James Beach, interview, 7/22/1978; (2) Mrs. Jas. Beach & Jas. Henry Snyder, FRANKLIN & SIMPSON CO—A PICTURE OF PROGRESS, 1819-1975, 1976, Pp. 21-2
MIDDLETOWN (Jefferson Co.): [Middletown, Anchronage]. A now unincorporated suburb with a 1970 population of some 3500, centering on US 60/460 but bounded roughly by the Jefferson Freeway (KY 841) (on the e), I 64 (on the s), Dorsey Lane (on the w), and Anchorage and LaGrange Rd. (on the n), about 11 air miles e of the court house in downtown Louisville. The town was laid out by pioneer settler, William White who had built one of the first homes there in 1784, and was incorporated by the Jefferson Co. Fiscal Court in May, 1797. It is generally thought to have been named for its location midway between Shelbyville and Louisville (which, in those days, was confined to the area about the Falls of the Ohio River, nw of the present court house). Before Louisville began to amount to much, Middletown was one of the chief commercial and industrial towns in the county with early factories producing cigars, cabinets, leather, silk, and woolen goods. The post office, established before 1809, has since become a branch of the Louisville post office. Middletown was de-incorporated in 1962. [Ward Sinclair & Harold Browning, "Middletown--To Change or not to Change" LOU. TIMES, 10/29/1965, P. A16:1-6]
MIDLAND (Bath Co.): [Midland/dan(d)] (Farmers). A village on US 60 and the C&O Railroad, centering just w of the main entrance—via KY 826—to Cave Run Lake, and 9 air miles e of Owingsville. First called Midland City, it is said to have been named by the C&O crews for its location halfway between Lexington and Ashland. Here the railroad maintained a refueling and watering station and a hotel for its work crews. Across the tracks from the depot was a sawmill and the land across the road from the mill was sold off in lots around 1890. Today some 150 residents provide services to Cave Run tourists or commute to nearby towns for employment. Postal services have always been provided at Salt Lick, 1½ road miles wsw. (1) Lucille Evans, "C&O Rd. Crew Named Midland City" BATH CO. NEWS-OUTLOOK, 8/24/1961, Sec. 3, P. 3:4-7; (2) M&M Robt. Lewis, interview, 6/24/1971
MIDWAY and TOBACCO (Calloway Co.): (Murray). Around 1830, James Willis, attracted by the good tobacco growing potential of the area east of the present Midway, built a tobacco factory and, on March 26, 1831, established the Willisville post office. Though the office closed in less than 3 months, Willis remained for several years until his factory was purchased by a New Orleans based firm and the community of Tobacco was born. By the end of the 19th century this had become an important tobacco processing and shipping center. It wasn’t until July 1, 1902 that the Tobacco post office was established with Christopher H. Redden, postmaster. The office was discontinued Feb. 28, 1927. By the mid 1960s, Tobacco was a flag stop on the L&N railroad. Now there is nothing at the site but a few homes, and the Tobacco name does not appear on any current maps. Some persons have rumored that this place was once known as Needmore for the “scarcity of goods” at the local store. Some 600 yards west at the jct. of US 641 and KY 1828, 2½ miles south of Murray, is the hamlet of Midway, named for its location halfway between Murray and Hazel. (1) Lochie B. Hart, "Origin of Names of the Towns in Calloway" HIST. OF CALLOWAY CO. c1931, n.p.; (2) Brown C. Tucker, interview, 8/4/1977.
MIDWAY (Crittenden Co.): [Midway] (Salem). A hamlet strung out along US 60 and named for its location halfway between Marion, 4½ air miles ENE, and Salem in adjacent Livingston Co. From 1881 to 1908 the vicinity was served by the Levis post office, ¼ mile nw of US 60, but it has since been on a Marion rural route. [\(\text{\underline{\text{\textcopyright}}}\) Braxton McDonald, interview 8/28/1978]
MIDWAY (Woodford Co.) (Midway). A 5th class city with an active post office and some 1500 residents on US 62, just south of its junction with US 421 and of I 64, 3 1/4 miles south of South Elkhorn Creek and the Scott Co. line, and 5 (air) miles north of Versailles. The town was created by the Lexington and Ohio (now L&N) Railroad in 1835 on 200+ acres acquired from John Francisco and first called Middleway for its location on the halfway railroad between Lexington and Frankfort. A post office which had been established as Stevenson's on Feb. 8, 1832 by Thomas Stevenson at a site just north of the future town was moved to the tracks in April, 1834 and renamed Midway in March, 1837. It soon became an important station on the developing L&N Railroad and later, when the Southern Railway's north-south route was built through, a transfer point for passengers between the two lines. It was incorporated in 1846 and later to emerge as a manufacturing town and a trade center for a major horse breeding and farming section of the Bluegrass. In 1972 its central business district was almost completely revived and is now a center of small boutiques and quality antique and gift shops in addition to the other establishments of a modern trade center. (1) Lucile S. Davis, interview, 7/15/1978; (2) "Midway Will Celebrate Construction of Railroad and her own Hundredth Birthday" LEX. LEADER, 5/7/1933; (3) Joe Creason, LCJ, 7/15/74, p. 8:1-5.
MILBURN (Carlisle Co.): Milburn. A village with an active post office centering at the junction of KY 80 and 1371, 1.5 miles n of the Hickman Co. line and 7 air miles se of Bardwell. It was settled in 1822 by a native Marylander, William Milburn (1772-1858) who, with a neighbor, William Reddick, laid out the town and named it for himself. The post office was established Sept. 29, 1837 with James B. Quigley, postmaster. The location in 1874 of the future Illinois Central Gulf Railroad through Bardwell and Arlington to the w. ended any hopes for Milburn's economic prosperity. Ran Graves, HIST. AND MEMORIES OF CARLISLE CO., Wickliffe: Advance-Yeoman, 1958, Pp. 73-75
MILFORD (Bracken Co.): [Mühl/förd] (Claysville). A hamlet on the North Fork of the Licking River and KY 19, just n of its junction with KY 539, 7½ air miles sw of Brooksville. It was founded in 1831 by John Ogdon, the co-owner of a local store, and named for a water-powered grain mill and a ford across the river at that point. The Milford post office, established June 10, 1850 with William M. Best, postmaster, is still in operation though the mill was torn down shortly after World War I. Today some 100 residents and their rural neighbors patronize the community's 2 stores, 2 restaurants, garage, and church.

MILLARD (Pike Co.): Millard. A village with extinct post office centering where Russell Fork joins the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River, 6 air miles SE of Pikeville, and earlier called simply The Forks. Until it closed in 1965, the post office was located on Lower Pompey Branch of the Levisa, near its mouth, over a mile NE of the forks. The post office was established March 11, 1892 and named for Millard Hamilton, the son of the first postmaster, Louise A. Hamilton. Millard High School and the area vocational school are located on US-460/KY 80, 1 1/2 miles up Russell Fork from the Levisa. Millard is now on a Pikeville rural route. (1) Dorcas M. Hobbs, letter to me, 1/7/1981; (2) Blanche Branham, from Jack Sykes, letter to me, 2/20/1981.
MILLERSBURG (Bourbon Co.): _steps
with an active post office and
some 725 residents where US68 and the L&N Railroad cross Hinksto
Creek, ½ mile from the Nicholas County line and 7 air miles NE of Paris.

It was named for Maj. John Miller (1752-1815) who, in 1798, founded the
town on 100 acres of his farm. Miller was one of a party from Sherman's
Valley near Carlisle, Pa. that had pre-empted the land in 1778 and may
have built a block house on or near the site the following year. The
Millersburg post office, the second oldest in the county, was established
Oct. 1, 1804 by George Selden. A thriving 19th century commercial,
industrial, and educational center with flour mills, distilleries, hemp,
cotton, and tobacco factories, it is now perhaps best known as the first
site of the home of Kentucky Wesleyan College and the famed Millersburg Military
Institute, the latter founded in 1893 by Col. C.M. Best on the abandoned
grounds of the Middleburg Female College. A steadily declining population
since its 1920 peak of 1100 reflects its inability to compete with
larger cities of the region to which most of its working population now
commutes. (1) Permin, 1882, Pp. 123-4, 513; (2) Lawrence Pryor,
"Tranquility is its Magnet" LCJ, c1964] 167, 673
MILLERTOWN (Grayson Co.): [Mühl/örz/town] (Millerstown).
This hamlet with extinct post office on the Nolin River, less
than ½ mile from the convergence of Hardin, Hart, and Grayson
Co's. and 12½ air miles ese of Leitchfield, is said to be on
the site of the oldest settlement in the county. Its first
settler is believed to have been a Jacob Miller and the post
office established sometime before 1828 may have been named for
him or for Nicholas Miller. It is definitely known to have been
the first town in the county to be incorporated, in 1826. The
post office closed in 1867. A second Millerstown post office
was established at or near its original site and first called
Skaggs [Skaeghz] by and for its first postmaster, Jefferson G.
Skaggs. It was renamed Millerstown the following year when Eppy
W. Ferguson became postmaster. A mill and trading town, its
prosperity peaked at the turn of this century when it had a popula-
tion of 150. A store and a couple of churches still serve the
local residents but mail comes from Clarkson, 11½ road miles wnw.
[(1) Duvall Morrison, A HIST. OF GRAYSON CO., section on Millers-
town repro. in "Communities" sec. of BiCent. Ed. of the LEITCHFIELD
GAZETTE, c1976, P. 5:5-7; (2) Wm. Hughes, interview, 9/28/1977]
MILLION (Madison Co.): [Mihil/yon] (Valley View). An extinct post office and station on the long defunct Richmond Nicholasville Irvine and Beattyville (later L&N) Railroad, on KY-169 (the Tates Creek Road), 4½ air miles wnw of Richmond. On Dec. 23, 1881 Richard C. Fain established the Fain post office which was moved to and/or renamed Million probably in 1884 for the family of B.B. Million, larger landowner and merchant there. The vicinity is now on a Richmond rural route. Margaret Cook Green "P.N. of Mad. Co." DAR 5/10/1941, pp. 175-6 in Townsend Coll.
MILL POND (Clay Co.): Ṣ̀Mì̀lì̀ Pàhǹ̀d (Barcreek). An extinct post office on
KY 11 and Laurel Creek, about 1½ miles above its confluence with Goose
Creek, and 5 air miles n. of Manchester. There seems to be a lack of
agreement on what kind of mill this refers to and thus what kind of pond
may have been created by it. According to some, it was named for a
big flour mill built by Joe Hornsby in the 1880s and the pond adjacent to
it that was designed to catch the water. Others say there was an old saw-
mill there and the pond was built to wash the mud from the logs before
they were processed. The post office established May 14, 1821 in Oscar
Hornsby's store closed in 1963 and there is no longer any sign of a
mill of any kind there. [(1) Marian Martin, interview, 6/29/1977; (2) Kelly Morgan, interview, 3/24/1979]
MILLS (Knox Co.): [Mihlz] (Scalf). This post office and Nasby Mills' store on KY 718 at the mouth of Acorn Fork, 13½ air miles e of Barbourville, still serve the upper reaches of Stinking Creek, a n bank tributary of the Cumberland River. In the heart of a once important timber producing area, the local post office was established May 27, 1891 by Isaac Mills and named for his family. [K. Sol Warren, interview, 6/23/1978]
MILL SPRINGS (Wayne Co.): (MILL SPRINGS) (Mill Springs).

A hamlet centering on the active post office in Everett Dunagan's store at the junction of old KY 90 and 1275, 500 feet s of Lake Cumberland/the mill just below the mouth of Meadow Creek for whose antecedent it was named. The first of at least 3 mills here was a grist mill probably built by or for John, Charles, and James Metcalfe in 1816-7. It was soon joined by a cotton gin, wool and carding factory, wagon shop, and a flatboat, and later steamboat, landing and ferry as the nucleus of the community that grew up around it. Clark B. Firestone once described the springs: "Fourteen springs gush from the hillside in a stretch of perhaps a hundred yards, and their waters are impounded by a stone wall into a sort of canal shaded by tulip poplars. It is something like an underground river bursting into the sunlight wherever it can force an opening. A flume leads the collected waters to an overshot wheel on the downward side of the mill." On July 30, 1825 the Mill Springs post office was established near the mill with John Metcalfe, Jr., postmaster. In 1948 when T.S. Roberts, the last of several private owners; sold the mill and surrounding area to the Federal Government just prior to their impoundment of the Cumberland River, fulltime commercial operation of the mill ceased. Through the efforts of many interested county residents, the mill was recently placed on the National Register of Historic Places and by authorization of the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which now owns the site, has restored the mill to full operation as a tourist attraction. [(1) Clark B. Firestone, BUBBLING WATERS, NY: Root. M. McBride & Co., 1938, P. 173; (2) Garnet Walker, interviews, 7/16/1972, 5/13/1976; (3) Ray Burris, "Mills & Stills" LOCAL HIST'L. RES. SCC(UK), 1966, n.p.].
MILLSTONE (Letcher Co.): [Mihl/stohn] (Mayking). On Dec. 17, 1878 a post office was established at the confluence of Millstone Creek and the North Fork of the Kentucky River, some 3½ miles above the site of the present Mayking, and named Craftsville for the family of Enoch "Chunk" Craft, a Confederate Army veteran. This remained a community of Crafts until June 19, 1918 when Nelson R. Craft changed the name of the post office to Millstone and a camp was built at the site by the South East Coal Co. Yet, according to Post Office Department records, another Millstone post office at an unknown location had been established Oct. 7, 1890 with Joseph Hall, postmaster. Then, inexplicably, in the same year that Crafts­ville became Millstone, the other office, with Sarah J. Franklin in charge, became Craftsville. Then we hear nothing more about it.
In any event, this mining town of some 600 persons with its active post office, 4½ air miles ne of Whitesburg, is now exclusively Millstone. Since the company sold out, it's become a community of private homes whose residents are employed in small mines up the creek. No one knows anything about the mill for which the creek was named. [Wm. T. Cornett, interview, 12/24/1977]
MILLTOWN (Adair Co.): [Mihl/town] (Gradyville). Now a hamlet with an active post office on KY 768, 4 1/2 air miles w of Columbia, this was once a thriving village in the vicinity of a 19th century grist and saw mill built on Russell Creek by the Townsend family. The community was, in fact, first called Townsends Mill but after it was acquired by N.S. Mercer it became simply Milltown. The post office was established as Mill Town on Oct. 28, 1853 with Chapman Dohoney, postmaster, and the name was later spelled as one word. [(1) Nancy Berley, interviewed by Henry Giles, 7/1979; (2) "Milltown Mill Was Owned by Townsends" COLUMBIA STATESMAN, Bicent.ed. 6/15/1975, P. 16:1-2]
MILLVILLE (Woodford Co.) [Mihl/viil] (Frankfort East). Extending for over a mile on KY 1659 and Glenns Creek, a Kentucky River tributary, (6½ air miles nw of Versailles) this community, 6½ air miles nw of Versailles, was named for the several 19th century water-powered grist and flour mills in the vicinity. It was also noted for its distilleries. The post office, established July 25, 1854 with Samuel Miles, postmaster, was discontinued in 1907 and the area is now on a rural route from Frankfort, 6 road miles n. (1) "Early Times in Woodford Co." WOODFORD SUN, 7/15/1943; (2) Lucile S. Davis, interview, 7/15/1978.
MILLWOOD (Grayson Co.): [Mihn/wood] (Caneyville). This village with an active post office on US 62 and the Illinois Central Gulf Railroad, 4½ air miles sw of Leitchfield, may first have been called Middlewood for its location between Hardin and Ohio Co's. and renamed Millwood when a large sawmill was opened there. At least by the latter name the local post office was established April 6, 1871 by Warren Kefauver shortly after the Elizabethtown & Paducah Railroad had extended its tracks to this site. The village was soon to become a shipping point for livestock and timber products and is now the home of one of the state's largest active lumber mills. (1) Mrs. Mary E. Crawford, "Communities" sect. of the Bicent. Ed. of the LEITCHFIELD GAZETTE, c1976, P. 10:5-7; (2) Wm. Hughes, interview, 9/28/1977
MILTON (Trimble Co.): Milton (Madison E., Madison W.) is an active post office with some 850 residents. The largest community in Trimble Co., this 6th class city with direct across from Madison, Indiana and extends for over ½ mile up what’s now called Tiber Creek and for 3 miles along US 421 toward Bedford, the county seat, which is 7 air miles s. The town, which was established by the Virginia Legislature in 1789, was first situated between Canip Creek and Tiber Creek (earlier called Town Branch). Years later the town of Kingston, below Town Branch, was founded and, in 1872, incorporated into Milton. The Milton post office was established by John or Robert Moffett some time in the first decade of the 19th century. No one knows why or how it acquired its name. There’s no evidence for the suggestion that it was a corruption of Milltown or that it was ever called this, or that it was a combination of Milltown and Kingston. (1) John C. Strother "Trimble Co. Legacy" 2/2/1920, repro. in TRIMBLE BANNER BICENT. 1974, 4/1974, Pp. 51ff; (2) C.A. Hollowell, "Hist. of the Post Offices...of Trimble Co., Ky." ms. sent to me, 5/27/1980
MINERVA (Mason Co.): [Minerva] (Germantown). A hamlet with an active post office centering at the junction of KY 435 and 1235, a mile from the Bracken Co. line and 8 air miles wnw of Maysville. The post office, established July 10, 1812 with James M. Runyon, postmaster, is alleged to have been named for Minerva Green, the first white woman to reside there. In 1793 the Rev. Lewis Craig, who had arrived in the area the year before, built the historic old Bracken Church in the vicinity and thus chose this community as another home for his famed "traveling church". Minerva was incorporated in 1844.

[L. Alberta Brand, "Place Names of Mason Co." DAR ms., 1941, Pp. 12-3]
MINING CITY (Butler Co.) (Mahn/ihn Siht/ee) (South Hill).

Virtually nothing remains of a thriving 19th-century Green River landing and coal shipping port at the mouth of Muddy Creek, just off KY 1117, 4½ air miles W of Morgantown. It is believed to have/early called The Bark Yard and Suffolk and flatboats may have been built here. The Mining City post office was established Nov. 27, 1876 with Elbridge P. Aspley, postmaster, and named for the deep coal mines in the vicinity. Neither post office nor mines are yet in operation. (1) Nyla Morgan, interview, 10/19/1978; (2) Letter by Dr. S.S. McReynolds, Russellville, Ky. to Judge Otis White, Morgantown, Ky. 6/12/1947, repro. in GREEN R. REP. 9/4/1947
MINOR LANE HEIGHTS (Jefferson Co.): [Minor Lane Heights] (Brooks, Louisville East). This 5th class city of some 1900 residents, between the Outer Loop and S. Park Rd., less than a mile west of Okolona and 9 air miles south of the courthouse in downtown Louisville, was incorporated in 1960, it's been said, to get a favorable rate on sewer installations. It was probably named for the road that forms part of its eastern boundary which, in turn, may have been named for the family of Jefferson Co. pioneer Major Spencer Minor, a veteran of the War of 1812, who had arrived in Kentucky with his father from Loudoun Co., Va. in 1797. It has always been served by the Louisville post office. (1) "Minor Lane Heights: A Blue Collar City Born Out of a Need for Sewers" LOU. TIMES, 4/10/1972; (2) HIST. OF THE OHIO FALLS CITIES & THEIR COUNTIES, Cleve.: L.A. Williams, 1882, Vol. 2, P. 59}
MINORSVILLE (Scott Co.): Merven/vihr (Stamping Ground). This hamlet centering at the junction of KY 227 and 1874, less than 2 miles from the Franklin Co. line and 10 air miles nw of Georgetown, may have been settled in the 1830s on part of a 2000 acre military grant received by Jeremiah Minor for Revolutionary War services and undoubtedly named for him. A post office was established Aug. 29, 1870 with storekeeper T. Reynolds as first postmaster and discontinued in 1902. The area is now on ruralt route out of Stampin' Ground, 5 1/2 road miles s.

[ECHOES OF THE PAST, Woman's Club of Stamp. Ground, 1775-1975, Pp. 105-06]
MINTONVILLE (Casey Co.): Mihn(t)\an/vi\l (Mintonville). A hamlet at the junction of KY 837 and 1676; in the hilly section of Casey Co., just ¼ mile from the Pulaski Co. line and 11 ½ air miles SE of Liberty. This timber and farming area was first settled by Landon Davis before 1816 for his son, Jim, who is known to have received the first patent in the land in that year. The town, laid out in 1849, was named for another pioneer settler, "Uncle Bobbie" Minton whose name was also applied to the post office established by James Wesley on Oct. 3, 1851. This community which boasted a tannery, shingle, saw, and grist mills, and a school, still has a post office, store, and Masonic Lodge to serve a declining local population. [(1) Watkins, THE MEN, WOMEN, EVENTS...1939, Pp. 85-6; (2) Gladys Thomas, interview, 9/21/1978]
MIRACLE (Bell Co.) (Balkan). A local family is honored by the application of its name to this active post office, established May 16, 1912 with Willie A. Hoskins, postmaster, and station on the Kentucky & Virginia Railroad (a branch of the L&N) where KY 987 crosses the Cumberland River, just above the mouth of Brownies Creek, and 5½ air miles east of Pineville. [Edward S. Wilson, tape, 11/27/1978] 1/7/6
MISTLETOE (Owsley Co.): [Mĭsˈlə́/tō] (Mistletoe). An active post office at the mouth of Rockhouse Branch of the Right Fork of Buffalo Creek, 1 mile from the Clay Co. line and 11 1/2 air miles sse of Booneville. The office, established Nov. 15, 1900, with Jeremiah Burns, postmaster, was named for the profusion of mistletoe and holly that still grow in that vicinity. Missionaries in there used to market it in season. Every Christmas volumes of mail are received by the post office for postmark and mailing to all parts of the world.

Fred Gabbard, interview, 7/3/1977
MITCHELLSBURG (Boyle Co.; [Mitchalzbergh] (Parksville). A village with an L&N Railroad station and an active post office centering at the junction of KY 34 and 1856, 9 air miles wsw of Danville, which was probably named for the family of the first postmaster, James P. Mitchell. The office has been in intermittent operation since Feb. 19, 1853.
MOBERLY (Madison Co.): Moberly. A store and a string of homes extending for nearly a mile along KY 52 and the route of the extinct Richmond Nicholasville Irvine & Beattyville (later L&N) Railroad, 4½ air miles e of Richmond. The now extinct post office was established Oct. 31, 1891 by John S. Moberley and named for his pioneer family, the Moberleys, whose progenitor, the Rev. Richard Moberley is said to have arrived in that area from his native Virginia before 1800. The community is now on a Richmond rural route. The inconsistency in spelling has not been explained.  

(1) Robert N. Grise, interview, 4/28/78;  
(2) Perrin, 4th ed. Pp. 209-10;  

MODOC (Cumberland Co.): [Moh/dahn] (Frogue). A rural settlement with an extinct post office on KY 449, 4 1/2 air miles se of Burkesville. On March 24, 1868 the Bear Creek post office was established on the ridge overlooking the creek for which it was named. In 1869 the name was changed to Cherry Hill, and after a fitful existence it closed in 1876. At or near this site, on June 6, 1892, John G. Jones, the local storekeeper, established the Modoc post office which he probably named for his former home in Modoc Bend of the Cumberland River just over the Tennessee line. Around 1930 the store and post office were moved about 1 mile nw and the post office closed in 1935. No one knows why the Bear Creek name was changed to Cherry Hill, not the name of any local feature. It has been suggested that since this is a strong Baptist area, the name may refer to a Cherry Hill of some significance to that faith. While the origin of the Modoc Bend name has yet to be determined, one can offer Cumberland County's late historian, J.W. Wells' obvious folk reference to Jones' weeding involvement. The story goes: On complaining to his wife that all he did lately was mow dock (troublesome weeds with long roots), his wife thought this would be a good name for the post office; it was submitted to the authorities and accepted. Only the nearby Brannan Grove Church remains to serve the local residents who get their mail from Bow, 4 1/2 road miles nw. [(1) R.N. Smith, interview, 9/22/1978; (2) J.W. Wells, HIST. OF CUMB. CO. 1947, p. 184]
MONKEYS EYEBROW (Ballard Co.): [Muhnyk/eez Ah/brow] (Bandana).

This now extinct community with the provocative name was located on Sand Ridge, a 10 mile long, slightly elevated ridge of sandy loam, at a point 2 miles from the Ohio River and 15½ air miles nne of Wickliffe. It was settled before the turn of the century by the brothers John and Dodge Ray and consisted at first of their homes, Dodge's store, and John's combination blacksmith shop and grist mill. Before the First World War this was a prosperous trade center for much of the nw section of the county with access to its own Ohio River landing. As many as 20 residents at one time patronized its 3 stores and other businesses though postal services were provided from La Center, 7½ air miles s. Today nothing remains to mark the site but one farmhouse and a Paducah TV station's transmitting tower. The name, of course, has long intrigued people from all parts of Kentucky, and since no one is sure how it was applied, it has inspired several folk accounts. The most plausible refers to the crescent-shaped elevation called Beeler Hill behind Ray's store, the tall grass growing from which seemed to resemble in someone's imagination the eyebrows of a monkey. A variant account, that of the traveling salesman who saw the resemblance of the bush-covered roadbank to a monkey's eyebrow, is not as acceptable to some former residents. Another account, reported by the late Allan Trout, refers to the traditional rivalry between Monkeys Eyebrow and Needmore, a hamlet on KY 473, 2.3 miles e. Between them lay a brush-covered bluff directly under which was Ray's store. From
the Needmore side, the store and Ray's home, directly across the road, seemed to resemble eyes and the brush above them looked like eyebrows. It's is said that Luther Childress, from the vicinity of Ray's store, used to shop at Needmore instead and when asked why he didn't patronize his neighbor's place reported "I 'aint buyin' no grub at no place that looks like a monkey's eyebrow." The least likely account was recorded by a WPA researcher. Robert Arivett, it was said, was always finding fault with the place and its other residents and seemed fond of reviling both with such gratuitous remarks as "this place is only fit for a bunch of monkeys" or "this place is populated with monkeys...and their eyebrows look exactly like the brows of monkeys and they belong to the monkey class." For some reason, according to this account, the epithet became the community's official name.10/\[(1) James Ralph Wilkerson, from Mac McElyea, La Center, Ky., in WPA ms; (2) Joe LaGore, AP release, CJ&T, 9/28/1952; (3) Allan M. Trout, in "Greetings" col., LCJ, 4/16/1951; (4) Jas. R. Russell, "Monkey's Eyebrow 'Bloc' Vote Cast" LCJ, 11/3/1971]
MONROE [Muhn/roh, Mahn/roh, Muhn/roh]. 334 sq. miles.
Pop. 11,277. Seat: Tompkinsville. Established in 1820 from parts of Barren and Cumberland Co's. and named for James Monroe, 5th president of the U.S. (1817-25)
MONROE (Hart Co.): [Muhn/roh] (Center). Historically referred to as New Monroe to distinguish it from Old Monroe, this hamlet with extinct post office is at the junction of KY 88 and 677, 1 mile from the Green Co. line and 10 air miles e of Munfordville. The now extinct town of (Old) Monroe, about a mile n of (New) Monroe, was named for Thomas Monroe who, with William I. Adair, established it in 1819 as a contender for the county seat. Apparently nothing much came of the town after the seat was formally located at Munfordville, but sometime before 1826 Joshua Brents acquired the land and built a tavern for travelers between Lexington and Nashville. On Jan. 30, 1826 he established the Monroe post office which, in 1864, was moved to the Green River co. community of Oceola. Shortly after the Civil War, Thomas C. Young founded a community he called Young Town which became New Monroe or simply Monroe when a post office was established there by Young on Sept. 16, 1878. The Hardyville post office, 5½ road miles w, has served this vicinity since the Monroe office closed in 1919. [Judge Roy A. Cann, ms. hist. of Hart Co., 1971, Pp. 17-8]
MONTEREY (Owen Co.): [Mənər/ə/ə] (Monterey, Gratz). A 6th class city with extinct post office and some 130 residents centering at the junction of US 127 and Cedar Creek, less than a mile above the confluence of Cedar and the Kentucky River, and 7 air miles s of Owenton. It was first called Williamsburg for the brothers James and Alexander Williams, Marylanders who had founded a trading post there around 1805. The post office was established by Turner Branham on Feb. 1, 1817 and named Mouth of Cedar Creek for its original location. It became Cedar Creek probably in 1825 and may then have moved to its present site. It was renamed on Feb. 23, 1847 to commemorate the Mexican War battle of Monterey which had been fought the preceding September. It has been said that the community's then well deserved reputation as a violent place could not be equalled by the accounts brought back by veterans of that battle. The town was established by legislative act in 1847 and incorporated in 1874 and again in 1955. After the erection of Lock No. 3 on the Kentucky River, it became an important river port and tobacco marketing center serving several counties. It is now on an Owenton rural route. [Owenton NEWS-HERALD, 5/2/1957] 600
COUNTY:

✓ MONTGOMERY [Mahn(t)/guy/m/ər/ə]. 204 sq. miles. Pop. 20,072. Seat: Mt. Sterling. Established in 1797 from part of Clark Co. and named for Gen'l. Richard Montgomery (1738-1775), Revolutionary War officer killed in the assault on Quebec. All of 2 and parts of 8 other counties were later formed from its original territory.
ROWDY (Perry Co.): [Row/dee, Rah/dee] (Noble). A hamlet with an active post office extending for over ½ mile along KY 476 (old KY 15) nr. from its junction with KY 267 at the mouth of Rowdy Branch of Troublesome, for which it was named, and 8½ air miles n of Hazard. For many years the community was also known as Stacy, for several local families, and the post office there was established as Stacy on June 30, 1890 with Ira Allen, postmaster. Recently the office adopted the Rowdy name which is said to have long reflected the wild character of its residents; State Police still trace many crimes and acts of violence and vandalism to them. Curiously, postal records mention that Mr. Allen was also the postmaster of a Rowdy post office in operation in that vicinity from July 18, 1890 to Oct. 2, 1890, at the same time he was in charge of the Stacy office. [Roscoe Davis, interview, 7/29/1978]
MONTGOMERY (Trigg Co.): [Mahnt/ghahm/ar/ee] (Gracey). This
hamlet, at the junction of US 68 (KY 80) and KY 276, 1 mile sw
of I 24 and 4 air miles e of Cadiz, was named for Thomas
Montgomery, pioneer settler and large landowner, who had
arrived in that vicinity in 1816. The post office was estab-
lished as Montgomery on Dec. 13, 1853 by Harrison Ashford,
the storekeeper, and the town itself was laid out in 1866 by
Gen'l. John G. Gaines who had, by then, acquired the site.
It was incorporated in 1872. Its prosperity as a rural trade
center was shortlived, however, since a disastrous cyclone de-
stroyed much of the town before the turn of the century. The
post office closed in 1916. Several new rural businesses have
brought about an economic revitalization of the community which
is now on a Cadiz rural route. [(1) Perrin, COUNTIES OF CHRISTIAN
AND TRIGG, 1884, Pp. 136-8; (2) HIST. RECORD OF TRIGG CO. 1820-
MONTICELLO (Wayne Co.): [Mahn/(t)j/sehl/oh, /Mahn/(t)j/sehl/oh] (Monticello). A 4th class city of some 3800 residents and the seat of Wayne Co., centering at the junction of KY 90 and 92, 102 air miles sse of downtown Louisville. The town was founded as the seat of the new county in 1801 on 13 acres owned by William Beard on Elk Spring Creek. According to tradition, the pioneer Jones family had wanted to name the new town Jonesboro but the 15 year old county court clerk, Micah Taul, asked by others to suggest another name, offered Monticello after President Jefferson's Virginia home. The post office was established as Monticello Court House on Jan. 1, 1803 with Roger Oatts, postmaster. For some reason, the town was not incorporated by the Kentucky Legislature until Jan. 18, 1810. (1) Johnson CENT. OF WAYNE CO. P. 34; (2) B.G. Edwards GLIMPSES OF HIST'L. WAYNE CO., KY., Monti, 1970, Pp. 26, 52-3
MOON (Morgan Co.): [Mūn] (Dingus). An active post office on KY 172, 11 air miles ene of West Liberty, that serves the families on the upper end of Open Fork of Paint Creek. The name, one of those submitted to the postal authorities by James F. Wallin, the first postmaster, is said to have been inspired by the moonlit night in 1905 on which it was conceived. [(1) Arthur C. Johnson, EARLY MORGAN CO. 1974, Pp. 23-4; (2) Helen Price Stacy, "Kentucky Place Names Sources of Endless Speculation" LEX. LEADER, 6/25/1974]
MOOREFIELD (Nicholas Co.): [Mawr/feeld] (Moorefield). A hamlet with an active post office extending for almost a mile along KY 57 in the vicinity of its junction with KY 36, 5 air miles se of Carlisle. The post office was established Jan. 29, 1818 in Alexander Blair's store and named by Mrs. Benjamin Hall for Moorefield, Va. (now W.Va.) from whence she and her family had come in 1796. [Roy Lee Shannon, MOOREFIELD, KY. 1796-1976, 1976]
MOORES FERRY (Bath Co.): (Farmers). This hamlet with extinct post office now on KY 211, ½ mile s of the Licking River, 1 mile n of I 64, and 7½ air miles e of Owingsville, is apparently the relocation of a (rather) thriving late 19th century community that centered on a Licking River ferry owned by a Mr. Moore and a post office in operation from 1888 to 1913. The community's decline was initiated by the closing of the nearby Iles Mill about 1912. Mail service is now provided by the Salt Lick post office, 4 road miles s. [Richards, ILL. HIST., 1961, Pp. 452-53] 186
MOORMAN (Muhlenberg Co.): (Livermore). A village with an active post office and some 250 residents and a station at the junction of 2 L&N Railroad's Evansville Division lines, just w of US 431 and 10 air miles n of Greenville. The post office was established March 4, 1890 as Godman probably to honor John W.I. Godman (1798-1852), Muhlenberg's first elected county judge, who had lived in the vicinity. It was renamed in 1907 for the Moorman family, perhaps for James C. Moorman, a Breckinridge Co. native, who had represented Muhlenberg Co. in the Kentucky Legislature in 1871-72. [1] Alex'r. Cather, letter to me, 6/7/1973; (2) Rothert, MUHL. CO. 1910, Pp. 55, 429
MORANBURG (Mason Co.): [Mɔræn/bergh] (Maysville West). A hamlet at the junction of KY 10 and 1597, 2 air miles wnw of Maysville, whose extinct post office was established June 24, 1886 and named by and for its first postmaster, William L. Moran. Since closed in 1907, the community has been on a Maysville rural route. [Jean Calvert, interview, 6/25/1977]
MOREHEAD (Rowan Co.): [Mawr/heed] (Morehead). A 4th class city with some 7800 residents, the seat of Rowan Co. and Morehead State University, on US 60 and KY 32, just s of I 64 and 116 air miles e of downtown Louisville. The post office was established as Triplett on April 1, 1817 with Jacob Powers, postmaster, and changed to Morehead (Court House) when Rowan Co. was established in 1856 and Morehead became its seat. There was little of a town at the site then owned by Ben Evans and a Mrs. Oxley, the latter having donated an acre for the court house. The town and seat, incorporated in 1869, were named for James T. Morehead, Kentucky's governor from 1834 to 1836. The Triplett name is retained in that of the creek which flows w along the town's southern edge to join the Licking River at the Bath Co. line. The university, established as a normal school in 1887, became a state institution in 1922 and now enrolls over 7000 students. (1) ROWAN CO. NEWS, cent. ed. 5/10/1956, P. 48:1-3; (2) Mrs. Martha Estill, "Hist. of Morehead and Rowan Co." in WITHIN THIS VALLEY, Centen. public. 1956
MORELAND (Lincoln Co.): [Mawr/lan(d)] (Junction City). This hamlet extending for nearly 1½ miles along US 127, 8 air miles w of Stanford, was founded in 1877/8 when the Cincinnati Southern (now Southern) Railway was built through that section and named for Elliott Moreland who donated the land for the station. It soon became the rail center for trade from a large area spread over several counties. On April 27, 1886 James H. Minks moved his Minks post office to the station and renamed it Moreland. The office closed in 1975 and Hustonville, 2 road miles s, now satisfies the community's postal needs.


COUNTY:

MORGAN (MauR/ghon). 369 sq. miles. Pop. 12,000.

Seat: West Liberty. Established in 1822 from parts of Floyd and Bath Co's. and named for Gen'l. Daniel Morgan (1736-1802), Revolutionary War officer and U.S. Congressman (1797-79).
MORGAN (Pendleton Co.): [Mawrghan] (Berry). A hamlet on the east side of the South Fork of the Licking River, just above and opposite the mouth of Fork Lick Creek, 5 3/4 air miles sw of Falmouth. The site may first have been called Fork Lick and the station that was established there with the arrival of the Covington and Lexington (now L&N) Railroad may first have been called Stowers Station for Richard Stowers, a resident, and one of the directors of the railroad. For reasons yet unknown, the local post office, opened in 1856, was given the name Morgan. Just across the Licking was the village of Callensville, named for its storekeeper and first postmaster, Jonathan Callen. This post office, established Sept. 12, 1846, closed in 1860 after the railroad's development of Morgan as a prosperous industrial and commercial town had brought about its neighbor's economic demise. Morgan is now on a Falmouth rural route. 

MORGANFIELD (Union Co.): [Mawr/gah·en/feild] (Morganfield). A 4th class industrial city of some 3600 persons and the seat of Union Co., on US 60/641, 116 air miles wsw of downtown Louisville. In 1811 Presley O'Bannon, while representing Henderson Co. in the Kentucky Legislature, helped secure passage of the act creating Union Co. The commission appointed in this act to locate the county seat recommended the site of Jeremiah Riddle's home on land that had been acquired by O'Bannon from the heirs of General Daniel Morgan (1736-1802) for whom it was named. It was part of the 1500 acre military grant that had been awarded Morgan in 1783 for his Revolutionary War services. It was laid out in 1811 and said to have been first called Morgan's Field though, within a short time, the "s" was dropped and the two words became written together as one. The post office was established March 23, 1813 as Morganfield Court House with Ebenezer Boggs, postmaster. [1]

HIST. OF UNION CO., KY. 1886, Pp. 445-8; (2) MORGANFIELD SESQUI. HIST'L. PROG. 8/30-9/4/1951, Pp. 12-3 [157]
MORGANTOWN (Butler Co.) [Mawr/ghan/town] (Morgantown). A 5th class city of some 1,350 persons and the more or less centrally located seat of Butler Co., on US 231 and KY 79, just e of the Green River Parkway, and 82 air miles ssw of downtown Louisville. The town was founded and laid out in 1811 by Christopher Funkhouser on a 60 acre tract that may first have been called Funkhouser Hill. He is said to have named it Morgan Town (sic) though historians don't agree on its derivation. Some say it was named for Daniel Morgan Smith, the first white child born there on Dec. 14, 1811. Others claim the name had been applied before his birth. In 1811 it was made the permanent seat of the newly established county. It was incorporated by the Legislature on Jan. 6, 1813 and the post office was organized as Butler Court House or Morgantown on April 12, 1813 with David Morrison, postmaster. [Bennett F. Bratcher, HIST. OF BUTLER CO. 1960, n.p.]
MORNING VIEW (Kenton Co.): [Mawr/nih Vyu] (Demossville).
A village of some 200 residents and an active post office, on KY 177 and the Licking River (which forms Kenton County's boundary with Campbell Co.), less than 2 miles from the Pendleton Co. line and 17 air miles s of downtown Covington. While the Covington & Lexington (now L&N) Railroad station there was established in 1855 as Mullins Station, presumably named for George H. Mullins, the post office was created Oct. 5, 1855 as Morning View with Mullins as postmaster. Robert S. Tate recorded the traditional account of its naming: "One morning...some railroad officials were riding through on a hand car...when the sun was rising. They exclaimed on the wonderful 'morning view' and later when designating the place officially they would add 'where they have the wonderful morning view.' This...was condensed to Morning View and has carried the name ever since." [Robt. S. Tate, "The Grass Roots of Kenton Co." REG. OF KHS, Vol. 53, 4/1955, Pp. 138-49]
MORRILL (Jackson Co.): [Mahr/əl] (Big Hill). A hamlet extending for ½ mile along US 421, just e of the Madison and Rockcastle Co. lines, and 12 air miles nw of McKee. The post office, established Jan. 25, 1867 in Rockcastle Co., was probably named for a local family. In 1903 it was moved to a site in Jackson Co. where it was discontinued in 1905. It was re-established in Madison Co. in 1929, but in 1931 it returned to Jackson Co. where it remains active. [Charles Carter, interview, 4/29/1978]
A community centering on an active post office, church, and community center on Morris Fork of Long Creek, 3/4 miles of KY 28, less than 1 1/2 miles from the Owsley Co. line and 13 air miles sw of Jackson. From a remote and disreputable section of the county in the early 20th century, it became one of the more progressive rural communities in eastern Kentucky following the arrival in the mid 1920s of the Rev. and Mrs. Samuel VanderMeer and the establishment of the Forest Hills school and community center, a Presbyterian mission. The stream, community, and post office—of which James Cornett became the first postmaster on May 25, 1931—were named for early families in that area. [1] Kyle Vance, LCJ, 11/1/1969, P. All:1-4; (2) BREATHITT: A GUIDE TO THE FEUD COUNTRY, Am. Guide Ser., Writers Proj., WPA, 1941, Pp. 111, 143-36; 112
MORTONS GAP (Hopkins-Co.): [Mawrtənz Ghaep] (Nortonville).

A 5th class city with an active post office and some 1200 residents which owes its development to area coal production. Around 1804 Thomas C. Morton, a Virginian, settled just n of a natural gap in the ridge 5 air miles s of the presentday Madisonville through which buffalo, Indians, stagecoaches, the L&N Railroad, and now US 41A have passed. This highway was sometimes called The Buttermilk Road for, in stagecoach days, farmers would leave crocks of free buttermilk at the side of the road for travelers. Morton's descendants were proprietors of the site when the town was established after the Civil War by the South Diamond Coal Mining Co. whose mine, one of the largest in western Kentucky, was a mile s. With the completion of the L&N through the gap in 1871, the town became an important coal and lumber shipping center. On Nov. 3, 1871 Henry H. Morton established the local post office and the town was incorporated in 1888. (1) "Mortons Gap, Ky." by Jesse C. Burt, FORD TIMES, 3/1959, Pp.28-31; (2) ORIG. ATLAS AND HIST. DATA OR HOP. CO. KY. 1974, Pp. 60-1; (3) R.R. South, "Our Station Names" L&N EMPLOYES MAG. 11/1949, P. 14.
MORTONSVILLE (Woodford Co.): [Mawr/tanz/vihi] (Salvisa).

Only a grocery, school, 3 churches, and some old homes on KY 1965, 4½ air miles s of Versailles, remain of this early 19th century trade center and competitor with Versailles for economic dominance of the county. Settled around 1790 by Virginians attracted by its proximity to General Charles Scott's landing, 5 miles w on the Kentucky River, it soon came to be known as Rucker's Big Spring for John Rucker who, with John Morton, had built the first homes there just above the spring. Morton's son, Jeremiah, with visions of a great metropolis accessible to New Orleans by a mighty river system, laid off the town sometime before 1812 and named it for himself or his family. It grew and prospered as a shipping center despite its location 5 miles from Scott's Landing to which goods were hauled by wagon. William Shryock had a post office there by Jan. 1828 and the town was incorporated in 1835. In the late 1860s it was considered as a site for a possible shift of the state capital from Frankfort. As with other river towns, its decline came with the location of railroad lines through other communities. With the closing of the post office in 1921, the area was placed on a Versailles rural route.

MOSCOW (Hickman Co.): [Mahr/koh] (Cayce). Reduced to the status of a country hamlet was this busy 19th century rail shipping point and trade center on Bayou de Chien, ¼ mile w of KY 239, ½ mile from the Fulton Co. line and 4 air miles ssw of Clinton. It was settled in the early 1820s and chartered as a town in 1830 on land owned by Samuel McFall, its first merchant. The post office was established Jan. 13, 1829 with Howard Cassity, postmaster, and closed in 1955. With Moscow's failure to secure the transfer of the county seat from Columbus (q.v.), its growth and development awaited the arrival of the Mobile and Ohio (now Illinois Central Gulf) Railroad in 1854. No one knows how Moscow got its name. Some say it was a corruption of some Indian word or name. Despite the similarity in names it was not named for John Muscovalley, a Greek born pioneer settler of the western part of the county. George R. Stewart suggests that the 15 Moscows in the US were named in the 19th century fashion of naming places for foreign capitals. The community is now on a Clinton rural route. [1] "Moscow Contended for County Seat" HICKMAN CO. GAZETTE, 9/30/1971, P. 6B:1-5; (2) Lucille Bryars Owings, 150 YEARS--HICKMAN CO. SESQUI: HIST. PROG. BOOK, 1971, P. 15; (3) Geo. R. Stewart, AM. P.N. P. 309.
MOSELEYVILLE (Daviess Co.): [Möhler/vihl] (Panther). Area cattle farmers patronize the large store in this hamlet strung out for ½ mile on KY 81, s. of Old Panther Creek. The post office, in operation there from 1886 to 1909, was named for the local Moseley family, one of whose members, Presley T. Moseley, was the first postmaster. The remains of a nearby tile and brick works give evidence of another facet of the local economy. Owensboro, 6 miles n. now provides postal services.

[The Orrhooods, interview, 9/30/1977]
MOSSY BOTTOM (Pike Co.): [Mahan Baht/Won] (Broad Bottom).
A residential settlement on the w bank of the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River, across from US 23/460 and opposite the mouth of Cowpens Creek, 3 air miles nw of Pikeville. It was aptly named for its location in the low lying area between the C&O Railroad tracks and the river. The post office, established Mar. 30, 1906 with Tobias Wagner, postmaster, was discontinued around 1940 and the place has since been on a Pikeville rural route. The local C&O station of Wagner was named for Tobias, a pre-Civil War immigrant from Germany who later became a Pike Co. judge. (1) Eva Powell, interview, 8/16/1977; (2) Leonard Roberts; (3) Henry P. Scalf, interview, 5/28/1971
MOTLEY (Warren Co.): [Maht/lee] (Polkville). With but a store and extinct post office just n of KY 1288 and 7 air miles ese of Bowling Green, this was a settlement of Motleys, descendants of Matthew Page Motley who built his home there in 1853. One of Matthew's sons, John K. Motley, established the post office on May 15, 1890. It closed in 1905 and the vicinity is now on a Bowling Green rural route. [Irene Sumpter, AN ALBUM OF EARLY WARREN COUNTY LANDMARKS, P. 156]
MOUNTAIN ASH (Whitley Co.): [Mown(t)\an Aesh] (Williamsburg). Now a resident settlement on the e bank of Clear Fork of the Cumberland River, just e of I 75 and US 25W and 5 air miles s of Williamsburg. Here some Welsh coal developers opened a mine in the early 1890s and named their camp and the town that grew from it for a town in Wales. The post office was established July 28, 1892 with Enoch Griffith, postmaster. Now only a church and the homes of some 200 residents remain; the mine, post office, and other support services are gone and the community is on a Williamsburg mail route. [Eugene Siler, interview, 6/23/1978]
MT. CARMEL (Fleming Co.): Perhaps settled by 1800, making it one of the oldest communities in the county. Mt. Carmel is now a village of some 150 residents extending for ½ mile along KY 57, 1 mile from the Lewis Co. line and 6 air miles ne of Flemingsburg. It is said to have been named before 1820 by those who were reminded of the Biblical Mt. Carmel and was established as a town by legislative act in 1825. The post office, begun by John B. Clark on Nov. 24, 1831, closed in 1932, and while the residents now enjoy the services of 3 local stores, 2 churches, and a school, they depend on Flemingsburg for their mail. (1) Mrs. Martha Royse, interview, 9/26/1977; (2) "Hist. of Mt. Carmel" FLEMING GAZETTE, 7/11/1974, 2nd sect. Pp. 11:1-6, 12:1-3 495, 176
Mt. Eden (Spencer-Shelby intercounty feature): [Mount Eden] (Mt. Eden). A village with an active post office and some 250 residents with KY 53/44, its main street, forming the county line. It is midway (10 air miles) between Taylorsville and Shelbyville, the two county seats. The beauty of the countryside and the fertility of its soil made it a most attractive place to early settlers who are said to have compared it with their conception of the Biblical Eden. And, in pioneer times, its site may have resembled a mountain to those who viewed it from a distance. The post office has moved several times across the county line since it was established on June 8, 1831 (with Vincent Redman, postmaster) in Spencer Co. to which it returned for good in 1917. It was incorporated in 1846. Residents have long identified about equally with each county.

MT. OLIVE (Casey Co.): [Mount Aherv] (Yosemite). This cross-roads hamlet on KY 837, 8½ air miles ese of Liberty, was settled at least by the 1830s when the first log school was built there. It is not known when the Mt. Olive name was first applied to the community which has always identified. Though it was probably derived from the still active Mt. Olive Christian Church, it is generally believed to pre-date the establishment, on Aug. 19, 1881, of the local post office as Humphrey (Humphrey). The latter was named for William T. Humphrey, the first postmaster. Since the close of this office in 1948, postal services have been provided by Yosemite, 7½ road miles nw. (Gladys & Otis Thomas, interview, 9/21/1978)
MT. OLIVET (Robertson Co.): [Mount Olivet] (Mt. Olivet).

A 5th class city of some 350 persons and the seat of Robertson Co., centering at the junction of US 62 and KY 165, 88 air miles east of downtown Louisville. It was founded around 1820, incorporated in 1851, and designated the seat of the newly established county in 1867. The post office was established April 26, 1859 with Joshua Burlow, postmaster. The name is of Biblical origin but no one knows why or just when it was applied. There is no evidence that it was first called Hell's Half Acre as is popularly believed. [Lucien Robinson, interview, 4/16/1970]
MT. PLEASANT (Trimble Co.): [Mount Pleasant] (Bethlehem). Only the church remains of this former crossroads hamlet and post office on KY 625, 4 air miles wnw of Bedford. The office, in operation from 1892 to 1907, was aptly named for its location at one of the highest points between Louisville and Cincinnati. The vicinity is now served by the Bedford post office. C.A. Hollowell "Hist. of the Post Offices... of Trimble Co., Ky." ms. sent to me, 5/27/1980. 9/2
MT. SAVAGE (Carter Co.): Mownt Savy/adj (Grayson). On KY 773 and Strait Creek, an e bank tributary of Little Fork of the Little Sandy River, 2 miles se of Hitchins and 4½ air miles s of Grayson, is the site of an iron furnace built in 1848 by Robinson M. Biggs, et al. and named for Edward Savage on whose land it was located. A rather sizeable community, with a population of some 500, grew up around the furnace, with a post office established Oct. 25, 1848, a school, stores and shops and a regular station on the C&O. The community apparently survived the last blast in 1885 for it was incorporated in 1890. But since the closing of the post office in 1916 the community has all but disappeared and only the ruins of the furnace remain. The grounds are now owned by the nearby Davys Run Community Development Group and used as a roadside picnic grounds. (1) CARTER CO. HIST. 1838-1976, Pp. 26-7; (2) Jacob Savage, WE ARE THE SAVAGES, 1974.
MT. STERLING (Montgomery Co.): [Mount Stil/ih/]. A 4th class city of some 5,000 persons and the seat of Montgomery Co., on US 60 and 460, just south of I 64, and 92 air miles east of downtown Louisville. The settlement that grew up on Enoch Smith's farm is said to have been first called Little Mountain Town for a large Indian mound at the junction of the present Maysville and Locust Streets. But Hugh Forbes, one of the proprietors, didn't think such a name was suitable for what he hoped would become an important town, and suggested instead that of the city in Scotland where he had been raised. Perhaps by way of compromise the place was christened Mt. Stirling but somewhere in the recording of the name it was corrupted to its present spelling and never corrected. In Dec. 1792 it was chartered as Mt. Sterling by the fledging Kentucky Legislature, and when the county was created in 1797 it became its seat. On Oct. 1, 1801 the post office was established as Montgomery Court House with Joseph Simpson, postmaster, but became Mt. Sterling in 1807. For much of the 19th century it was the trading center for eastern Kentucky and was often called "the Gate City of the Mountains". 

MOUNT VERNON (Rockcastle Co.): [Mount Van/er/own] (Mount Vernon). A 5th class city of some 1700 persons and the seat of Rockcastle Co., on US 25 and 150, 92 air miles se of downtown Louisville. It is said that, when the county was established in 1810, this place was called White Rock for the big white rock at the site of the present fertilizer factory. The Mount Vernon name was applied when the post office was established Sept. 26, 1811 and referred to Washington's home in Virginia. However, according to John Lair, Col. Richard Henderson, of Transylvania fame, may have maintained a log home here during his trips between Boonesborough and North Carolina which he called Mount Vernon for its situation seemed to resemble that of Washington's home. The future county seat which grew up around it retained the Mount Vernon name and it was thus incorporated in 1818. (1) Charley Carter, interview, 4/29/1978; (2) John Lair, "Hist. of Mt. Vernon and Rock. Co." MT. VERNON SIGNAL, 11/28/1968, Pp. 14-5.
Several theories have been offered to account for the name of this hamlet and its extinct post office on KY 192, 11 air miles ese of Somerset. It may have been named for a victory over renegade Indians by a small patrol headed by Lt. Nathan McClure in May 1788. Assigned to escort early settlers to Kentucky, this Revolutionary War veteran was fatally wounded in the skirmish which his men later won on a ridge between the Rockcastle River and Buck Creek, 1/2 mile from the site of his death. Or it was named by Ella P. Darr, wife of the Rev. Timothy T. Darr, a Methodist minister, who had arrived in the area in the 1890s. She and her colleagues considered it a religious victory that they were able to establish a church and school there. Or it was named for a successful revival once held there. Finally, this tale is told and usually discredited that 2 local teachers agreed to carry the mail free for one year if they could get a post office. They succeeded and the office was named in honor of their achievement. In any event, the post office was established March 5, 1900 with John B. Edwards, postmaster. The community is now on a Somerset rural route.

MT. WASHINGTON (Bullitt Co.): [Mount Washington] (Mt. Wash.)
A 5th class city with an active post office and some 2,100 residents centering at the junction of US 31E/150 and KY 44, 1 mile from the Jefferson County line and 7 1/2 air miles east of Shepherdsville. By the early 19th century, as Crossroads, this was a thriving community and important stage stop on the route between Louisville and Nashville. It was chartered in 1822 as Mount vernon (sic) presumably for President Washington's Virginia home. Because the Mt. Vernon name had been pre-empted by the seat of Rockcastle County, petitioners for the post office in 1830 called it Mt. Washington instead. In this name the town was also incorporated in 1833 and became a prosperous manufacturing town. It was re-incorporated in 1955 and is now a rapidly growing bedroom community for Louisville's industrial commuters. (1) Bullitt Co. Hist'l. Comm'n. A HIST. OF BULLITT CO. 1974, Pp. 20-1; (2) Burlyn Pike, interview, 10/2/1977.
MOUSIE (Knott Co.): [Mow/see] (Handshoe). A village with an active post office and a 1970 population of some 500, centering on KY 80 at the mouth of Ball Branch of Jones Fork of Right Beaver Creek, 6½ air miles ne of Hindman. The post office was established July 31, 1916 some 2 miles up the fork from its present site with Ollie M. Gibson, postmaster, and named for Mousie (Mrs. Mart) Gibson (1896-1976), the daughter of Clay Martin, a large landowner of that area. The office was later moved to its present location but retained the name. According to Mrs. Gibson, a long time resident of Martin, Ky., her own name was suggested by her grandfather, W.J. Martin, since she had an older sister named Kitty. Mousie, though, is not really an uncommon female given name in eastern Kentucky. [1] Donna Campbell in a letter to Allan M. Trout and printed in his col. "Greetings" in the LCJ, 8/8/1967; (2) Trout, "Greetings" Ibid., 9/22/1967, P. B17:1-2
MOUTH CARD (Pike Co.):  Mouth /kahrd/ (Lick Creek). This hamlet with an active post office at the junction of US 60 and KY 1499, 15 air miles ese of Pikeville, was named for its location at the mouth of Card Creek, a tributary of the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River. Its post office, established as Mouth of Card on Aug. 4, 1853 with Isaac Epling, postmaster, had become simply Mouthcard before the end of the 19th century. [Eva Powell, interview, 8/16/1977]
Muddy Ford (Scott Co.): [Muhduh/Fawrd] (Delaplain). This settlement just off KY 922, at a point 6 1/2 air miles north of Georgetown, was named for its location near the mouth of Muddy Ford Creek, a 4 mile long branch of the West Fork of Eagle Creek. The creek, first settled by the Barnhills of Buchanan Co., Va. in 1792, is said to have been named for the large quantities of mud it deposited when it overflowed its banks probably at some natural fording place. Hugh Shannon, the local storekeeper, maintained the post office from its inception on Oct. 21, 1890 till it closed less than 3 years later. The area is now on a Georgetown rural route.

MUD LICK (Monroe Co.): [Muhd Lihk] (Freedom). A hamlet at the junction of KY 63 and 870, 5 air miles nw of Tompkinsville, whose recently discontinued post office was established Feb. 19, 1853 with Thomas Webb, postmaster. It is said to have been named for either a salt stream made muddy by animals coming to drink or the abundance of clay mud in the vicinity. Tompkinsville now serves the area's postal needs. [Mae Carter Taylor, interview, 6/19/1972]
COUNTY: [Muhlenberg]. 480 sq. miles. Pop. 32,000.

Seat: Greenville. Established in 1798 from parts of Logan and Christian Co's. and named for Gen'l. Peter Muhlenberg (1746-1807), preacher turned Revolutionary War officer and, later, US Congressman and Senator.
MULDRAUGH (Meade Co.): [Muhl/droh, Mahl/droh] (Ft. Knox).

A 5th class city with an active post office, extending north and south for over a mile between US 31W/60 and the Ft. Knox Military Reservation, 4 miles s of the Ohio River and 9½ air miles ese of Brandenburg. It may have been named for William (or John) Muldraugh (or Muldrow) who is said to have settled briefly in the area before moving on. For the first 70 years or so of its existence, the local post office—established June 22, 1874 with Thomas W. Summers, postmaster—served a modest rural trade center until it came under the influence of Ft. Knox which now completely surrounds it and impedes its growth. Its population grew an unprecedented 1000 per cent from 1945, until now nearly three-fourths of its residents are military personnel and their dependents. Yet from a peak population of 1,780 in 1970, it has declined to its present 1,200. The town was incorporated in 1952. A popular account of the name, patently absurd but amusing, has been offered for both the community and the important Muldraugh Hill to the s. The latter, a very steep hill (actually a ridge) was very difficult to climb and pioneer teamsters were often dependent on mulepower to get them up the hill. One enterprising man purchased a number of mules for rental use and set himself up at the foot of the hill at a place he called Mule-Draw Station. Soon the hill came to be known as Mule-Draw Hill. [1] John Ed Pearce, "Meade County" LCJM, 3/25/1979, Pp. 10ff; (2) "Muldraugh's Growth Impeded Due to Surrounding Installation" in Supplement to Inside the Turf, a Ft. Knox publication, 8/18/1977, n.p.
MULLINS STATION (aka WITHERS) (Rockcastle Co.): [Muhl/ənz Sta/shən, Withərz] (Livingston). This L&N station on Roundstone Creek, 3/4 mile n'w' of Sinks (the junction of the Lebanon and Kentucky Central branches) and 5 1/2 air miles e of Mount Vernon, was named for the local Mullins family. Its post office, established June 18, 1886, was always known as Withers for the family of the first postmaster, Mary A. Withers. It is now on a Mount Vernon rural route. [Opp Bussell, Jr., interview, 4/29/1978]
MUMMIE (Jackson Co.): [Muhm mee] (Sturgeon). A recently discontinued post office where KY 30 crosses Blackwater Creek (a branch of Sturgeon Creek), 7 air miles ese of McKee. The name is said to have been submitted to the Post Office Department by Bobby Farmer to commemorate the discovery there by early settlers of a mummified human body. Hiram V. Montgomery became the first postmaster on Nov. 8, 1915. (1) Jack Moore, interview, 7/9/1977; (2) Vernon Wilson, interview, 7/9/1977.
MUNFORDVILLE (Hart Co.): [Muhr/foh/vid] (Munfordville). A 5th class city of some 1300 residents and the seat of Hart Co., on US 31W, between the Green River and I 65, 63 air miles s of downtown Louisville. It was named for Richard Jones Munford (1776-1843), a pioneer settler and proprietor of what was first called Big Buffalo Crossing who, in 1816, gave 100 acres for the establishment of the town that, in 1819, became the seat of the new county. The post office was organized as Munfordsville Court House on April 16, 1820 and the town was incorporated in 1858. The medial "s" was retained through the 19th century but is no longer in official use though many persons still follow the central Kentucky custom of sounding an "s" where one does not exist. (1) Ann Matera, "Frenchman's Knob--A Hart Co. Tragedy" A CAVE COUNTRY SALUTE TO KENTUCKY'S 1974 BICENT., 3/1974 issue of the Hart Co. NEWS P. 4:4-5; (2) Ibid., interview, 7/21/1978; (3) "Munfordville --Its Founding and Settling" in CAVE COUNTRY SALUTE, etc., P. 3:7 581, 617, 1381
MUNK (Gallatin Co.) (Munk) (Verona). Only a farmhouse marks the site of an extinct post office and L&N Railroad station on a deadend road just n of the Grant Co. line and 11 air miles e of Warsaw. This vicinity was home to a Webster family which, to distinguish themselves from another Webster family in the area, were called "The Munk Websters". When the post office was established April 9, 1900 with Ina N. Webster, postmaster, it was called Munk. The office closed in 1939.
MURPHYSVILLE (Mason Co.): [M3/feez/vihl] (Mayslick). This settlement at the junction of US 62 and the North Fork of Licking River, 7 air miles sw of Maysville, once had a woolen factory and may have been named for William Murphy, an early settler. The post office, in operation until 1906, was established Nov. 13, 1830 with Joseph Howe, postmaster. Maysville now provides mail service. [L. Alberta Brand, "Place Names of Mason Co." DAR ms, 1941, P. 7]
MURRAY (Calloway Co.): [Muhr/ee] (Murray). This 3rd class city and the seat of Calloway Co. on US 641, 168 air miles sw of downtown Louisville, was established in 1842 on 80 acres then owned by Charles Curd and James Price and named for Wadesboro attorney and U.S. Congressman, John L. Murray. This vicinity may first have been settled by James Willis, a dealer in tobacco and hides, in or before 1825. He is known to have established a post office called Williston, at the junction of the present 4th and Sycamore Streets, on May 28, 1830. Shortly thereafter he sold out his holdings to Robert Pool, and the trading community that grew up around the Williston post office came to be known as Pooltown and later Pleasant Hill. After the creation of Marshall Co. from Calloway Co. in 1842, a site in the Pooltown-Williston vicinity was selected as more centrally located than Wadesboro for the seat of what remained of Calloway. Curd, who was then the Williston postmaster, renamed the office Murray on May 23, 1843, and the town was incorporated in this name in 1844.

Murray is now a thriving commercial town with some 13,700 residents, boasting one of the world's largest dark-fired tobacco markets and the 7300 student Murray State University. (1) Brown C. Tucker, "Sounds of Callowayland" J. OF THE JACKSON PURCHASE HIST'L. SOC., Vol. 1, 6/1973, Pp. 14-23; (2) Ibid., interview, 8/4/1977; (3) "City of Murray was Est. in 1843" by John Waters, Purch. Ed. of the MAYF. MESS. 12/27/1969, P. J5;9 [7k;7,79,;140]
MUSES MILLS (Fleming Co.): [Mużəs Mıhlə] (Plummers Landing).
A hamlet with an active post office on KY 1013 and Fox Creek, over ½ mile above the mouth of Brushy Fork, 1½ miles from the Rowan Co. line, and 11 air miles ese of Flemingsburg. The post office was established May 4, 1876 with George W. Manchester, postmaster, and named for the local grain and saw mill which, in turn, was named for George Muse, Sr., a Revolutionary War veteran, who died there in 1827. [Mrs. Martha Royse, interview, 9/26/1977] ""
MYERS (Nicholas Co.): [Mahrz (Moorefield). This hamlet with extinct post office on KY 32, a mile s of the Licking River and 4 air miles ne of Carlisle, was named for the Myers family that had settled there around 1790 on George Myers' Revolutionary War grant. His son, Benjamin is known to have had a store and tavern there. The post office was established as Black Hawk, for reasons unknown, on March 25, 1854 with Henry V. Myers, postmaster. It was discontinued in 1856 and re-established in 1872. In 1873 Myers Station was built by the Kentucky Central (now L&N) Railroad for its Paris-Maysville line and the post office was renamed Myers in 1882 with Michael J. Myers, postmaster. From Dec. 11, 1871 to Jan. 15, 1873 a Myersville post office was in operation somewhere in this vicinity. Only Ernest Gray's Grocery, a church, and a rural branch of the Carlisle post office now serve the local community. (1) Roy L. Shannon, interview, 1/18/1979; (2) HIST. OF NICH. CO. comp. & ed. by Joan W. Conley, 1976, P. 110
MYRA (Pike Co.): [Mah/ruh] (Dorton). This active post office on US 23/119 and Shelby Creek, at the mouth of Beefhide Creek, 12½ air miles s of Pikeville, was established May 24, 1905 and named by its first postmaster and the local storekeeper, Marquis D. L. Greer, for his daughter. [T.M. Kiddle, asst. pm, Pikeville, Ky. in letter to Wm. G. Steel, 4/19/1930]