

Burkesville, the county seat of Cumberland County, established in 1810. It is located on Ky. Highways 61 and 90. The nearest railroad is at Glasgow, 38 m. west. It is served by The Bruce Sloan and South Greyhound bus lines.

The town is 575 feet above sea level and has a population of 889. The Parkway Hotel, said to be one of the best in Ky., on the public square, and the Parrish House offer meals and rooms. A tourist camp on Ky. 61 about 12 m. north has 4 cabins. Points of interest associated with Burkesville are:

1. "The Big Hill" on Ky. 90 entering the town. It is one of the outstanding scenes of The Cumberland River Country.
2. Salem Church on Ky. 61, 3 m. north of town. Originated in 1806 and stands on the site of a pioneer battle ground where white and Indians fought over a girl who had been captured by the Redskins.
3. Cumberland County C. H. containing old papers relating to the activities of Abe Lincoln's forebears in the county. Thomas Lincoln, the President's father, was constable of Cumberland in 1802-1804.
4. First Oil Well in America, on Ky. 61, 3 m. north of Burkesville.
5. Numerous caves including "The Rock House" 2 m. west of Creelsboro Sulphur Springs, a camping site, and Dual Spring on Big Renox with 2 kinds of water--sulphur and clear.

COHIST

Cumberland Co. Name etc. (Golda Gibson-101)

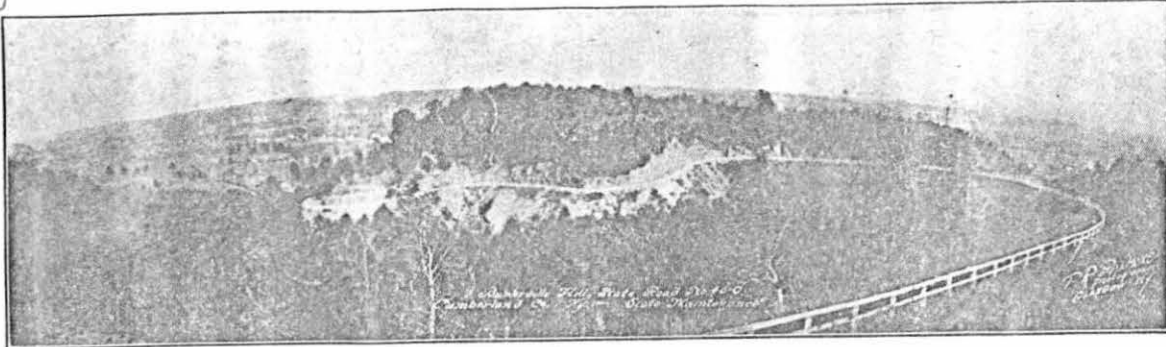
Bibliography:

History of Cumberland, notes compiled by Mrs C.M.McGee,
postmistress, Burkesville;

History of Kentucky, Chas.Kerr, American Historical
Society, Chicago and New York. Vol.1, page 7 and page 55.

Burkesville Chamber of Commerce

COHIST

Tanner Otley,
atly. at laru.

HOME SITE OF FIRST AMERICAN OIL WELL—1829
Oil sold for medicinal purposes and many
bottles of it well preserved and on display.

THE JOHN MUIR TRAIL

ABRAHAM LINCOLN BIRTHPLACE
Now established by records that
we are ready to show the world.

BURKESVILLE, KY.

April 10' 1936..

Mr. Lucian Beckner,
Louisville Kentucky,

Dear Mr. Beckner;

Your letter to me several days ago asking for some thing you had not received from your local worker, I am sending you what I can gather, and only wish that I had the time to get it up in better form; I would have responded sooner but have been away from home.

We have in this county Two high schools, one at Burkesville and one at Marrowbone, both are accredited.

The Negro population of Burkesville is 450, the entire population is 1500,

Cumberland Co. has 2 public cemeteries, one at Burkesville and the other at Marrowbone.

The Cumberland County News is the name of the only newspaper in the county, and it is a weekly.

Burkesville has 5 (white) protestant churches, 1 presbyterian church of Christ, 1 Methodist, 1 Baptist and 1 christian church;
3 colored churches, 1 Christian, 1 Methodist and one Baptist.

We have one picture show that shows daily.

The American Legion has a strong organization.

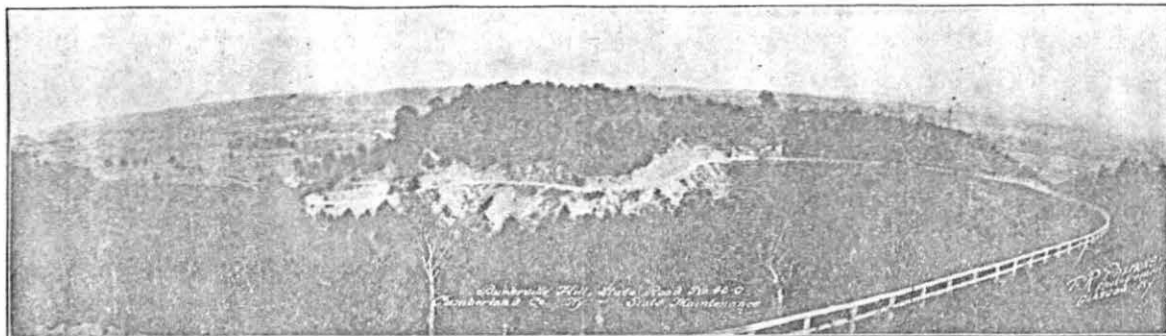
We have masonic lodge, Eastern Stars, Knights of P, Odd Fellows, Womens Club, Music Club, Garden Club
Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club.

We have for recreation places, Champ Shoals Camping grounds on The Cumberland, Sulphur Springs, and our High School has the best equipped gymnasium in the state.

Burkesville boasts of one of the best hotels in the state, Known over the country as The Parkway Hotel, Its the home and resting place for tourists going from the Cumberland falls to the mammoth cave, The rates are \$2.00 per day, many from the city of Louisville

Burkesville Chamber of Commerce

COHIST



HOME SITE OF FIRST AMERICAN OIL WELL-1829

Oil sold for medicinal purposes and many
bottles of it well preserved and on display.

THE JOHN MUIR TRAIL

ABRAHAM LINCOLN BIRTHPLACE

Now established by records that
we are ready to show the world.

BURKESVILLE, KY.

motor to this hotel week-ends because of their love for recreation and good things things to eat, Highway 90 and 37 intersect at the entrance of this well known hotel.

The historic old town of Burkesville was named for Samuel Burke who was one of Cumberland County's large land owners and a fine and generous citizens, he owned the valley where Burkesville is located and and made many donations for public buildings and homes, it is proper to spell the name with an "e" since Mr. Burke spelled his name that way.

The old wooden hominy pestle you saw here is owned by Mr. Allen Waggenen, and he had not thought of selling it and said he gave \$15.00 for it. I believe it could be bought for \$25.00.

There is a marker to the old American Oil well erected by the state, Such things as the old wooden casing that was drawn from the this well is on display, but none of the drilling tools have we been able to find.

Any other information that i can help you with i will be glad to do so.

With kindest regards for yourself and Mrs. Beckner I am,

Sincerely your Friend.

L. W. McGee
L.W. McGee.

Randolph, Helen F.

Box 1-File 30

COHIST ①

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

POST-OFFICES IN 1874

(Spelling of names follows that used in 1874)

Big Renox

Judio

BURKESVILLE

Marrowbone

Cloyd's Landing

Peytonsborg

Grider

(COUNTY SEAT LISTED IN 1874 IN CAPITALS)

Randolph, Helen F.

Box

12

File 30

COHIST

①

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

BURKSVILLE -- Named in honor of one of the original proprietors.
Was incorporated in 1810.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>POP.</u>	<u>TOWN</u>	<u>POP.</u>
Albany		Hegira	41
Amandaville	41	Jubio	10
Arat	50	Kettle	40
Bakerton	100	La See	
Bear Creek	35	Leslie	100
Beck's Store	25	Littrell	10
Blacks Ferry	78	Narrowbone	160
Eluffa		Modoc	30
Bow	15	Mud Camp	20
Brownwood		Orchards	
Burkesville	886	Parmleys	
Claywell	25	Paul's Ferry	
Cloyds Landing	63	Peytonsborg	8
Cumbeo		Phelps	
Ellington	27	Rennick	25
Elms		Renox	
Forest Cottage	6	Rusha	
Brogue	30	Scott's Ferry	
Graves		Selfs	
Green Grove	48	South Burkesville	15
Grider	33	Stalcup	

CUMBERLAND COUNTY (Cont.)

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>POP.</u>
Tanbark	11
Waterview	35
Whetstone	19
Williams	
Winfreys	
Xerxes	28

COHIST

Cumberland Co. Archaeology: (Golda Gibson-212)

Bibliography:

Pioneer Life, by Fayette Owsley, in Cumberland News,
March 13th, 1924;

Personal knowledge.

"All the remains of Indian life is the flints and other stones and vessels found or dug out of the earth."

"In many places graves and mounds signify that the Indians roamed over this country. One (mound) on the farm of W.F.Owsley, Burkesville, was opened, and several earthenware vessels, together with human bones, were removed. These mounds were quite old, as Judge Owsley, born in 1813, recalled that in his childhood four full grown beech trees stood on the largest.

"Several mounds are on a farm, about two miles from
Bakerton, on Brush Creek. ^{Human} Bones have been dug from under bluffs and mounds."

Several of the citizens of Cumberland Co. have made *
an effort to preserve collections of relics.

The County Court Clerk, S.A. Smith, has a small collection in his office, at the courthouse. Also Mr. J.A. Haynes of Burkesville, and Mr. Jim McCoy, of Cloyd's Landing, have small collections.

*(Note: Hope I did right in running these here. C.M.F.)

file

*Box 1
File 30*

COHIST

①

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Among the artifacts recovered in Cumberland County are peculiar spade-like implements called "spuds." Cumberland County has probably ^{*yielded*} ~~produced~~ more of these spuds than any other county of the State. ^{*from*} This county ^{*came from*} ~~also produced~~ *relics of stone and flint* ~~objects~~ shaped like an hour glass, excellent in proportion and workmanship. Artifacts and burials found in Cumberland County are representative of the Cumberland River area.

Box 1
File 30

COHIST
1

~~Agric~~

Cumberland Co.

Agriculture.

(Golda Gibson-170)

Cumberland's location on the Cumberland River makes it a center of farming and lumbering. The land is fertile. The farms are not large enough for producing much for export, excepting tobacco which is the chief staple for market. Other things sent out are hogs and cattle.

Some of the finest tobacco was raised in the county in early times as well as today.

Box 1
File 20

COHIST

Cumberland Co. Natural Resources. Forest. (Golda Gibson-162)

Bibliography:

Personal observation.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

BURKSVILLE

Box 1
File 30

COHIST

The American Oil well is situated three miles above Burksville, on the bank of the Cumberland river. About the year 1830, while some men were engaged in boring for salt-water, and after penetrating about one hundred and seventy-five feet through a solid rock, they struck a vein of oil, which suddenly spouted up to the height of fifty feet above the surface. The stream was so abundant and of such force, as to continue to throw up the oil to the same height for several days. The oil thus thrown out, ran into the Cumberland river, covering the surface of the water for several miles. It was readily supposed to be inflammable, and upon its being ignited, it presented the novel and magnificent spectacle of a "river on fire," the flames literally covering the whole surface for miles, reaching to the top of the tallest trees on the banks of the river, and continued burning until the supply of oil was exhausted. The salt borers were greatly disappointed, and the well was neglected for several years, until it was discovered that the oil possessed valuable medicinal qualities. It has since been bottled up in large quantities, and is extensively sold in nearly all the states of the Union. (1874)

About fourteen miles from Burksville, on the Cumberland river, and not far from Creelsburg in Russell county, is situated what is termed the "Rock House," a lofty arch of solid rock, forty feet in height, fifty or sixty feet in breadth, about the same in length, and a tall cliff overhanging it. In high stages of the water, a portion of the river rushes through the aperture with great violence down a channel worn into rock, and pours into the river again about a mile and a half below. In ordinary stages of the water, the arch, or as generally termed, the "Rock House," is perfectly dry. (1874)

Transfer to
Russell Co.

Insert 6.

BURKESVILLE, 66 m. (581 alt. 889 pop.), seat of Cumberland Co., was incorporated in 1810 twelve years after the establishment of the county and named for Samuel Burke, an early land owner, who before coming here, had been a licensed tavern-keeper in Greensburg. The town is on an old river terrace surrounded by imposing hills.

The piece of beech-wood in the Burkesville Post Office on which is carved the date, February 22, 1833, commemorates the arrival of the first steamboat to come up the Cumberland as far as Burkesville. It was preserved from the decayed beech tree opposite the mouth of Marrowbone Creek on the Cumberland River. (Ellington Landing). Even before steamboats plied the Cumberland, the location of the town on a navigable water-route made it a distributing center of some importance.

Until the coming of the automobile and better roads the only other mode of travel and transportation was stage-coach and the wagon.

The high school in the northern part of the town is near the site of Alexander College, a school for women no longer in existence.

Burkesville, a center of oil developments in this section has a modern hotel- the Parkway Hotel, a hotel- the Parish House, and a motion picture theater, a county weekly - the Cumberland County News, and a number of Protestant churches.

300
Box 1
File 30
COHIST
5
Cumberland Co. ~~Section~~ Caves etc. (Golda Gibson-144)

693
There are several caves in Cumberland. These have probably been formed by wearing away of rock by underground streams ages ago. The rock is limestone and sandstone; there- the cavern walls are of the harder grades.

These caves are located in different portions of the county - on Bear, Lewis and Willis creeks, and upon several hills. Some are large enough for one to go some distance back.

The Rock House is one of the scenic spots of this area; located in Russel near the Cumberland line. This has not been given its place in the natural scenery of the community. It is about 4 mi. southeast of Amandaville, Ky. 2 mi west of Creelsboro, and 5 mi. north of Whetstone. The trails leading to it are very rough and rugged. They are travelled by horse or on foot. Bad roads are the reason that visitors seldom frequent the place. Beautiful scenery is on all sides.

The Cumberland River valley and hills are beautiful from the eminence about the opening.

Approaching the hill from the west side, the Rock House seems a tunnel or cavelike opening. It is about twenty feet wide and fifty long. It opens on the east side on the river bank where the bluff is high and steep, and cannot be climbed, but a narrow path goes up the hill on the west side. The hill-top is a narrow ridge of shale and sandstone; and the tunnel is of sandstone. Several large slabs have fallen from the top but appear to have been there for several years.

A beautiful camping site as it forms a perfect shelter.
Has been used for camp Meetings.

COHIST

Cumberland Co. Caves etc.

(Golda Gibson-144)

Bibliography:

Personal knowledge. Visited and observed by writer.

Cumberland Co.

Climate.

(Golda Gibson-130)

Cumberland has a very uneven temperature.varying from 16 below zero to 100 above (Farenheit). Maximum occurs during July and August,minimum during Dec.Jan. and Feb.

Soil is ready for plowing from March to Nov.; and crops planted beginning in April,with some later ones as late as July.

Frosts run from Sept. to May. The crop season lasts from April to Nov. when they are gathered.

Fogs arise occasional^{ly} along the Cumberland river and the creeks; usually lasting only a few hours.

The annual rainfall is from 48 to 50 inches, most of it being from Sept. to June,inclusive.

During the spring the rainfall and melting snows cause the Cumberland and tributaries to overflow nearly every year.

The Mississippi valley winds blow across this section, sometimes causing damage to buildings, live-stock and timber.

Cumberland Co.

Climate. (Golda Gibson- 130)

COHIST

Box 1 File 30

Bibliography:

Personal knowledge and interviews with sundry
inhabitants.

COHIST

Within the memory of the older inhabitants, the hills and deep coves of Eastern Kentucky were covered with heavy stands of valuable timber; fish were plentiful in clear running streams; deer, turkeys, and other game animals and birds were abundant; large amounts of coal, oil, and gas were awaiting development; and the soil along the stream and river bottoms was deep and fertile. It was indeed a rich land, inhabited by a strong people with deep seated pride and traditions.

Down through the years the lumberman's axe has reduced the once magnificent forest to a pitiful remnant of their former grandeur and richness; repeated unquenched forest fires have destroyed most of the tender young trees and burned up the moisture-holding humus and ground cover; forest fires and unregulated hunting have rendered deer, turkey, and other game almost extinct. The ashes from the forest fires get into the rivers and kill the fish and also the food which the fish feed from.

It was with this in mind that a few far-sighted Kentuckians asked the Federal Government to share with the State of Kentucky the burden of restoring the renewable natural resources of Eastern Kentucky. As a result, the Cumberland National Forest was established by the U. S. Forest Service in 1930, and is now a going concern and a steady climbing National Forest. This forest includes portions of seventeen counties which are mostly in the Cumberland River and its tributaries. It covers a gross area of more than 1,300,000 acres of the some 12,000,000 acres of hill and mountain lands of Eastern Kentucky, and stretches from within a few miles of the Ohio River on the north, to the Tennessee line on the south. Within this area, hundreds of thousands of acres of mountain land have already been purchased or placed under purchase agreement by the U. S. Forest Service; steel fire-lookout towers equipped with radio for quick communication with fire fighting crews are installed in these towers.

The rules and laws which govern the activities and work of this forest are handed down from Washington D.C., to the Forest Supervisor who in turn hands it down to his assistants.

The Cumberland National Forest is divided into three ranger districts, namely: Red River, Rockcastle and Laurel. There is a ranger at the head of each of these districts. He receives his orders from the Supervisor of the Forest. The rangers have one assistant who is called the Assistant District Ranger.

COHIST

There are eight Federal Camps and one State Camp in the Cumberland National Forest.

The camps are under the supervision of the Camp Superintendent. He receives his orders from the Ranger. The ranger inspects these camps and sees if this or that phase of work is going on according to the work specifications which has been sent to the Superintendent for him to follow.

The first thing that is looked to in the camps is the prevention of fire. Fire comes first, preference to everything else, communication and lookout towers comes next then the road construction and from then on the miscellaneous work which has to be done to keep the camp running.

In each camp there are Road Foreman and a Mechanic. In some camps there are more foreman than others.

Now for a small insight to the fire situation of this camp at Stearns, Kentucky. It is the worst camp for fires in the Cumberland National Forest. Taking from the first of the year up to the present date. This camp alone has had 174 fires and 166 false alarms. The fires range from 0.1 acres to 500 acres. The cost of fires is beyond the reasoning power of the ordinary person. Here is one fire for example to show the cost of a fire. There were 3,528 CCC hrs., used on this fire at a cost of \$.25 per Hour which is \$899.50, 540 miles were put on trucks at a cost of .07 per mile, which is \$37.80, \$10.47 for facilitating personnel and supervisory personnel, which makes the total cost of one fire \$947.77. This fire burned over 235 acres. The above cost does not include the damage done to the timber and reproduction, the greatest damage a fire does is to the soil.

To make the fire problem more accurate and thorough so that we make have better communication with the crews that are on a fire each camp has a number of Portable Radios which contact the radios that are in the towers which in turn give the information of how the fire is doing to the camp. Incidentally this Forest has the finest Ultra Short-wave Radio Equipment in the United States.

The Cumberland National Forest is increasing in size all the time. There are 40, 200 acres under option in McCreary County which is being purchased from the Stearns Coal and Lumber Company.

Mc Creary Co. National Parks. (Audrey Keith-695)

Bibliography:

Mr. Berkley Davis, Forestry Service, Stearns, Ky.

Mr. Wm Baugh, Forestry Service, Stearns Ky.

Mr. J.C. Feltner, County Agt. Whitley City, Ky.

Mr Wm. Caylor, Att at Law, Whitley City, Ky.

Box 1
File 30

COHIST

7

Cumberland Co. Economic Development. (~~251~~ Golda Gibson-251)

No plants or factories outside of Burkesville. where the only one is the light and ice plant, north west side of Square.

Produce sold, such as tobacco, hogs and cattle, are sent to the Louisville market. Cumberland does not produce enough wheat to take care of her needs, therefore flour is shipped in.

The farmer usually sells direct to the Louisville market, or to some trader who hauls the commodities. Most merchandise, now, is hauled by truck.

Box 1 File 50

COHIST

Cumberland Co. Economic Development. (Golda Gibson-251)

Bibliography:

Personal knowledge.

Box 1
File 30

⑥ 5-201
L13

Cumberland Co. Early Americana. (Golds Gibson, -250)

Two bonds made by Thomas Lincoln to Gov. Garrard, when Lincoln was constable, 1802 and 1804, are in the County Clerk's office, Cumberland Co.

Two deeds are also recorded in Deed Book A, to two farms owned by said Thomas, along the Cumberland River and Marrowbone Creek. The dates are 1805 and 1815, respectively.

Cumberland County claims the birth place of Abraham Lincoln. At the time of Abraham's birth, Thomas Lincoln lived in Cumberland County. His uncle, Hannaniah Lincoln, was the first sheriff of this county, and Thomas was an officer at the same time.

Cumberland Co.

Early Americana. (Golda Gibson-230)

Bibliography:

Data from S.A. Smith, County Court Clerk, Burkesville, KY.

Cumberland News, issue of Feb. 7th, 1929.

Box 1 File 30

COHIST

①

Cumberland Co. Fauna. (Golda Gibson-190)

The gray squirrel, fox, opossum, rabbit, raccoon, chipmunk, woodchuck and skunk.

"The forest and fields abound in animals and bird life; and the streams are the homes of fish, turtles and frogs."

"Hunters have destroyed so much game that several farmers have made an effort to preserve it by posting their lands."

Cumberland Co. Fauna. (Golda Gibson- 190)

COHIST

Bibliography:

"Personal knowledge and observation."

Cumberland Co. Geography. (Golda Gibson -110)

Is located about midway of the southern part of the State, being bordered on the north by Adair and Metcalfe counties; on the east by Russell and Clinton; south by Tennessee; west by Monroe and Metcalfe.

Burkesville is on the Cumberland River, about 38 mi. east of Glasgow, and 16 mi. from the State line, on highways 90 and 61.

Box 1 File 20 (S. rto)

COHIST

Cumberland Co. Geography. (Golda Gibson-110)

Bibliography:

Personal knowledge.

Box 1
File 30

COHIST

6

Cumberland Co. Historical. (Golda Gibson-203)

The first "free school" was opened in 1849.

Alexander College was built in 1871-2. It was one of the "best schools for women at that time." Is now used as the high school; located in the northern part of the town.

The first steamboat to come up the Cumberland as far as Burkesville, was Feb. 22nd, 1833. This date was cut on a beech tree at Ellington Landing across the river from the mouth of Marrowbone Creek, a distance of ten miles from Burkesville by river, or five by air. In 1934 this tree was cut down as it had decayed so; and the carved part was taken to the Burkesville Post Office for preservation.

Before good roads were put through the county, ~~every~~ everything was shipped to or from Burnside, Ky. and Nashville, Tenn. Along the river, at different points, were landings. Merchandise was put off at these places, then hauled to destination by wagons. Some of the old warehouses are still standing near the river banks, others have been destroyed.

150
Cumberland Co.

Box 1 File 30
COHIST 6
Name etc. (Golda Gibson-101)

Cumberland (pronounced Cum'-ber-land) was made from a part of Green County, 1798, and much larger in area than now. Green was made from Lincoln in 1792.

Dr. Thomas Walker and his companions discovered a river in the state of Kentucky in April, 1750. He named it for the Duke of Cumberland; later the mountains and Gap took the same name by usage. The Indian name of the mountain was Quósito, Waseoto or Ono-Sciota - "The mountains where deer are plenty."

Cumberland County was named for the river which passes through the county from northeast to the southwestern corner. Burkesville, county seat, and largest river port between Nashville, Tenn. and Burnside, Ky. was named for Samuel Burks, one of Cumberland's first Justices of the Peace. He gave the town-site, which was surveyed Aug. 8, 1805.

Population of Burkesville is 889, and the county 10,500.

Box 17
File 30

COHIST

Cumberland Co. Historical. (Golda Gibson-203)

Bibliography:

Miss Sallie McMurtry, interviews, with,
H.L. Flint, interviews with, -both of the above
are residents of Burkesville;

Personal knowledge.

Box 1
File 30

COHISTE

Cumberland Co. History Golda Gibson-203)

Burkesville was incorporated in 1810. In 1846 besides the usual public buildings Burkesville had a good school, six stores and groceries, and two taverns, four lawyers, five physicians, twelve mechanic shops, and one church. The population was 350.

Today Burkesville has increased more than twice its number of public buildings etc.

The mode of travel to and from Burkesville was by stage coach; and only since the coming of the Ford and better roads has this mode of travelling ceased.

Fayette Wood Owsley, who came to Burkesville in 1824, and W.F. Owsley, son of Dr. Joel Owsley, established the first bank in Cumberland, 1858.

The first free school in the County was at Bow, in the eastern part, 1849. This was taught by Reuben Hicks, whose father came from Virginia in 1820.

Columbia has been a river shipping port, especially for forest products and tobacco. The latter used to be packed in hogsheads. The old ~~old~~ windlass that was made and used in loading hogsheads is still standing on the river bank at Bakerton, "from which point more tobacco was shipped than any other point in the State."

Box 13
File 30

COHIST

Cumberland Co. History. (Golda Gibson-203)
Bibliography:

"Pioneer Life " by Fayette Owsley, Cumberland News-
March 13, 1924.
al
Person/knowledge.

Box 1
File 30

COHIST

(6)

Cumberland Co. History (221-24 Golda Gibson-201-3)

Col. James Knox with a party of forty, "The Long Hunters", were hunting and exploring in Kentucky, about 1770.

They were probably the first white men to enter what is now Cumberland County. It was still unsettled and a part of Lincoln when Kentucky was made a state, 1792.

The first settlers came into the western part of the county about 1789; and settled in the Marrowbone and Allen's Creek section, the most fertile portions of the country. It is said that Marrowbone was so called because ~~of~~ the rich, narrow valley between the hills was compared to the marrow of the bone.

Several years later Col. Henry Renick came to the northern section and settled on Big Renick's, or Renox Creek. He was granted a tract of about 700 acres, by Virginia, for his services in the Revolution. There he lived, and the name of the creek came from him. On Allen's Creek is supposed to have occurred Cumberland's first settlement. They came from Virginia, 1789. The Burkes came from Virginia, and settled in or near by Burkesville.

The southern part of the county, known as Pea Ridge, has a family of negroes, descendants of some brought from North Carolina about 1790. One of them married an Indian woman, and some of her characteristics are still visible in their descendants. Here a bitter feud between the owners of these negroes and other families, handed from generation to generation, was carried on with deaths on both sides.

in the early part of 1800 came many Virginia families whose descendants became prominent. Among these were John Alexander who settled on Marrowbone, 1811; Joseph Bledsoe in Rock House Bottom, 1800; James Baker, together with a number of the Bakers, who settled in the north east section, near Bakerton, 1818; Joseph Alexander, 1824.

The Bakers brought a number of slaves with them, a few of whose descendants still live here. The first camping ground, near Bakerton, still bears the name of "First Night Hollow."

The people built their homes with the ax, the broad-axe/^{the fro} and such other tools as they could make. With the ax they felled the trees; with the broad-axe they hewed the logs to a flat surface, on two sides; and with the fro they rived the boards for the roof. They used pegs to fasten the building together, lacking nails. Clay and stone chimneys were made with broad fire-places. The cooking was done in pots on hangers over the fire, or in pots and pans on hot coals. Food consisted of wild game, also vegetables, fruit and corn. Corn was ground at the old water mills, and borne home upon oxen, their chief beast of burden. The housewife would card and spin wool for the family clothing.

Houses similar to these are scattered over the County, today, especially in the southern part. Some of the old cooking utensils are still preserved. Miss Sallie Mc Hurtury, Burkesville, has some in her possession, now.

Cumberland Co. History. (Golda Gibson-201-3) 3.

The first officers of the County were: Hannaniah Lincoln, Sheriff; Isaac Taylor, Clerk; Allen Wakefield, County Atty. and Surveyor; Alexander Martin, Constable; and seven Justices of Peace, Isham Burkes, Thomas E. Lowery, John Irvein, Joseph Black, David Hutcheson and Alexander McFarland.

"John E. King was lawyer."

Court was held at the home of Samuel Burkes until a courthouse could be built. Their first order, July 1799, decreed it. The building, of log, was 24X20X 16 feet, finished in 1806. It was swept away by the flood of 1826.

A brick courthouse was erected in 1858, Sixty feet by sixty, with two stories; burned during the Civil War, 1865. Another, erected in 1887, also two-stories, burned Dec. 30, 1933. The present building, one that the county can be proud of" was finished in 1934.

The area of Cumberland County is 315 Sq. miles. When first formed it was several times its present size, parts having been cut off to form new counties.

12.18
Box 1 File 30
Cumberland Co. History. (Golda Gibson-201-3)

COHIST

Bibliography:

"Long Hunters", "Kentucky, the Pioneer of the West,"
by T.C.Cherry, Pub.D.C.Heath & Co. Boston, Pp.28-9;

First Settlers, "Pioneer Life" by Fayette Owsley, Cum-
berland News, Burkesville, issue of March 18th, 1924;

First Court Officers and Courthouses, Notes compiled by
Mrs C.M.McGee, post-mistress, Burkesville, Ky.

Box 1
File 30

COHIST

(1)

Cumberland Co. Hotels. (Golda Gibson-510)

The Parkway Hotel, Public Square, Burkesville, has 22 rooms; rates are from \$1.25 to \$3.50, a day "with and without baths."

(Does n't state whether A. or E. Seems to be both.)

Rooms are also furnished at the Parrish house, at the rate of fifty to seventy cents a night.

The Burkesville Garage has accommodations for cars; charge, twenty-five cents a night.

Tourist Camps:

The Tourist Camp on Highway 61, about 12 mi. north of Burkesville has four cabins: two are double, with hall-ways between for automobile shelter.

Cumberland Co. Hotels . Tourist Camps. (Golda Gibson-510)

Bibliography:

Personal knowledge.

Box 1 715 30
COHIST

Cumberland Co.

Literature.

(Golda Gibson-665)

"A Herald Almanac pertaining to Cumberland County, its resources, citizens etc. was published in 1899 by Tom Scott editor."

Jacob M. Radford is author of "Miscellaneous Under Forty -Five Heads." It was published by the Pentecostal Publishing Co. Louisville, Ky. 1930. Mr. Radford, now deceased, lived at Bakerton.

Fayette Owsley, of Burkesville, wrote "Pioneer Life" which was published in the Cumberland News, March 13, 1924.

Mrs C.M. McGee, Burkesville, edited "The Kentucky Key-notes" official organ of the Kentucky Federation of Music Clubs for the three years of 1927-30. And Mrs McGee, together with Mrs Leon Cook, wrote a "Pageant of Early History of Cumberland County" which was finished in Sept. 1935.

A History of Cumberland County is being written by Mrs McGee at the present time.

Box 1 File 30
CUMIST
Cumberland Co.

Literature. (Golda Gibson- 665)

Bibliography:

Information from Mrs C.M.McGee, local historian,
Burkesville, Ky.

Cumberland Co. Natural Resources. Mineral (Golda Gibson-161)

Cumberland County has limestone rock that is used extensively for road building and soil liming. Limestone sand and gravel are used in road construction, being found in large quantities. Other stone found, but not much used, are soapstone, slate, sandstone and burr, or millstone.

Burkesville, county seat, is in the midst of the county oil fields. The oil pools are found on the West Fork and Crocus creeks, on the north; Bear Creek, on the east; and Kettle and Sulphur creeks, on the south.

Very little petroleum is hauled away from the county, nor is used so widely there as it once was. The roads to these fields are not passable all year, except Bear Creek.

Copper ore is found in a bluff near Amandaville. The people of the community use this for medicinal purposes.

Oil well: On Highway 61, 3 mi. north of Burkesville, is the marked for the American Oil Well. It is 210 feet across Little Renox Creek from the marker.

In March 1829, while drilling for salt wells, workmen were surprised, on withdrawing their auger, to find oil thrown up fourteen feet beyond the mouth of the well. According to a contemporary account "although the quantity somewhat abated after the first discharge, during which it was supposed to emit seventy-five gallons a minute, it still continued to flow in a stream that made its way to the Cumberland, for a long distance covering the surface with its oily

Cumberland Co. Natural Resources. Mineral (Golda Gibson-161) 2

pellicle. It is so penetrating as to be difficult to confine it to any wooden vessel."

"When the oil gushed out that time, it caught on fire setting both Big and Little Renox creeks and the Cumberland River afire for several miles. This well has been drilled deeper since, and many bottles of this oil carried away as souvenirs of the first American oil well.

April 6, 1855, Mr. I. C. Parr, of Cincinnati, wrote to the well proprietor, asking for a sample of the genuine oil.

Box 1
File 30
Natural Resources, Mineral.

COHIST

Cumberland Co. ~~XXXXXX~~ Gilwell. (Golda Gibson- 161)

Bibliography:

Kerr's History of Kentucky, Vol. 2, page 746;

Cumberland News, No. 24, Sept. 12, 1921;

Letter in possession of Miss Sallie McMurtry, Burkesville, Ky.

Box -1
File 30

COHIST

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Cumberland Co. Natural Resources.Plant. (Golda Gibson-162)

Cumberland has large area of privately owned forest. The north part of the county has been more cleared than the southern. Most of the larger timber, such as oaks and tulip trees, have been cut for the lumber mills. But there is enough still for fuel, and some good timber yet to be had.

The southern section still retains part of its large trees, but they are being cut and hauled away to the mills. There is yet enough timber left to furnish mills etc. for several years more.

Box 1 File 30
Mc Creary Co. National Parks. (Audrey Keith-695

COHIST

Bibliography:

Mr. Berkley Davis, Forestry Service, Stearns, Ky.

Mr. Wm. Baugh, Forestry Service, Stearns Ky.

Mr. J. C. Feltner, County Agt. Whitley City, Ky.

Mr. Wm. Caylor, Att at Law, Whitley City, Ky.

Cumberland Co. Natural Resources. Forest. (Golda Gibson-162)

Bibliography:

Personal observation.

APP-KY/VERT
CUMBERLAND CO.

Cumberland Co. Natural Resources, Water. (Golda Gibson-163)

Cumberland has 96 miles of streams, non-poluted water,¹ within the bounds of the county. The river is navigable for steam boats about six months in the year; and good for motor boats any time. "Is navigable as far as Nashville throughout the year, 193 miles."

There ~~are~~ several creek^s tributary to the Cumberland River. These are Crocus, Big and Little Renox creeks, on the north; Bear, Otter, Oil-fork creeks, on the east. The largest creeks on the south are sulphur and Kettle, the former emptying ~~into~~ into Obies River. The western streams are Marrowbone and Allen's creeks. Most of these are good for fishing, and bathing beaches - especially the Cumberland.

On one stream, near Hegira, Ky. a dam was built and the water run through a race. This water mill is still in service, and has, in time, generated enough electricity to light a country home and store.

Sulphur Spring is a fine camping site. The Dual Spring, on Big Renox, has two kinds of water; from one opening comes sulphur, while the other is clear.

There are numerous other camping sites along the River, and on the four islands of Green, Scotts, Long and Herford. There is fine scenery all up and down the Cumberland, such as bluffs, Lover's Leap, the Pinnacle; and winding roads among the bluffs and hills.

Cumberland Co. Natural Resources, Water. (Golda Gibson-163)

Bibliography:

From notes compiled by Mrs C.M.McGee, of Burkesville,
Kentucky.

(Note by Editor: Mrs McGee is postmistress; and local
historiographer.)

Box 1
File 30

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(4)

Cumberland Co. Noted Personalities. (Gilda Gibson-254)

Joel Cheek, late owner of "Maxwell House Coffee," was born in 1852, at Burkesville, Ky. He was a commercial traveller for a long while. He left Cumberland County about 1870, going to Nashville, Tenn. Oct. 13th, 1874, he married Miss Minnie Richie.

Was very successful in business. Died recently at Nashville. Mr. Cheek donated \$10,000 to help build combined gymnasium and auditorium for the Burkesville High School.

Dr. W. Godfrey Hunter was born in Ireland. First settled in Pennsylvania, from which he entered the Union army as surgeon. Came to Cumberland County, later, to engage in the oil business. Married Miss Sue Alexander in 1870. Practiced medicine until elected to Congress from the Third Ky. Dist.; and later the 11th Cong. Dist. Came very near being elected to the U.S. Senate, lacking only one vote.

Dr. Hunter was minister to Guatemala. After the expiration of his term there he moved to Louisville, where he died.

COHIST

The following is a true copy of a record in Commonwealth Order Book D, page 325, showing that Thomas Lincoln and wife were parties of the settlement of the estate of Jesse Gee deceased. Jesse Gee was surety on both bonds executed by Thomas Lincoln as Constable in Cumberland County in 1802-4;

Amanda L. Gee by pr --- Complt.

against

In Chancery

Robert Pottinger & others Defendants

This day came the Complainant by her counsel, and the Defendants Robert Pottinger & wife, Thomas Lincoln and wife, John Truax & wife and Winnie Tudor not having entered their appearance herein agreeable to law and the rules of this Court, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that they are no inhabitants of this Commonwealth. It is therefore Ordered that unless they do appear here on or before the first day of the next October Term of this Court, and answer the Complainants original & amended Bills herein, the same will be taken as confessed agst. them - And It is further Ordered that a copy of their Order be inserted in some public authorized newspaper, printed within the State - for two months successively according to law - and the cause is continued until next Court.

(The interlined words appear in the record, also agst. is used for against, and the irregularity in the letter "P" in Pottinger in style of case appears also - Hoffman)

The following is a true copy of proceedings in a case in Cumberland Circuit Court, as shown in Commonwealth Order Book D, page 7, and relates to a whipping post in County:

The Commonwealth of Kentucky

against

Nathaniel Harsey Defendant

Upon an Indictment of the

grand jury for felony

Nathaniel Harsey laborer, late of the County of Cumberland who stands indicted for felony, was led to the bar in Custody of the Sheriff, and thereon arraigned, and upon his arraignment he pleaded not guilty and for his trial he put himself upon God and his country, and the attorney for the Commonwealth likewise, and thereupon came a venire, Viz. William Degroffenried, Clement Murphy, James Gwin, Thomas Cloyd, John Carpenter, Christopher Myers, Henry Cabbert, George Bundy, James Cloyd, Christopher Cheatham & John Alexander jeur. who being elected tried and sworn the truth of and upon the premises to speak and the evidence being fully heard upon their oath - returned a verdict in the words following to-wit, "We of the Jury find the within named Nathaniel Harsey (the prisoner at the bar) guilty of the felony, in the within Indictment charged against him, in manner and form as is therein setforth; and that therefor he shall receive on his bare back at the public whipping post nineteen stripes

James Gwin

one of the Jury."

and it being demanded of the said defendant, if anything for himself he had or now to say, why the court here to Judgment & execution against him of and upon the premises should not proceed, he said he had nothing but what he hath before said.

Therefore It is Considered by the court that the said Defendant receive upon his bare back at the public whipping post ineteen stripes-and that the Sheriff of Cumberland County do cause execution of this Judgment to be done and performed on him the said

Nathaniel Harsey on this day at the place of execution and proclamation being made ~~as-the-manner-is,-and,-nothing-farther-appearing-as-being-alleged-against-him,~~ it-is-therefore-Ordered-that-the-said-Harsey-be-acquitted-and-discharged-and-go-there-of-hence-without-day.

Lines are drawn through sentences in the record as indicated above -

Hoffman

COHIST

The following is a true copy of a record in Commonwealth Order Book-D, page 450, showing that Thomas Lincoln and wife were parties to the settlement of the estate of Jesse Gee deceased. Jesse Gee was surety on both bonds executed by Thomas Lincoln as Constable in Cumberland County in 1802-4;

Amanda L. Gee by her Guardian Complt.

against

In Chancery

The Heirs and Legatees of)
Jesse Gee Deceased) Defendants

This day, this cause came on to be heard on the bills answered and exhibits. On Consideration whereof it appears to the Court, that all the personal Estate of the Testator Jesse Gee (other than slaves) which came to the hands of the deft. Wm. Anna Euyart, under the will of her late husband for the benefit of herself and her son Jesse Gee, was of the value of \$1231-30.5 of two-thirds. Whereof the Complt. is legally entitled to demand one tenth part, it further appear to the court, that exclusively of Peter and Molly devised to the defendant Wm. Anna during her life all the slaves of the deceased, distributed among the other legatees, under the will aforesaid, were of the value of \$2704-00- Whereof the Complainant is legally entitled to one tenth part. It is therefore decreed and Ordered that the defendant Abraham Euyart and Wm. Anna his wife pay to the Complainant out of the personal Estate aforesaid the sum of Eighty two dollars and eight cents, being the tenth part of the value of two-thirds of the personal Estate aforesaid, with interest after the rate of six percentum per annum from the 18th of Nov. 1815 until paid. And it is further decreed and Ordered that the Complainant recover against the other nine defendants and legatees the sum of \$270.40.0 being the tenth part of the value of the negroes divided among them, under the will afsd. with legal interest thereon from the 16th November 1814-which said sum is to be paid to the Complt. by nine legatees afsd. in proportion to their several legacies VIZ, John S. Gee is to pay \$101-30 Jesse Gee \$20.00 and the other seven defendants Robert Pottinger & Fanny his wife, Thomas Linchorn and Patscy his wife, E. Kirkpatrick and Betsey his wife, John Smith & Sally his wife, John Autry and Polly his wife, John Trueax & Lucy his wife and

COHIST

Winney Tudder \$21.30 each - with interest as afd. on each sum respectively.

It is further decreed and Ordered that the Complainant recover of the Defendants one equal undivided tenth part of the three tracts of land in the will mentioned, and that she have and enjoy the same to her and her heirs forever, reserving however to the deft. Wm. Anna her right of dower therein, and it is further finally decreed and Ordered that the defendants John S. Gee and Jesse Gee as such of the defts. as may under the will aforesaid, have a right to the slaves Peter and Molly ~~///sd~~ after the death of the deft. Wm. shall pay to the Complt. when the said slaves shall come to his, her or their possession one tenth part of the then value of said slaves, to be paid by said legatees in proportion to the value of their respective interests in said slaves under the will afd. This decree is not to prejudice the claim of the deft. Wm. Anna for remuneration for the support and maintenance of the Complt. Amanda, but if she has any claim it is hereby expressly reserved to her.

COHIST

The FIRST OIL WELL drilled in the U.S. was accidentally discovered in March, 1829, on the bank of the Cumberland River (R) near Little Rennox Creek ~~2 m. N. of Burkesville (State 61)~~. When the workmen drilling for salt water withdrew the ^{bit}auger, after penetrating solid rock for a considerable depth, the oil gushed up many feet and ran off into the river. The discharge of the well was estimated as high as 75 gallons a minute. In several days the flow had covered the surface of the Cumberland River and Big and Little Rennox Creeks with an oily pellicle for miles. Curiosity about its inflammability caused the oil to be ignited and the river soon became a magnificent inferno of flames leaping to the tops of the highest trees along the banks of the river and creeks. The "river and creeks continued burning" until the oil on their surface was exhausted. Dr. John Croghan, the enterpriser, and his workmen were surprised and disappointed, and the well was neglected for several years until the medicinal quality of the oil was discovered. A marker erected by the State, together with display of the original well-casing, commemorate the drilling of the first oil well in the country.

BURKESVILLE, 66 m. (581 alt., 889 pop.), seat of Cumberland Co., was incorporated in 1810 twelve years after the establishment of the county and named for Samuel Burke, an early land owner, who before coming here, had been a licensed tavern-keeper in Greensburg. The town is on an old river terrace surrounded by imposing hills.

The piece of beech-wood in the Burkesville Post Office on which is carved the date, February 22, 1833, commemorates the arrival of the first steamboat to come up the Cumberland as far as Burkesville. It was preserved from the decayed beech tree opposite the mouth of Marrowbone Creek on the

Cumberland River. (Ellington Landing). Even before steamboats plied the Cumberland, the location of the town on a navigable water-route made it a distributing center of some importance.

Until the coming of the automobile and better roads the only other mode of travel and transportation was stage-coach and the wagon.

The high school in the northern part of the town is near the ~~only~~ site of Alexander College, a school for women no longer in existence.

Burkesville, a center of oil developments in this section has a modern hotel - the Parkway Hotel, a hotel - the Parish House, and a motion picture theater, a county weekly - the Cumberland County News, and a number of Protestant churches.

Bakerton- on - the Cumberland (R) a tiny hamlet m. off State _____ on an unimproved road was once an important tobacco center. Tobacco the chief staple crop of the county from its earliest days, was hauled to Bakerton from the surrounding country and then loaded on boats to be taken to Nashville. An old windlass used in loading hogsheads is still standing on the river-bank. Many of the old warehouses at river landings used until river transportation went the way of the horse and buggy, may still be seen along Cumberland River.

At one time in its history more tobacco was brought to Bakerton to be shipped than any other point in the U.S.

"First Night Hollow", near Bakerton, ~~tezzz~~ is the first camping ground of the Bakers, a pioneer family from Virginia, who, like a number of other settlers from the Old Dominion, brought their slaves with them. Bakerton was named for this family which settled here in 1818.

The CASCADE in Little Rennox Creek at its junction with Big Rennos has a fall of twenty feet. Beyond this, near the point where these streams

100/3
Cumberland Co. -

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empty confluent into the Cumberland River, there occurred at the beginning of the nineteenth century a severe skirmish between a party of white men and Indian warriors over a young girl taken captive in Green County. Fearing that her captors might kill her, they planned to make a surprise coup, but an Indian dog gave the alarm. When the chief appeared at the tepee opening, he was shot. After a brisk encounter the Indians were routed and the rescued girl was sent home. The outlines of rock-bound Indian graves and of flints scattered about the ground can still be seen.

SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH (L), was organized in 1806. The present church building, the third erected since the beginning of the congregation, is situated less than $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the confluence of Big and Little Renox Creeks.

SULPHUR SPRINGS (L), m. off State 61 is an excellent camping site with Garrett and Big Renox Creeks nearby. Most of the creeks, as well as Cumberland River, provide good fishing. Camping sites and natural bathing beaches are numerous along the Cumberland and on several of its islands. Roads, winding among the hills that skirt the river, unexpectedly emerge on scenically pleasing river vistas with bluffs often supplying a note of ruggedness.

DUAL SPRING () m. off State on Big Renox Cree. The name, is derived from the twin openings of two distinct springs which emerge here. Out of one opening issues sulphur water while clear water flows from the other one.

The hills of Cumberland are covered with cliffs, rocks and bluffs. The abruptness and loftiness of the topography give boldness and occasionally ruggedness to the scenery.

Cumberland Co.

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COHIST

The valleys and lower sections have been enriched by the top soil washed from the hills by rain.

Box 1 File 30
COHIST
Cumberland Co. Paleontology. (Golda Gibson-151)

"A few forms of small plants have been found in the rocks and caves, such as ferns, leaves etc., but these have n't been cared for, and are scattered here and there.

"In the eastern part of the County, near Kettle, Ky. is a cave that people in that section claim has a petrified hog, inside; but no certainty is made of this."

1990
Box 1 File 30
COHIST
Cumberland Co. Paleontology: (Golda Gibson-151)

Bibliography:

"Personal knowledge."

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Cumberland Co.

Box 1 File 30
COHIST (5)
Points of Scenic Interest (Golda Gibson-692)

Approaching Burkesville from the west, on Highway 90, one ascends to the top of "The Big Hill." This is one of the most outstanding scenes of Cumberland. "The Big Hill" overlooks Burkesville and the valley of the Cumberland River, with beautiful views in all directions.

Cumberland Co. Points of Scenic Interest. (Golda Gibson-692)

Bibliography:

Personal knowledge.

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Box 1
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CONFIDENTIAL
6
Cumberland Co. Records & Histories. (Golda Gibson-*)

Records of the earliest settlement were destroyed by fire, Dec. 30, 1938. (Burning of Courthouse.) Copies of certain portions have been preserved with the book number, page etc.

A history of Cumberland County has been compiled by Mrs C.M. McGee, and is being written at the present time. This history has a copy of the Cumberland records and proceedings, founding of the county seat, Burkesville, Road Surveys, Ferrys Licensed, building of the first courthouse, first jail, first tavern licensed, and first churches.

The local paper, Cumberland News, now edited by Mrs I.T. Shannon, has been interested all along in local history, industries, and people. Articles have been published in several issues, and are kept in the News office at Burkesville.

* Am leaving the classification up to the Office.

KENTUCKY

DISTRICT NO.

BRANCH DISTRICT NO.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
IN KENTUCKY

Bibliography:

Notes compiled by Mrs C.M.McGee, post-mistress,
Burkesville;

Personal knowledge.

* Simply do not know how to classify this.

Cumberland Co.

Social

(Golda Gibson-674.4)

Box 1
File 30

(1)

COHIST

The County House on Cedar Creek can take care of only
the very few who have no homes at all.

Box 1
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COHIST

Cumberland Co. Social. (Colda Gibson-674.4)

Bibliography:

Personal knowledge.

COHIST

BURKESVILLE, co. seat of Cumberland co. is the principal retail distribution point for Cumberland co. and adjacent areas of neighboring counties. By 1798 the Burkesville area, which was until that time a part of Green co., had become sufficiently well settled to justify the erection of Cumberland co., named after the riv. which winds its 100 mi. way across the co. in a southwesterly direction. Burkesville was named after Samuel Burk, an early settler, who, prior to coming to Cumberland co., had been the first licensed tavern-keeper in Greensburg. Burkesville is on US highway 37 and is at the junction of State highways 61 and 90, some 150 mi. S.E. of Louisville, on a meridian slightly W. of that passing through the Capitol of Ky.: C.S.T. It is on the terrace of a bend of the Cumberland riv., a navigable waterway.

The first oil well in the United States was opened in Cumberland co. where a gusher was accidentally discovered March 12, 1829 near the mouth of Little Renox Creek, 3 mi. above Burkesville.

An amusing incident in connection with the discovery tells how Dr. John Croghan, who was boring for salt remarked to his companions, "I am either going to reach Hell or salt by night." When he struck oil, it overflowed the rigging and fire raged for mi. down the Cumberland riv., burning for weeks. Believing he had reached the former destination, Dr. Croghan fled, and was never seen again.

To commemorate the birth of the first oil well in America, the Legislature made an appropriation and a state marker was erected in 1934. Small bottles, containing samples of the original crude oil, are in possession of several residents of Burkesville and Col. Lucien Beckner, of Louisville.

The individuality of the Cumberland Valley, in which Burkesville is located, is such that it is entitled to rank as a separate area division.

COHIST

There are about 20 of these "big bottoms" in Ky., each holding a community. In most cases the upland behind them is dissected to such an extent that for a distance of several mi. on either side of the riv. the land is almost untilled and uninhabited except in the bottoms. It is a strangely quiet and pleasant country, unlike in physical expression and conditions of life both to the upland Pennyryle about it and to the Nashville basin below. It is therefore designated as an enclave, an alien area in the Pennyryle. Cumberland co. is the only political unit to which the valley has given rise. It is typically a riv. co. Until US highway 37 was constructed to Glasgow, 40 mi. from Burkesville, the Cumberland riv. served as the chief ave. of trade. It still retains much of its commercial prominence. When the riv. is sufficiently high steamboats ply between Nashville and Burnside. These carry a large portion of Burkesville's imports and exports.

Burkesville has an elevation of 581 ft. above sea level. Around the city almost the entire territory is dotted with hills of such prominence as to answer in many instances to the description of mountains. There are numerous broad valleys of pronounced fertility. Marrowbone, Crocus and several smaller creeks tributary to the Cumberland, together with numerous springs add to the excellent water and drainage resources of the district.

Burkesville has a humid, temperate continental type of climate. Average precipitation is about 45 in.; the mean relative humidity at 7 a.m. about 77 and at 7 p.m. 62; the mean temperature 58 degrees, with the mean maximum at 66 degrees, and the mean minimum at 49 degrees. Snowfall usually is light. Rainfall from April to October is ample for crop production. Extremes of temperature, either in winter or summer are rare.

The town is situated on an old riv. terrace amid ridge tops, particularly in the S. and E. parts of the co., which attain elevations

0/40
ranging from 900-1050 ft. The minimum elevation in the vicinity is 547 ft. at Black's Ferry at the Monroe co. Line.

The hard rocks found in the Burkesville area consist of Paleozoic^{zc} limestones, sandstones and shales, beginning with the upper Ordovician formation and extending upwards through the Devonian and well into the upper Mississippian. Situated on the crest of the Cincinnati arch, which passes through the W. part of Cumberland co., the normal structure of the Burkesville region is anticlinal or saddle-like. At Burkesville the rocks dip to the S.E.

The chief mineral resource is petroleum, which with comparatively small amounts of natural gas, is found in the ^{carb?} carboniferous sands. Limestones of good quality for general building and roadbed work are available in the immediate vicinity. Transported sands are found along the Cumberland riv.

The New Albany shale is the only Devonian formation present in this vicinity. Here it is about 28 ft. thick and contains an abundance of fossils and many shells of *Lingula spatulata* throughout its thickness. Not far from Burkesville along Sulphur Creek, just below Mrs. Hood's place, there is a very rich bed of fossils.

Archaeologically the area is rich in evidence of prehistoric occupation, as would be expected from its location on the Cumberland riv. which was an important aboriginal highway. The area has produced many excellent artifacts, the flint and pottery, particularly, is entirely representative of the Cumberland Valley culture. The following sites have been identified:

The best known and one of the largest of the sites in the co. is a large mound on the farm of Sam Mackey in "Howard's Bottom" at Bakerton, 8 mi. up the Cumberland riv. from Burkesville. This mound is conical, about a hundred yards in diameter and 15 ft. high, and is the largest in the region. The site is locally known as "Indian Hill" and is well known to the residents

of that section of the co. because of the large numbers of artifacts which have been found in the immediate vicinity.

A small group of stone graves on the farm of L. J. Keene, 6 mi. E. of Burkesville, have been opened and have yielded skeletons and artifacts, among which were many fine specimens of pipes. Graves in another burial field, located on Slate Fork of Bear Creek about a mi. N. of the Keene farm, have been opened, and well preserved skeletons and an unusually large number of artifacts were found.

There is another burial field on the farm of W. E. Davis, 7 mi. W. of Burkesville, which contains many stone graves. A few of these have been opened, and have yielded skeletons and artifacts. What appears to be a burial mound is located on the farm of Mrs. Rhoda Raney, 3 mi. S. of Burkesville. This mound is 40 ft. in diameter and about 8 ft. high. It has been superficially excavated and has yielded skeletons and artifacts.

On the farm of G. M. Jennings, 15 mi. S.E. of Burkesville, there is a large rock shelter. The floor is covered with ashes to a depth of 6 ft. Mingled with the ashes is a large amount of kitchen midden material, particularly shells and bones of animals and fowl.

A few stone graves, in the sandy bottom of the farm of C. P. Pruitt about one half mi. from Burkesville on the opposite side of the Cumberland riv., probably represent not only a burial field but a village site, since large numbers of artifacts have been found in the immediate vicinity and considerable kitchen midden material and camp debris is scattered over the area. A number of the best pieces of local collections have come from this site.

On the Winfrey Brothers farm, 9 mi. N. of Burkesville, there is a series of rock shelters, some of them containing burial. Skeletons and

COHIST

artifacts, including complete pottery vessels, have been found in these shelters.

A cave, about 7 mi. up the Cumberland riv. from Burkesville, shows abundant evidence of prehistoric occupation. In this cave have been found burials and many artifacts, including pottery and very fine specimens of pipes. Some of the material may be seen in the collection of J. A. Haynes of Burkesville.

Among the many interesting artifacts which have come from Cumberland co. are the peculiar spade-like implements which Bennett Young, in his "Prehistoric Men of Ky." calls "spuds" and which he describes in his report. According to Young, Cumberland co. has been more prolific in these implements than any other co. in the State. Another curious type of artifact found in Cumberland co. is an object resembling an hour-glass.

Thomas E. Brauilette, one time Gov. of Ky., was born in Cumberland co. Jan. 3, 1817, and died at Louisville, Jan. 12, 1875. Edward L. Norris, one time Senator, Lieutenant-Gov., and Gov. of Montana, was born and reared in Cumberland co., Ky.

There are two bonds in the County Clerk's office in Burkesville, made by Thomas Lincoln to Gov. Garrard, when Lincoln was constable, 1802 and 1804. Two deeds are also recorded in Deed Book A, to two farms owned by said Thomas, along the Cumberland riv. and Marrowbone Creek. The dates are 1805 and 1815, respectively.

The 1930 census gives Burkesville's pop. as 886, including negroes. In 1910 the pop. was 817; in 1920, 789. None of the pop. of Cumberland co. is foreign born, and the negro pop. is scattered.

Daily passenger service by bus is maintained by independent operators between Glasgow and Burkesville. At Glasgow connections can be made with

Box 17

File 30
COHIST

the Greyhound bus line and the main line of the L & N R. R. Glasgow is 40 mi. distant from Burkesville and is its nearest R. R. point. Hotel, banking, telegraph, and telephone facilities are available.

The rock house in Cumberland co. is regarded as a great natural curiosity. It is situated N.E. of Burkesville not far from Creelsboro, in Russell co. It is a lofty arch of solid rock, 40 ft. in height, some 60 ft. in breadth with a tall cliff overhanging it. In high stages of water a portion of the riv. rushes through the aperture with great violence down a channel worn into the rock, and pours into the riv. again about a mi. and a half below. In ordinary stages of water the rock house is perfectly dry.

Burkesville Hill, immediately outside the corporate limits of the city, after which it is named, is regarded as one of the attractive landscapes of the State. A broad winding road takes the traveler to the very top of the rugged scenes of grandeur which lie in every direction. On a clear day the Cumberland Mts., some 75 mi. to the E., may be seen.

A flour mill, a sawmill, a stave mill and an ice plant comprise the industrial life of the city.

Four churches maintain buildings and conduct services regularly.

Box 1 File 30
COHIST

Cumberland Co. Transportation. (Golda Gibson- 410)

The nearest railroad to Burkesville is at Glasgow, Ky, 38 mi. west.

Bus transportation is by the Bruce Sloan line, which passes through daily, making connections with the Southern Greyhound busses at Somerset and Glasgow, Kentucky, and Sparta, Tennessee.

Burkesville is approached, from east and west, by Ky. 90; and from the north by Ky 61. These roads have been graveled for the past few years; and 61 is now oil surfaced. Twenty-three years ago there were only three miles of good roads in the whole county.

Cumberland Co.

Transportation. (Golda Gibson-410)

Bibliography:

Personal knowledge.

Source:
Year

KY. RESOURCES & INDUSTRIES
BULLETIN 34.

Box
Name: JOHN BENNETT
Date: JAN 23-41.

County

Cumberland

1920 Pop. 11,923 (Negroes
+16.8 over 1930)

1940 - Dwellings No. 2766

1940 - Vacancies No. 147

1. LOCATION: Southern-Pennsylvanian

2. AREA 355.5 sq. mi. (leave blank) O.K.

3. TOPOGRAPHY; GENERAL ELEVATION: Naturally dissected plateau with
bottoms about three-fourths mile wide following stream.
Elevations - 547-1,050 ft.

4. SOIL DESCRIPTION: VALLEYS. VERY FERTILE.

5. TIMBER: (not too detailed) the greatest wealth of the county lies
in timber.

6. STREAMS, if navigable: CUMBERLAND RIVER.

7. MINERAL RESOURCES, and whether or not at present developed:

OIL. GOOD QUANTITIES

GAS. SMALL

LIMESTONE

8. LEADING CROPS AND STOCK: CORN (BU) 602,460 WHEAT (BU) 713 TOB (LBS.) 946,680

P. 839 CATTLE 5,294 SHEEP 5,343

MILK (GAL.) 784,936

9. NUMBER OF FARMS: 1,892 AV. SIZE 85.5

10. PERCENT OF AREA FARMED: 65.3

11. INDUSTRIES, other than agriculture: OIL PRODUCTION QUARRING,
STAVE & SAW MILLS

12. ROADS: (miles, kind of) 15 MILES SURFACED.

MUCH UNDER CONSTRUCTION OR PROJECTED.

13. RAILROADS: (miles, systems) NONE Daily Communication by Bus.
between Burnsville & Glasgow

14. RIVER TRANSPORTATION: CUMBERLAND RIVER. (AVAILABLE)

15. SCHOOLS: (number and type) 4 HIGH.
47 ELEMENTARY 7. COLORED.

16. ORIGIN OF COUNTY NAME:

CUMBERLAND RIVER

17. PRINCIPAL TOWNS: (pop. and history) (BURNSVILLE COUNTY SEAT.
POP. 1,000.

18. ANY OTHER OUTSTANDING FACTS: (use a second sheet) The scenery of Cumberland
county is magnificent and still has Indian graves

E. T. G. author
 Date: Jan 21-1941
 COPIST

County Camden

Box 1
 C/E 30

Source: 14 Agr Report
 Year: 1889

1. LOCATION:
2. AREA _____ sq. mi. (leave blank)
3. TOPOGRAPHY; GENERAL ELEVATION:
4. SOIL DESCRIPTION: Rich and fertile, in valleys, hills and thin.
5. TIMBER: (not too detailed)
6. STREAMS, IF navigable:
7. MINERAL RESOURCES, and whether or not at present developed: Oil wells.

8. LEADING CROPS AND STOCK: Wheat, Corn, Tobacco, Potatoes and
 oats, and live stock.

9. NUMBER OF FAMILIES:
10. PERCENT OF AREA FARMED:
11. INDUSTRIES, other than agriculture: and saw and one brick mfg. etc.
12. ROADS: (miles, kind of) 3 mi. of turnpike, county roads and
 2 air roads.

13. RAILROADS: (miles, system) no railroads.
14. RIVER TRANSPORTATION: The Cumberland River.
15. SCHOOLS: (number and type) Alexander College, female.
16. ORIGIN OF COUNTY NAME:

17. PRINCIPAL TOWNS: (pop. and history) Nashville, 600 pop.
18. ANY OTHER OUTSTANDING FACTS: (use a second sheet)

1567 1 file 30

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

COHIST

KENTUCKY

RESOURCES

ATTRACTIONS

OPPORTUNITIES

Series covering all counties, issued in alphabetical order. Published by the Kentucky Opportunities Department of *Associated Industries of Kentucky* (Incorporated), 76-77 Kenyon Building, Louisville. Series mailed free on request.

General Description. Cumberland County stands as an inverted pyramid with its sawed-off apex resting on the Tennessee state line on a meridian slightly west of that passing through the capital of Kentucky. It was created out of Green County—from which it is now far removed—in 1798, and named after the river which winds its way across the county in a southwesterly direction. The area is 247,680 acres, of which 179,491 acres were in farm lands in 1925. Seven farms are listed with acreages each ranging between 1,000 and 5,000. Elevations in the southern and eastern parts of the county attain approximately 1,000 feet above sea level.

Population. Latest estimates of the Census Bureau give the county a population of nearly 11,000, as compared with the Federal count of 10,648 in 1920. Records indicate that there are no foreign-born inhabitants of the county. The number of males between 18 and 44 years of age in 1920 was 1,848, compared with 1,905 females in the same age-group.

Mineral Resources.* The hard rocks of Cumberland County consist of Paleozoic limestones, sandstones, and shales, beginning with the Upper Ordovician formations and extending upwards through the Devonian and well into the upper Mississippian. Situated on the crest of the Cincinnati Arch which passes through the western part of Cumberland County, the normal structure of this region is anticlinal or saddle-like. East of the Cumberland River the rocks have a general trend to the southeast, whereas those on the headwaters of Marrowbone and Renox dip to the

northwest. These general or regional dips are however modified at many points by local flexings of pronounced degree, developing rather conspicuous minor anticlines and synclines, and other associated features. No faults of consequence are known to occur in Cumberland County.

The chief mineral resource of Cumberland County is petroleum, which, with the relatively small amounts of natural gas, is secured from the Corniferous (Devonian), Sunnybrook, and Trenton (Ordovician) sands. In 1925, 69,805 barrels of oil valued at \$162,451 were produced in Cumberland County. The greater part of this oil was transported by the Paragon Pipe Line Company from Burkesville to Glasgow in Barren County.

Limestones suitable for general rural building and highway and railway-bed construction are available at numerous points throughout the county. In the eastern part of this district some rather pure limestones of upper Mississippian age occur in the ridge tops. These rocks might be used for agricultural purposes.

Transported sands along the Cumberland River are available for purposes of general construction, and gravels suitable for road materials are found in many of the creek beds. The Devonian shale outcropping throughout the course of the Cumberland River is available if needed as a future supply of artificial petroleum. An oil and gas map of Cumberland County is available, and the structure of the southern part of the county involving the principal oil-producing districts is also available in connection with parts of Monroe and Clinton counties. The topography of the southern part of Cumberland County has been

*Prepared by Willard R. Jillson, Director Kentucky Geological Survey.

delineated to the scale of 1:62,500 on the Lillydale Quadrangle.

Bonded Indebtedness. Bonds to a total of \$100,000 have been voted by the citizens of the county for purposes of highway development.

Surface and Soil. While the surface of almost the entire territory is dotted with hills of such prominence as to answer in many instances to the description of mountains, there are numerous valleys of pronounced fertility. Marrowbone Valley, seventeen miles in length, and Crocus Creek valley, of even greater length, are said to be two of the richest soil deposits in the entire state. The acreage described as farm lands in 1925 totaled 179,491, this county being one of the few in Kentucky to show a steady increase from one census period to another in the amount of area devoted to agricultural purposes.

Water Supply. The Cumberland River enters the county at the northeastern edge and courses for an estimated distance of about 100 miles—so numerous and great are its bends and turns—before emerging across the midwestern boundary line. Marrowbone, Crocus, and other creeks tributary to the Cumberland, together with numerous springs, add to the excellent water and drainage resources of the district.

Industries. Industrial activities are confined principally to agricultural pursuits, oil production, quarrying, stave manufacturing, and saw mill operation. The oil production during the summer of 1927 amounted to about 125 barrels a day. Oil was discovered in Cumberland County in 1828 by prospectors drilling for salt waters. Several new wells were drilled during 1927.

Crops. The corn harvest in 1924 amounted to 566,582 bushels. Hay production aggregated 12,508 tons, and the tobacco crop was 755,611 pounds. Over 16,500 bushels of white potatoes were produced, along with 12,508 bushels of sweet potatoes and yams. Increasing attention is being paid to orcharding, with a number of commercial orchards under development. The apple harvest in 1924 was 24,479 bushels from 18,422 trees of bearing age. The county had 13,537 peach trees of all ages. Firewood cut on the farms amounted to 23,191 cords. The value of cattle in 1925 was \$119,454; of swine, \$115,657; and of mules, \$101,361. Milk production in 1924 was estimated at 724,275 gallons, and all dairy products were valued at \$43,552. Eggs and poultry brought to the farmers of the county that year nearly \$160,000.

Transportation. The county is untapped by any railroad. Daily communication by bus service is maintained between Burkesville, the county seat, and Glasgow.

Highways. A surfaced highway extends from Burkesville for a distance of about nineteen

miles, through Cumberland and Metcalfe counties, to the Barren County line. Construction work is under way on the extension of this road into Barren County, with prospects of a modern highway to Glasgow by the end of 1928. Another important road project under development is the line to Columbia, some thirty miles to the north. Still further highway development contemplated in the next few years is the road from Burkesville to Albany on the east. It is understood this will become a Federal project.

Tourist Attractions. While access to the county is at present not easy for tourists by reason of undeveloped highways, scenic beauties of unusual attractiveness reward tourists. Burkesville Hill, immediately outside the corporate limits of the town after which it is named, is regarded as one of the most attractive landscapes in the entire state. A broad, winding, metaled road takes the traveler to the very top of the rugged elevation to behold scenes of grandeur in every direction. It is said that on a clear day the Cumberland Mountains, some seventy-five miles away, may be plainly seen.

Educational. The county has 4 white high schools employing 9 white teachers, and 47 white elementary schools employing 53 white teachers. There are 7 elementary colored schools in the county, with 8 colored teachers. Latest school census figures show an average attendance of 2,748 pupils. There are no private schools or colleges in the county.

Cities and Towns. Burkesville, the county seat, is on the banks of the Cumberland River in the geographical center of the county. It has a population estimated at 1,000. The town has one bank, a newspaper, 4 churches, 2 wholesale houses, an ice plant, a flour mill, an ice factory, and a saw mill. Marrowbone is the only other banking town in the county.

Opportunities. Those well informed regarding the resources of the territory predict early and pronounced development of Cumberland County following closely the completion of highways opening it to easy communication with the outside world. The unusual fertility of its extensive valleys offers opportunity to those who would engage in general farming. Dairying, sheep raising, and fruit growing are cited as industries particularly inviting when avenues to market are opened. Industries requiring native timbers for their raw material may inspect the county with profit, it is claimed, and the need of a planing mill is particularly cited by citizens of Burkesville.

References. Inquiries for specific information about the county may be addressed to:

L. W. McGee, President Chamber of Commerce, Burkesville

The Cumberland News, Burkesville

COHIST

Filler Copy

For release at any time

It is doubtful if there is a neighborhood in Kentucky in which there cannot be found a Jew's harp, that treasure dear to the heart of almost every growing boy. And yet it remained for research workers for the Federal Writers' Project, a branch of W.P.A., to correct the name of this mouth organ in divulging another little known item of interest about the State. From Cumberland County these workers report that the name of the instrument is not Jew's or Jews' harp at all but "juice harp".

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