FLEMING COUNTY

Fleming County, named in honor of Colonial John Fleming was the twenty-sixth in order of formation and was erected from parts of Mason County in 1798. In 1930 the population of the county was 12,930.

Fleming County is located in the north east middle part of the state on the Licking River and is bounded on the North by Mason and Lewis Counties, on the East by Lewis and Carter Counties, on the South by Rowan and Bath Counties and on the West by Nicholas and Robertson Counties. The western part of the county is rolling and highly productive while the eastern part is hilly.

The county is watered by the Licking River, Fleming, Fox and Triplott Creeks.

The chief crops in the county are corn, wheat, hemp, cattle, and hogs, while the chief exports are hogs, cattle, hemp, corn and wheat.

The principal towns in the county are Flemingsburg, the County Seat, Ewing, Ellisville, Tilton, Sherbourn, Poplar Plains and Hillsborough.

Of these Flemingsburg is the largest and the county seat. It was also named in honor of Colonial John Fleming, and is located in the central part of the county on highways 11 and 32.

The population of Flemingsburg is approximately 1265; of these there are 12 Italians and 10 Jews.

The Flemingsburg-Northern connect with the Louisville and Nashville Railroad at Ewing. Highways 11 and 32 traverse the town. The county roads are good thus furnishing adequate transportation facilities with the neighboring towns.

There are two hotels in Flemingsburg, the Fleming and the Armstrong. The Armstrong Hotel is located on Highway 11 in the central part of town. There are approximately 10 rooms here, adequately furnished, without private baths, that rent for approximately $1.00 and $1.25 per night. Meals are served here for fifty and thirty five cents each.
The Fleming Hotel, owned and operated by Mrs. Bettie Fleming, is located on Main Street directly across from the Court House. There are twelve modern rooms here, without private baths, that rent for $1.00 and $1.25 per night. Meals are served here for fifty and thirty-five cents each.

The Bon Ton, located on Water Street, has rooms for rent for $1.00 per night. This is a restaurant and hotel combined.

There are numerous tourist accommodations throughout the county. Dudley's Tourists Home is located just at the entrance to Flemingsburg on highway 11. The Stewart House is located at Elsville, and the Hotel Doris at Hillsborough. All these are recommended for excellent food and good accommodations.

There are no national banks in Flemingsburg or the county but there are three state banks in Flemingsburg. The Deposit Bank of Pearce Fant and Co., the Fleming County Deposit Bank and the Peoples Bank.

Among the early settlers of Flemingsburg, George Stockton, John Fleming and Michael Cassidy are outstanding. George Stockton, and his half brother, John Fleming, whose fondness for forest life and the wilderness caused them to come to what is now Flemingsburg, in 1787 and settled at Stockton's Station. It is off Route 11, and the land is now the property of Mr. J. Hendrix. The first house built outside the station has recently been destroyed. It was on the farm now owned by Mr. William Maley. Mrs. J. K. Grannis, Flemingsburg, Kentucky, has a door from this home in her possession.

In 1790 Colonial John Fleming founded Fleming Station. The site of this station can be seen from route 11, and is now on the property owned by Mr. Carpenter.

The same year Michael Cassidy settled Cassidy Station. It is off Highway 32.

In 1804 the Board of Trustees for Fleming County was formed and in 1822 the county seat was definitely established at Flemingsburg and the court house built. It is located on a hill on Main Cross Street. The cupola and the columns are hand carved.
Mr. Samuel Stockwell, a large slave owner who had the contracts for building many of the homes in Flemingsburg, built this court house. It is the second oldest court house in the state and the oldest court house still in use. The clock for the building was made by a local clock-smith at a later date. All the city buildings were erected near this court house, and today little changes have taken place in the location of these buildings.

A market house, long since destroyed, was built on the intersection of Main Cross Street and Water Street.

The first bank in Flemingsburg was a branch of the Louisville bank and was located in one room of the house now owned by Mrs. Rose Lander. The second bank was on Water Street near where the Bon Ton now stands, on Water Street.

In the eastern section of the county near Fox Springs the social functions of the surrounding counties were held, before 1840. Three kinds of sulphur water were to be had here, and an excellent hotel was erected. The stage coach ran from Flemingsburg to Fox Springs three times a week. Board per week was $6.00 for adults and $1.50 for children and servants.

Farming was the chief industry in Fleming County, thus causing the rural sections to be built up for the purpose of raising crops. Formerly there was an abundance of timber but today most of this has been cleared and sold.

There has been a newspaper publication in Flemingsburg since a very early date and at present there is the Fleming Gazette and the Times Democrat. There has been two extras published in the history of Flemingsburg, one in 1833 when the epidemic of cholera was causing so many deaths in the county, and the other in 1906 when the railroad accident occurred in the county. Mrs. Aileen Hawkins, Flemingsburg, Kentucky, has in her possession a copy of both these papers together with numerous books and a newspaper file dating back to 1780. Her family has always been prominent
in the newspaper publication in Flemingsburg.

Fleming County has always endeavored to have good school system and whenever a country settlement was made a school and church were among the first erected.

In 1785 Kalmont High School, a select Presbyterian Day School was opened in Flemingsburg by Mr. James P. Hendriz. A girls academy had been in operation at an earlier date. Today there are thirty eight graded and one high school in Fleming County, and one high and graded school in Flemingsburg. The libraries in those schools meet the state requirement. Transportation to and from most of these schools is furnished the children in the country.

The social life of Flemingsburg is centered around its numerous clubs among whom the Woman's Club, the Lion's Club, who have a dinner meeting every Thursday evening at the Fleming Hotel, the Garden Club, Chapter U.D.C., Rebecca, Odd Fellows, Masons, American Legion, and Eastern Star are prominent. There is one theatre in Flemingsburg, which is located on Main Street. A nominal fee of twenty five cents is charged here. Fishing is enjoyed in the Licking River, Fox Creek, Crain Creek, and Fleming Creek. There is a gymnasium at the Flemingsburg school and the chief enterprise is basketball. A camp meeting is held at Camp Hope every year in July. The Methodist have a camp meeting at Wallingford every year, in August. Park Lake is privately owned summer resort in Fleming County, but bathing and fishing are allowed for a nominal fee. Mr. Keenon, a Baptist Preacher, succeeded in raising the castor bean in Fleming County and manufactured castor oil. His home, a brick colonial one is till to be seen on Highway 11 about one mile from Flemingsburg.

There are numerous homes still to be seen in Flemingsburg that carry some of the history of a less prosperous day with them. In the Walter Fant home on Water Street, was placed the first coal grate in the county. The oldest house in Flemingsburg is the on Water Street and is now the property of Mrs. C. D. Lyons. It is part log and was built by a Mr. Bishop for his home. The Baptist Church on Water Street was
was built in 1840. During the war between the states, the Federal Troops were quartered here. Many other interesting homes are located in the county. Mrs. Steele Andrews is occupying the home built by her great great grandfather, James Walker. It is off highway 11, three miles from Flemingsburg. The land was a land grant to Mr. Walker. The old McGowan home is off Mt. Carmel Road about four and one half miles from Flemingsburg. This house was built before the Civil War. The woodwork is handcarved.

The old Bruce home is built near where Bruce Station was located in 1814 by Henry Bruce, great great grandfather of Mrs. J. Kidwell Grannis, Glanningsburg. It is a beautiful ten room colonial brick home. Mr. Bruce also owned the first carriage in Fleming County.

Fleming County has given six governors to other states. She gave to Cincinnati, Ohio, one Mayor, to Ohio, Indiana, and Missouri, Governors, and to Western Territories a delegate to congress and two high judicial officers. To the southern confederacy she gave a brigadier general and three congressman; to Virginia a legislator and a high sheriff to Richmond. She has furnished two state grand masters to the Masonic order and one to the Independent order of Odd Fellows.

Eugene Ashton, playwright and actor of great prominence was born in Flemingsburg, Kentucky, in 1862, and died in Philadelphia in 1807 and is buried in the Flemingsburg Cemetery.

John Fleming, for whom the county and city is named, came to Kentucky in 1787, settled at Strode's Station in Clark County where he remained for three years. Then he removed to Fleming Station and settled Fleming Station, five miles west of Flemingsburg. Herbert Grannis now owns the ground. He had many encounters with the Indians, but died at his station in 1794.
Captain George Stockton, another early settler of the county and half brother of John Fleming came to Kentucky about 1787 and settled Stockton Station. He also had many encounters with the Indians and in a Mr. Rhodes set out from their station in 1818 on a hunting expedition and Stockton was killed by the Indians, and Rhodes badly wounded. However, he crawled back to the station to notify the other of Stockton's ill fate. They immediately set out to bury his body, and when they reached the place where he had been killed, they saw his dog, who had kept watch over his master until help could be reached. Thus the wild animals had not taken his body. Stockton's grave is today as these men made it in 1818. It is the hope of the Clues in Fleming County that a fence may be built around the grave.

Today Flemingsburg has three hotels, two printing offices, electric lights, a roller flour mill, three lumber companies, stock yards, water works, ice plant, and sufficient stores to care for the people's needs.

Ewing is the second largest town in Fleming County. It was named in honor of the Ewing family who owned all the land and gave the right of way to the Louisville and Nashville Railroad through here.

Ewing is located on an unmarked highway that connects with 32 and 68.

The population of Ewing is approximately 500. There is a post office here, with two rural routes, one bank, the Ewing Deposit Bank, a State Institution, one high and graded school and approximately ten stores.

There is a Methodist, Christian, and Baptist church located here.

The Ewing fair and horse show, one of the oldest in the state, is held here every year the first week in August. Cattle, hogs, poultry, sheep and fruit are displayed here.

Mr. C. D. Worford is the only attorney here.
The social life of the community is centered about its numerous clubs. The Masonic Lodge, the Odd Fellows, Eastern Star, Rebecca, Red Cross and a few social clubs are among the outstanding. The American Legion is combined with that of Flemingsburg.

Ellisville is on highway 32 and is also strictly a farming section. The population is approximately 400.

The Stewart House is located here and has comfortable accommodations for tourists.

Hillsboro, Ringel Mills, Plummers Landing, Musco Mill, and Fleming Junction were even smaller settlements than Ellisville.
REFERENCE

Collins History of Kentucky, written by Lewis Collins, Maysville, Kentucky, and J. K. and U. F. James, Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1847. Pages 230 and 236.

Mr. C. B. Morford, Ewing, Kentucky. He is five a lawyer there and gave the information regarding that community.

Mrs. J. Kidwell Grannis, Flemingsburg, Kentucky. She is an active club member, a descendant of the Bruce family, early settlers of this community.

Mrs. Aileen Hawkins, Flemingsburg, Kentucky. She is the mother of Mrs. Grannis and has a complete newspaper file of papers published in Fleming County since a very early date.

Miss Mabel Collins, Flemingsburg, Kentucky. She has written a paper on Fleming County. Daily Independent, Maysville, Kentucky. This published an essay written by Miss Ellen Jolly, a student in the Flemingsburg, Kentucky, schools.

Mrs. A. P. Darnall, Flemingsburg, Kentucky. Was directed to him by a number of people from Flemingsburg, but he would assist any.

A small pamphlet on Fleming County, edited and published by Dan T. Fisher, Flemingsburg, Kentucky, in 1908.

Mrs. Rebecca Ashton Ward, Cincinnati, Ohio, who gave the biography of her brother, Eugene Ashton.
POINTS OF INTEREST IN FLEMING COUNTY AS MARKED ON MAP

1. Court House, located on Main cross Street off Highway No. 11 one block. It is the second oldest court house in the state and is the oldest still in use as such.

2. Stockton Station was settled by George Stockton and his half-brother John Fleming for whom the county and city was named about 1787. It is off route No. 11 and the land is now the property of Mrs. Joe Hendrix. The first house built outside Stockton Station has been recently destroyed.

3. Stockton's grave yard is located directly across the road from the site of Stockton's Station. Many of the early settlers of the station are buried here.

4. Cassidy's Station was settled by Michael Cassidy about 1787. It is a short distance off Highway No. 32.

5. Fox Springe is located in the eastern section of the county. Before 1840 the social functions of the surrounding counties were held here. Three kinds of sulphur water were to be at the springs. Coaches from Flemingsburg to Fox Springe ran three times a week. There are no outstanding events held here at present.

6. Plummer's Lading. This is the site where Stockton is buried, off Highway No. 32. George Stockton and a Mr. Rhodes were hunting in this section around 1790 when the Indians fired upon them and Stockton was killed and Rhodes injured. Rhodes crawled back to the camp and notified the other men of their danger. The settlers immediately set out to bury Stockton and when they reached the site where he had been kill-
ed they found his faithful dog keeping watch over his mater's body. He had worn a path around the body in an attempt to keep the animals away from the body. A grave was made and a marker of rock built over the entire grave. Today this grave is as the early settlers fixed it. It is the desire of the clubs in Fleming county to erect an iron fence around it.

7. The Ewing Fair and horse show, one of the oldest in the state, is held every year the first week in August. Cattle, hogs, sheep, poultry, and horses are displayed here. There is also a race track here, and prizes are awarded the winners of each entry. The grounds are located a short distance from Ewing on good road.

8. Plummer's Mill, now known as Butler. On June 16, 1863 the Home Guards were defeated by Everett's Confederate Cavalry here.

9. On June 8, 1864 a troupe of Morgan's cavalry raided Flemingsburg, seizing horses, belonging chiefly to stage coach operators, and doing considerable damage.

10. On October 25, 1864 guerrillas raided Flemingsburg and Maysville, seizing horses and doing considerable damage but were driven off by the citizens.

11. Guerrillas raided Hillsboro, but were driven out by citizens without much damage.

12. Califox Oil Pools, now the property of Mr. John McRoberts. These have not been commercialized.

13. Fleming Station, settled by John Fleming, for whom Flemingsburg and Fleming county were named, was settled about 1790. This was near the present site of Flemingsburg, Kentucky.
14. Small Cave, not commercialized.

15. Park Lake, a privately owned summer resort. It is located on the Wallingford-Bowman Springs road, seventeen miles from Flemingsburg.

16. Wallingford Camp Ground. A Methodist meeting is held here every year in August. It is located on the Wallingford-Flemingsburg road about twelve miles from Flemingsburg.

17. Calbyseats Springs. A camp meeting is held here every year in August.

18. Mount Hope. A camp meeting is held here every year in August. This is held under the auspices of the Methodist denomination.

19. It is said that Simon Kenton at one time lived near Mt. Carmel, but the exact location is unknown.

20. Location of the first bank in Fleming county. It was a branch of the Louisville Bank and was located in one room of the house now owned by Mrs. Rose Landor, directly across from the court house.

21. Kalmont School location. There was located a select Presbyterian school, located on State road No. 32.

22. The Walter Fant Home, on Water Street. The first coal grate in the county was located in this house, and on Sundays after the churches were dismissed crowds of people came to this home to see coal burn.

23. Mrs. C. D. Lyons owns the oldest home in Flemingsburg. This home is constructed of log and was built by a Mr. Bishop for his home.

24. Baptist Church, located on Water Street, was built in 1840; during the war between the states the Federal troops were quartered here.
25. **Bruce Station.** It is located a short distance off route No. 32. No remains of the station are to be seen.

26. **Home of Mr. Kesman,** built in 1840. He was one of the early settlers who raised the castor bean on his farm, built a mill and was the first to manufacture castor oil.

27. **McGown home,** one of the oldest in the county, is still standing and in a good state of preservation. It is off route No. 32 a short distance from Flemingsburg.

28. **The Steele Andrews home.** This house was built by James Walker, great, great, great-grandfather of Mrs. Andrews and it is off highway No. 11, three miles from Flemingsburg.

29. **The Old Goddard Tavern** was built by Colonel William Goddard and is located in Mt. Carmel.

30. **Browning Orchard.** It is located on the Wallingford-Petersville road, 12 miles from Maysville. Large quantities of fruit are shipped from here every year.

31. **Razor Orchard** is located 5 miles from Flemingsburg on the Bald Hill Road.

32. **Hurst Orchard** is located 2½ miles from Flemingsburg on the Concord Road.

33. **Throckmorton home** built about 1800. It is six miles from Flemingsburg on the Helena-Upper Blue Licks road and the cabins used for the slaves are still to be seen.

34. **Bruce Home,** built about 1814 by Henry Bruce, great, great, great-grandfather of Mrs. J. Kidwell Grants. It is a beautiful colonial home.
35. The old Lerry home is another of the early homes in Fleming county still in a good state of preservation.

36. Location of Lower Blue Licks, in Robertson and Nicholas counties, but also bordering on Fleming county. Here the famous battle of Blue Licks was fought and at one time prior to 1900 a famous summer resort was located here. This hotel is now a tourist home.

37. Upper Blue Licks. It was discovered by Major John Finley and a party of men about 1772. It is located on the Ohio river in the northern part of the county. The men cast lot for this land and Major Finley received it. The roads leading to Upper Blue Licks are nearly impassable and after Lower Blue Licks was discovered these springs became less important. At present there are no entertainments held here.
FLEMING CO. LAND CLAIMS TESTIMONY

The following notes were abstracted from some loose papers in the Circuit Clerk's office at Flemingsburg, Kentucky. They were marked "County Papers." Some of this testimony is duplicated in the basement of Fleming County courthouse.

Depositions to perpetuate testimony of John C. Littlepage's Entry of 20,000 acres.

"January 27, 1783. An entry made for John Carter Littlepage for 20,000 acres."

The following deposition taken May 20, 1811:

Deposition of John Curtis, aged 47 years, saith that sometime in March 1786 he attended George Lewis (then a deputy surveyor of Fayette County) as chain bearer in the execution of a survey on the sd. entry of John Carter Littlepage for 20,000 acres.

*Question by John Hunt: Do you know when the name "Foxe's Creek" attached itself and was first known by that name?

*Answer: I believe it was never called Foxe's Creek until Arthur Fox, since deceased, made and executed the survey on on Mosby's 30,000 acre entry. Fox, slipping into the creek at that time, to wit, in the year 1784, 1785 or 1786, and then Simon Kenton, with a laugh, said it should be called "Foxe's Creek" and this deponent has ever since known it by that name and never before.

-Talley's Northeastern Kentucky Papers
William M. Talley 1971 pg. 321

* You know what for.

(Dr. Talley lives in Vanceburg, Ky. (Lewis County), and teaches at McGill University, Montreal, E.J.)

Evelyn Jackson
BATTLE RUN VILLAGE AND CREEK
Fleming Creek

Because of the battle between whites and Indians, in 1791, in which
Colonel Fleming of Fleming Station was badly wounded the village and stream
near which the trouble occurred received their names.

Pub. Library
Condensed History of Fleming County - Ky.
Pub. by Dan T. Fischer, Flemingsburg, Ky. 1908
pp. 3 and 4
55 words

STOCKTON CREEK, (Fleming County)

About 1789 Beacham Rhodes and Robert Stockton were hunting on Fox
Creek when they were attacked by Indians at night, Stockton was killed and
Beacham Rhodes, although badly wounded, crawled fourteen miles before re-
ceiving help. Friends buried Stockton's body on the banks of the little
stream which they gave his name.

Pub. Library
Condensed Hist. of Fleming Co.
Published by Dan F. Fischer, Flemingsburg, 1908
pp. 7 and 8 - 70 words

CASSIDY CREEK, (Fleming County)

Cassidy Creek received its name from the little Irish settler, and
great Indian fighter, Michael Cassidy. Cassidy with Robert Stockton and
John Fleming established stations in Fleming County about 1787 and 1790.

Pub. Library
Condensed Hist. of Fleming Co.
Published by Dan T. Fischer, Flemingsburg, Ky. - 1908
55 words -