Ballard County, Kentucky
(District 1)

Points of Interest

---Fort Jefferson---

On US Highway 51, about one mile south of Wicliffe, elevated on the summit of a lofty hill, overlooking the Mississippi River, is the site of old Fort Jefferson, named in honor of Thomas Jefferson, who was then Governor of Virginia. At the time the fort was built, General George Rogers Clark acting under Governor Jefferson's orders came down the river in 1780, commanding about two hundred soldiers, and erected some a
black houses and a fort at this point. Strong stockade at this point.

General Clark was instructed to select a strong position, in order to fortify the claims of the U.S. Government making the Mississippi River its western boundary.

Later in the year a number of families lured by the love of adventure and desire to establish homes in the new country, came down the river and made settlements around and near the fort. The Chickasaw Indians who had long held sway in the county regarded this as an unfriendly act, and began organizing their forces to expel the newcomers from the land. A long struggle soon began and many men, women and children were murdered in cold blood, and their little cabins burned over their remains. At the close of this savage attack, the...
"Fort Jefferson" (continued)

last vestage of the garrison was destroyed, and nothing remained
to mark its location.

While no marker or monument is present to designate the site,
the location is well known, and may be readily pointed out to tourists.
The site is very prominent from the point of its elevation, commanding
a view of the winding course of the Mississippi River and a vast expanse
of woodland on the side of the large stream.
Fort Jefferson - Under intimations from Gov. Patrick Henry, dated Jan. 2, 1778, that "it was in contemplation to establish a post near the mouth of the Ohio, with cannon to fortify it," coupled with express instructions from Thos. Jefferson, next governor of Virginia, dated June 28, 1778, and repeated in January and April, 1780 - Gen. Geo. Rogers Clark, with about 200 soldiers, left Louisville early in the summer of 1780, and proceeding down the river to a point on the Mississippi called Iron Banks, five miles below the mouth of the Ohio, then in the state of Virginia, there erected a fort with several blockhouses, which he called Fort Jefferson. One object was to fortify the claims of the United States to the Mississippi River as its western boundary south of the Ohio. This eventually brought about the addition to the chartered limits of Virginia, and so recognized by the treaty of peace with Great Britain in 1783, of the immense region - afterwards called the "Northwestern Territory," and ceded by Virginia to the United States - which now comprise... Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin. The Fort was named in honor of Thomas Jefferson then Governor of Virginia, who was the main promoter of the plan. (Hist. of Ky. Kerr - 1922 - p. 182)

Pub. Lib.
History of Ky., by Richard H. Collins, 1882
Vol. II, pp. 39-40 - 210 words
FOLKLORE

There is a very small hamlet in the N.W. part of Ballard Co. that is locally known as "Monkey's Eyebrow." The place and its surroundings is located in the Ohio River bend section of the county, and the hamlet proper is about ½ mile from the river.

About 40 years ago, a family by the name of Arivett resided in the community and held a standing of considerable importance among the citizens. They lived there for a number of years and were recognized as prosperous farmers. Finally, one of the boys, a direct member of the family, became dissatisfied with living in the community, and began to find fault with the place and its citizens. After a while he used many appellations for the place, all of which were satirical and in much sarcasm to it and its citizens. After a few years of further residence in the place, he had inaugurated many trenchant remarks about the community, some of which had become rather antagonistic to the citizens. "This place", said he, "is only fit for a bunch of monkeys to live in, I expect to get out of here as soon as possible." Eventually this member of the Arivett family (Robert) said the community was populated with monkeys, & its citizens had the expression of such animals. "Their eyebrows look exactly like the brows of monkeys", said he, "and they belong to the monkey class." Later, Robert Arivett happened to be present at a religious revival which was being held in LaCenter. During this meeting several persons were called upon to give testimony in respect to their conduct. To this request Mr. Arivett replied,

"I'm from Monkey's Eyebrow, & an endeavoring to live a christian life, but my desire is to move away from a country where monkeys reside." With this assertion the audience burst into a mood of laughter, and the community adopted the appellation of "Monkeys Eyebrow." Since that time the place has been commonly known by that name. (Information: Mac McElyea, LaCenter. Mr. McElyea has been a resident of this immediate locality for more than 60 years)
Subject—Ballard County lakes, how used and what area is:

About fourteen lakes comprise the total found in Ballard county. Of this number, the following are the most important: (the remainder being ponds, rather than lakes) Ax Lake, Clear Lake, Fish Lake, Flat Lake, Buck Lake and Round Lake. Each of these lakes have an area of about one half square mile. They are used exclusively for fishing, boating and picnicking. Also, the general surroundings, are excellent for camping sites, and during the Spring, Summer and Autumn seasons it is the scene of many camps that may be seen here and there.
BALLARD COUNTY, KY. POST OFFICES

1. HUMPHREY'S CREEK- (in McCracken Co.) 2/22/1831, Thomas Terrell; Disc. 9/11/1835; Re-est. in Ballard Co. 1/22/1838, Thomas L. Terrell; (in Ballard Co. 1842); 8/1/1844, Caleb Terrell; Disc. 8/23/1845;

2. SUGAR CREEK- (in McCracken Co.) 7/2/1836, A.J. Burnett; name changed to Lovelaceville, 2/7/1837, R.D. Gholson; 2/13/1838, Andrew Lovelace, Jr.; (in Ballard Co. 1842); 2/19/1858, Jasper N. Smith; 3/27/1860, John N. Neal.


4. HAZLEWOOD- 5/9/1844, Samuel W. Upshur; 7/3/1844, Oscar Turner; 2/12/1861, Joshua T. Vaughan; Disc. 9/4/1861; Re-est. 1/19/1865 or 1866, Gustavus Northington; Disc. 4/2/1866; Re-est. 6/17/1868, James E. Thompson; 10/22/1868, Alfred B. Walden; Disc. 11/29/1870; Re-est. 12/27/1875, Gustavus Northington; Disc. 10/23/1878; Re-est. 12/17/1878, Thomas E. Hall; 9/29/1879, Spencer Small; 5/25/1883, S.G. Northington; Disc. 3/4/1884 (papers to Barlow City); Re-est. 7/23/1884, Gustavus A. Northington; 12/7/1888, John W. Hughes; 1/11/1903, Edward B. Howle (sic); Disc. 8/6/1904, effective 8/31/1904 (mail to Barlow);

5. MELVIN- 6/29/1848, Wm. L. Goode; 5/14/1850, Thomas Rudd; 4/11/1857, Andrew Fuller; Disc. 7/31/1863;

6. BELLE MÔMBRE- 5/17/1849, Daniel W. Thompson; 7/7/1854, Martha A. Thompson; Disc. 7/31/1863; Re-est. 8/18/1865, George W. Henderson; Disc. 1/18/1867;

7. OAK SPRING- 5/1/1850, Wm. R. Porter; 3/2/1852, Z.W. Richardson; Disc. 11/18/1852;

8. ADAMSVILLE- 9/18/1855, George W. Mix; Disc. 4/17/1860;
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10. CHESTNUT HILL - 8/5/1858, Fenton S. Boyd; Disc. 4/19/1860;

11. FORT JEFFERSON - 6/14/1860, Joseph C. Dupoyster; Disc. 8/29/1861; Re-est. 6/17/1868, Joseph H. Davis; Disc. 8/23/1869; Re-est. 9/26/1873, Joseph C. Dupoyster; 9/13/1875, J.J. Askew; 7/14/1879, Joseph C. Dupoyster; name changed to Wickliffe, 8/25/1879, Joseph C. Dupoyster; 1/26/188?, James Elliott....

12. POOL'S LANDING - 8/21/1860, Drury W. Poor (sic); 6/6/1861, John Puntney; Disc. 2/28/1863;

13. OAKVILLE - 1/31/1866, Richard H. Morton; 10/17/1866, G.A. Northington; name changed to Terrells Landing, 5/11/1868, David Miller; Disc. 7/31/1868; Re-est. 9/16/1870, W.H. Davidson; 1/10/1871, Isaac Webb; 7/6/1872, Zacharias T. Wilfred; Disc. 7/10/1873;

14. HINKLESVILLE - 8/23/1869, Wm. M. Jenkins; 6/12/1871, Joseph W. Dalton; (sometime after the Civil War, the spelling of the name changed to Hinkleville).... 11/16/1904, Frank Armstrong; Disc. 12/9/1905, effective 12/31/1905 (mail to LaCenter);

15. OGDEN'S LANDING - 5/13/1870, Alfred M. Shelby; 1/29/1887, Felix G. Rudolph; name changed to Ogden, 7/6/1888, Felix G. Rudolph; 7/17/1888, Charles D. Cannada when order of change-of-name was rescinded; name changed to Ogden, 8/10/1888, Thomas B. Ogden; 7/24/1889, Daniel J. Henley.... 10/12/1906, St. Elmo Dusch; Disc. 5/26/1908, effective 6/15/1908 (mail to Woodville);

16. SOUTH BALLARD - 2/9/1872, David M. Coil; Disc. 5/10/1879 (??);
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18. NORTH BALLARD- 3/13/1876, Perry C. Rothrock; Disc. 12/1/1879;

19. OSCAR- 1/27/1879, Joseph A. Bridgewater; 7/28/18? , Frederick W. Crice; Disc. 7/9/1895 (mail to Bandana); Re-est. 3/30/1898, Joseph Wray; 1/20/1910, James M. McGee.

20. HOMOGENEA- 7/24/1879, Miss Nora C. Dickey; 12/22/1879, W.H. Keen; 4/13/1880, Elizabeth Stout; Disc. 9/6/1880;

21. TURNER- 9/5/1879, Frank France; 2/26/1883, Thomas T. Morgan; Disc. 10/5/1883 (papers to Rudd);

22. BANDANA- 7/14/1880, Wm. Clayton; 8/21/188? , George S. Myers.

23. SENA- 10/7/1881, Jesse W. Moss; Disc. 11/7/1881;

24. SLATER- 8/14/1882, C.L. Slater; Disc. 11/11/1889 (papers to Hinkleville); Re-est. 6/10/1885, Harry D. Warden; 4/18/1893, Nathaniel P. Mills; 8/1/1902, Nicholas H. Pace; Disc. 5/15/1909 (mail to Wickliffe);

25. FORT JEFFERSON- 1/22/1891, Frank France; Disc. 9/29/1892 (mail to Wickliffe);

26. INGLESIDE- 6/7/1893, Joseph Wray; 9/27/1897, Volney Lindsey; 12/5/1901, James F. Wray; Disc. 5/15/1909 (mail to Kevil);

27. DEBY- 3/17/1898, George W. Holt, order rescinded 8/22/1898;
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✓ 28. GAGE - 3/17/1898, Thadeus E. Buchanan; 9/19/1900, Wm. E. Vance; Disc. 10/13/1905, effective 12/14/1905 (mail to LaCenter);

✓ 29. HOLLOWAY - 6/22/1901, Travis S. Wallace, declined; 7/16/1901, Hampden S. Holloway; 12/6/1902, Herman F. Hendricks; 4/16/1909, George E. Pritchett; Disc. 12/31/1911 (mail to Mound City, Ill); Re-est. 9/6/1918, Osce Moore; 5/19/1920, Nickless C. Horn; Disc. effective 7/15/1927 (mail to Barlow);

✓ 30. GRASSMERE - 7/29/1901, Grant Adams; Disc. 5/3/1902, effective 5/31/1902 (papers to Wickliffe);

✓ 31. CEREDO - 5/27/1902, Julious (sic) A. Munday; Disc. 11/6/1905, effective 11/30/1905 (mail to Kevil);

✓ 32. KEVIL - 9/4/1903, Robert A. Russell; 5/22/1913, Morgan Kuykendall.....

✓ 33. LACENTER - 10/21/1903, Percy A. Jones; 11/18/1911, Wm. A. Berry.....