FRANKLIN COUNTY, Vt.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, established in 1794 out of parts of Woodford, Mercer and Shelby counties, named in honor of Benj. Franklin. Portions of it were taken to form in: 1796 Gallatin; 1819 Owen; 1827 Anderson. (a) A dispute as to the boundary between Franklin and Woodford was settled as follows: "—line by the act approved Feb. 1795, hath not run agreeably" and an appointment of commissioners was made "to distinctly mark and run a line between the said counties; beginning at the Scott line where it leaves the S. fork of Elkhorn; thence a straight line to strike the Ky. river 1 mile above the mouth of Glenns creek." Act approved Nov. 16, 1820: "—that all that part of Owen county be added to the county of Franklin which lies within the following bounds; Beginning at Wests landing on the Ky. River, running to Van Wests, including said West in Franklin County; thence a straight line to the nearest point of the Franklin and Owen county lines." (b) Act approved Jan. 1827, adding small part of Henry county to Grant as follows: "—all that part of Henry county, beginning on the dividing line between Henry and Shelby counties, 2 miles W. of where the Franklin county line intersects the said dividing line of Shelby and Henry; thence running to the sand ripple on the Ky. River so as to include all the inhabitants on Flat Creek and Lacompta bottom—shall be added to the county of Franklin." (c) An act was approved 1794 as follows: "—all those parts of the counties of Woodford, Mercer and Shelby, within the following lines, to wit: beginning at the Scott county line where it leaves the S. fork of Elkhorn; thence a straight line to strike the Ky. river and crossing the same one mile from the mouth of Glenns Creek; thence up the Ky. to the mouth of the Cove Spring Branch, on the S. side thereof; thence up the said branch to the Cove Spring; thence W. to Washington line; thence with the same down Salt
river to the mouth of Crooked creek; thence up the main fork of Crooked creek to the head thereof; thence with the dividing ridge to the junction of the forks of Benson; thence down Benson to where the old wagon road from Boones old station to Harrodsburg crosses at the mouth of the most northerly fork of Benson; thence down the Ky. to the mouth thereof; thence up the Ohio to the Scott line; thence with the said line to the beginning, shall be one distinct county----known by the name of Franklin."
By an Act of the Virginia Legislature, Kentucky county was established December 6, 1777, out of a part of Fincastle county. In November 1780 this county was divided into the counties of Jefferson, Fayette and Lincoln. On June 1, 1792, Kentucky was admitted to the Union and Isaac Shelby was chosen as the first Governor. On December 7, 1794, an Act organized in the House of Representatives to erect a new county out of the counties of Woodford, Mercer and Shelby. This Act was approved by the Governor and the county of Franklin was established May 10, 1795.

The first settlers were hardy backwoodsmen and surveyors from Virginia. In the year 1773, James, George and Robert McAfee, Samuel Adams, Hancock Taylor and Mathew Bracken came up the river, crossed at the Buffalo crossing at Leestown and camped near the present site of the Old Capitol building at Frankfort. On the 16th of July they surveyed the present site of Frankfort, their survey being six hundred acres. Proceeding up the river and into Mercer county they found land they liked better, and their survey in Franklin county not having been fully established, came later into the possession of Humphrey Marshall, who in turn sold it to James Wilkinson. Wilkinson had realized the importance of the shipping port and tobacco center at Frankfort and had obtained the exclusive right to ship tobacco to New Orleans for market and also for the Spanish King. He laid out the original plot of the city of Frankfort. Later, after returning to military life, his lands were sold and Andrew Humes came into possession of a great part.
Leestown, the Buffalo crossing, one mile below Frankfort was established in 1776, being the first settlement in the county.

The first Legislature met at Lexington June 4, 1792, and Frankfort was selected as the site for the Capitol and on the first of November of the following year they convened in Frankfort at the Holmes house on the corner of Wilkinson and Wapping street. Funds were appropriated and permanent Capitol building was erected in 1793. Twice the State House was destroyed by fire and twice it was rebuilt in the same place. The present Old Capitol was completed in 1829.

In 1780, a company, while encamping on the bank of the Kentucky river where the town of Frankfort now stands, were attacked by Indians and one of the company, Stephen Frank, was instantly killed. The site of this fight was at the foot of Devils Hollow and was at that time one of the fords of the Kentucky river. From these circumstances the place was called Frankfort and later Frankfort. Many other encounters with Indians are recorded but none are of special historical significance.

During the Civil war, Franklin county was divided, as was the state, with some of her sons fighting for the north and some for the south. Her position was never certain; sometimes the Federals were in command and sometimes the Confederates. Frankfort was captured and held twice during the month of November 1862 by each party. On June 10, 1864, a division of the Confederate army was sent to capture the arms and munitions of war stored at Frankfort but the spirited resistance made by the home guards from Fort Hill prevented the capture of the city at that time. There were a number of skirmishes in the county but no battle of importance.
The first water works in Kentucky were established in Frankfort in 1804. Water was led from Cedar Cove spring in wooden pipes supplying the city and a penitentiary with natural flow.

Between the years 1832 and 1851 there were numerous outbreaks of the Asiatic Cholera, causing many deaths.

The highest waters of the Kentucky river are recorded as being in February 1883. More than half of the city was under water and every road was covered from two to ten feet except the one to Versailles.

Since the day the hardy backwoodsmen first beheld the glory of the hills and valleys of the county, it has remained an everlasting scene of beauty to all who have trod its fields. Many changes have taken place, however, since the day the first settler came up the Buffalo trail to these regions. In 1840 the State erected a lock and dam at about the site of the old Buffalo crossing. This was done after several unsuccessful attempts to make the river more navigable. The first bridge was completed in 1821; now three span the river and another is planned. The first ferry was established in Frankfort in 1786 and soon several more were operating along the river in the county.

At present, good highways traverse the county in every direction. The New State House, on the south side, modeled after the Capitol at Washington, vies the beauty of any Capitol in the Union. Each year sees some change of civic and industrial betterment for the county.

The picturesqueness of the city of Frankfort can easily be seen, lying in a valley, surrounded by hills, her spacious homes, her peaceful, even drowsy aspect, but few could realize the presence of perhaps one of the most historic neighborhoods to be found in America.
In picturesque Franklin county, from which have sprung probably, as many distinguished men as from any other district in the United States, there lived, for at least a period of their lives the following brilliant galaxy:

Thomas Todd, Chief Justice of the Kentucky court of appeals 1806-07
Justice of the United States Supreme Court 1813 to 1826

John M. Harlan, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court 1877 to 1911

George M. Bibb, United States Senator 1811 to 1814, 1829 to 1835.
Secretary of the Treasury 1844-45.


John Brown, United States Senator 1792 to 1793. Formerly member of the Virginia Senate from the District of Kentucky 1784 to 1788.

James Brown, United States Senator 1813 to 1817, 1819 to 1823.

Gratz Benjamin/Brown, United States Senator 1863 to 1867.
Governor of Missouri 1871.

Robert Perkins Letcher, United States Congressman 1823 to 1833. Governor of Kentucky 1840-44. Minister of Mexico 1849.

James Harlan, United States Congressman 1835 to 1839.

Charles Slaughter Morehead, United States Congressman 1847, 1851.
Governor of Kentucky 1855 to 1859.
William Owsley, Governor of Kentucky 1844 to 1848.

Charles S. Todd, Minister to Columbia 1820 to 1824.

George G. Vest, United States Senator, 1879 to 1903, From Missouri

Thomas C. Jones, Consul to Madeira Islands 1884 to 1902

Thomas L. Crittenden, Major General of the Kentucky Volunteers 1862 to 1865. General in United States Army after Civil War.

Chapman Coleman, Secretary of the American Legation at Berlin, 1874 to 1894. Consul in France 1906-07. Consul to Rome 1908-15

John Glover South, Minister to Panama 1921 to 1923. Minister to Portugal 1929 to 1933.

George E. Crittenden, Major General in the Confederate Army 1861.

John Crittenden Watson, Rear Admiral of the United States Navy 1899-1904.

Chapman Coleman Todd, Rear Admiral of the United States Navy 1901-02.

Hugh Rodman, Rear Admiral of the United States Navy, 1917. In Service in the Navy from 1880 to 1923.

Robert Pythian, Commodore, United States Navy, in the service of the Navy from 1856 to 1897.

In one corner of Frankfort, covering about four acres, there dwelt for a period of their lives the above named men. There were two Supreme Court Justices, two Cabinet officers, nine United States Senators, eight Governors, six Congressmen, seven representatives to foreign posts, and it was here that three Admirals of the Navy first saw the light of day.

Other prominent men of Franklin county were:

Montgomery Blair, Postmaster General 1861 to 1865. William P. Sanders, Brigadier General of the United States Kentucky Volunteers 1863.

Daniel Adams, Brigadier General of the Confederate States Army 1865.
Harry Innes, Judge of the United States District Court, 1789 to 1816.

Among the famous poets of the county these are to be mentioned:

Theodore O’Harra, 1820 to 1867.
Jennie C. Morton, 1836 – 1930
Henry T. Stanton, 1834 – 1898
Eudora Lindsay South, 1852 – 1918.

Those famous as authors include the following:

Willard Rouse Jillson, Geologist and author.
L. F. Johnson, author and historian, 1859 – 1930.
E. Porter Thompson, author 1834–1903.

Franklin county has been the home of a number of artists and among those who achieved great fame are these:

Paul Sawyer, 1865–1917
Robert Burns Wilson, 1850–1916
Alexander Henry Wyant, 1836 – 1892 lived here seven years and began painting here.

Joseph H. Bush, 1794–1865
Henry Mosler painted for sometime in Frankfort.
Matthew H. Jouett painted here also.

Among the artists of the present day there are to be mentioned:

Bertha Scott, landscape and portrait painter. Harold Collins, portrait painting.

In the State Historical rooms at the Old Capitol building in Frankfort, there are records of almost every family of importance in Kentucky and many others besides. These records are accessible to everyone. In their possession
they also have many rare relics of bygone days. With the able assistance of Mrs. John Cannon and Miss Nina Vischer of the Kentucky State Historical Society at Frankfort almost any family record or historical record pertaining to the state can be found.
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These books are in possession of the State Historical Society at Frankfort. This work was prepared with the assistance of Mrs. John Cannon and Miss Nina Vischer of the Historical Society.

Personal observation.
I first saw Frankfort in the spring of 1820 it was a mere village of 1200 inhabitants. The houses seemed to be dropped there at pleasure. Main, St. Clair and Wapping Streets were the only positive streets. What today is so well known as the "Craw" was a large lake or pond. Up next to Fort Hill and around on this side where the ground was high, was used as a race track. At the north end of Ann Street there was a large pond and the favorite sport of the boys was to duck shooting on this pond. The State House square was then a large vacant lot, the State House had recently burned. There was a long Market House in the middle of Broadway between Ann and Lewis Streets, just where the railroad runs today, in 1824. At that time the courthouse stood on the south-east corner of the State House square and the Arsenal on the North-east corner. The Court of Appeals met in a house on the corner of Clinton and Lewis Streets. The first steamboat I remember was built at Leestown. She ran between here and Louisville. This was long before locks and dams were thought of by Frankfort citizens. Boats could go no higher then here then. This was about 1824. My brother and I ran a ferry just below the mouth of Benson Creek. Just below this creek, in the middle of the river was a large island, called Thomas Island. The channel on the western side was shallow, but on this side the water rushed through a deep wild gully. This channel was called Pollycotta hole, because a woman of that name was drowned there. Steamboats experienced much trouble in passing this place. Lines would have to be run out and fastened to shores up above, and then the boat pulled up by her capstan. The wharf was then at what was called Taylorton, at the place now occupied by the O.F.C. Distillery. The only two hotels were found, one on the corner of Wapping and Wilkerson and the other on the corner of Clinton and St Clair. One of the greatest calamities that ever befell Frankfort in the olden times was the cholera in 1832. All business was closed and a gloom hung over the whole town. People died by the scores.
Franklin County.

Full self I remember this ordeal for my father and my brother and myself volunteered to dig graves for the dead, and were kept busy for days. Long before fire engines were heard of here in Frankfort the fire department operated in this manner: The city provided a lot of leather buckets and when a fire broke out two lines were formed from the burning house to the river. One line passed buckets full of water to the men on the burning building, while the other line passed the empty buckets back to be refilled. Thus an endless chain of buckets was formed, full buckets going up one side and empty buckets returning the other. After I had returned from California and the unsuccessful hunt for gold there (this was after the year 1853) I found Frankfort utterly devoid of shade trees—only a few here and there—such as sycamores and were dirty and bred bugs and the bark littered the streets and altogether it was better to have the sun than the dirty shade trees then in use. By experience I found the water maple to be the cleanest, smoothest, prettiest tree that grew for shade. So I began to raise them and plant them for the citizens. The first ones were planted in 1855. As these trees grew they became more popular and every spring I planted more and more and in that way we have put up in my home place an everlasting monument to myself. All the trees in the State Houseyard, in the City School yard, in fact, all the water maples in Frankfort were started by myself and today Frankfort has the name of "The Beautiful Shade City." I still raise the trees from the seed and set them out every spring.

Later on came the Civil War. Frankfort's high beautiful hills became forts, from behind which her sons fought and died defending their homes, but, I believe leave these matters to history other than mine.

Truly

Written for me by Jno W. Milam

Dictated by myself.


Reproduced by Mrs. Jouett Taylor Cannon, Secretary Ky State Historical Society.
Since the organization of the District of Kentucky and its division into three counties (1780), this portion of Franklin has been a part, first of Fayette, one of the original counties, afterward (1788) of Woodford, until the formation of Franklin (1794). It was settled as early as the beginning of the nineteenth century, mainly by emigrants from Virginia, many of whom had been soldiers of the Revolution. Since its settlement, and to the present day, this has always been considered a choice and desirable part of the county.

That early highway of the pioneers, which, in some places, followed a much older buffalo trail, long known as the Leestown road, and which lay between Lexington, and the old settlement of Leestown (founded by the Lees and Cyrus McCracken, on the Kentucky River just below and now a part of the present city of Frankfort), traversed this portion of Franklin County road, though it no longer leads to the place which gave it the name.

Filson's map locates both the settlement and the highway and also "Col. Marshall's Office," in what is apparently this locality of Franklin, near South Elkhorn creek.

It is known that Marshall possessed large tracts of land here, which he sold at considerable profit to the imigrants. The official records of Fayette County, of which this region was a part until 1788, have been destroyed but after this date the record of Woodford and Franklin. In addition to these the early history of this locality is recorded in that invaluable "Church Book" of the old Forks of
Elkhorn Baptist Church, preserving local history in a manner very similar to that of the Parish Registers and Vestry Books of Virginia whose value as historic authority is so closely recognized. A brief account of the organization of this Church, so long ministered to by William Hickman, has been given.

These pioneer families of this part of Franklin who were not with this church are exceptional.

While the spiritual welfare of this community was so well ministered to, their intellectual needs were not neglected. An excellent school was established in close proximity to the church. Many of these who received their early training here lived to extreme old age, though often far removed from the scenes of their youth, but wherever located, they were invariably characterized throughout life, by a moral and intellectual refinement indicating not only a favorable heredity and environment, but a careful youthful training as well.

Roughly outlined, all that fertile tract between South Elkhorn and the present Versailles turnpike was, at the beginning of the nineteenth century the property of comparatively few persons. One of these was John Major, Sr., a Revolutionary soldier and a man of considerable wealth for those days. With his large household, he had emigrated in 1785 from King and Queen County, Virginia, and settled here on this grant of one thousand acres, which was soon after increased by the purchase of five hundred acres additional, from the Marshall lands adjoining.

His dwelling or manor house, as it was then generally designated, and which was in existence until destroyed by fire shortly prior to
the Civil War, occupies the present site of "Weehawken" illustrating article. John Major, Sr., was largely instrumental in organizing the Forks Church, and the first religious assembly of this congregation, which is also, the first on authentic record within the present bounds of Franklin County, was that meeting conducted in January, 1788, in the old Major house. On the death of John Major, Sr., in 1808, his estate was divided among his large family of children, the main and central tract, containing the manor house, becoming the home of his youngest son, Lewis Redd Major, whose wife was Elvira, daughter of General David Thomson, a veteran of the War of 1812. Many of the Major's children of two generations were born here, the last being those of Lewis R. and Elvira Major, their son John, and beautiful daughters, Ann Redd and Evelyn.

Very near the manor house was the home of the oldest son of John Major, Sr., John Major, Jr. On the death of the latter's wife, Judith Trabue, in 1817, he emigrated to Christian County, Kentucky with his children and other relatives.

Not far from these homes were those of two older brothers, both of which is still standing. The older of these two structures, now called "Ingleside" was built in 1793 by Thomas Major for his bride, Susanna Trabue, a soldier of the War of 1812, until the latter's death in 1846. Adjoining Ingleside, was the estate of the other brother, James Major, on which the old residence still stands, with an older gambrel-roofed building, originally intended for a cotton factory, but later, when abandoned for this purpose utilized as a school-house
which was taught by Lucy Cosby and Jane Major, two young ladies of the family. A sister of these brothers, Susanna Major, first the wife of Robert Woolridge and afterwards of Ritchie Boulware, lived adjoining. Of the other children of John Major, Sr., William and Elizabeth Redd, wife of John P. Rice, Jr., were dead by 1795. Frances, wife of Nathaniel Thompson, lived in Woodford; Martha, wife of Charles Sanford, lived in Henry County; and Mildred Taylor, the youngest, wife of Powhatan Woolridge, lived in Christian County, to which she and her husband had gone from Franklin, and from whence they finally went to Missouri.

After the departure of John Major, Jr., to Hopkinsville, his farm was purchased by Daniel C. Freeman, who with his wife, Martha Fox and family, occupied it for years. They were people of means and were prominently connected in this and other localities. In later years the house has been partially destroyed, and being reconstructed, became the very handsome country home of John Hendricks, formerly Attorney-General, and later become what was known as the Gordon Academy, a private school for boys.

After the death of Olive T. Major, "Ingleside" was owned by the Giltners, Craigs, and others, until it came into the possession of Charles E. Hoge, a native of Virginia, but having for many years large business interests in Kentucky, he was also President of the State National Bank, of Frankfort, Kentucky for many years. After his death the property was sold and is now owned and occupied by its present owner, Mr. H. M. Collins.
After the departure of Lewis R. Major to Missouri, Weehawken, the old Major home became the property of Mr. French Hoge, a son of Charles E. Hoge, and he has done much to restore and preserve the beauty of the estate.

At one time the largest and richest estate in Franklin County was historic "Melrose". The mansion, still in existence, was on a commanding site and surrounded by woodlands and many well watered and fertile fields formerly several square miles in extent. Near the foot of the hill on which the house stands, there was a pioneer settlement, and about half a mile away, on the crest of the hill, there was a refuge for the scattered settlers known as Cedar Fort, to which every one in the surrounding country might resort when threatened by Indians.

At least one attack of the savages on this little settlement resulted fatally, as authentic tradition records show that, being surprised at one time, the settlers made a hasty retreat to the fort, but one of their number, a lame man, was overtaken and massacred, shortly after leaving his house.

Following these early days, this almost princely domain came into the possession of Isham Talbot, a native of Bedford County, Virginia, who emigrated in youth to Kentucky, became a celebrated lawyer and was a Senator both of the state and nation.

His wife was Margaret Garrard, a daughter of Governor Garrard. She died at Mt. Lebanon, her father's home in Bourbon County, a number of years before her husband who died at Melrose in 1837.
After Isham Talbot's death, Ambrose Dudley, an upright and courtly gentleman, whose wife, Eliza Talbot, was the Senator's daughter, lived here with his family until almost the time of the Civil War. Since that time much decreased in extent, it was used by the Dudleys as a summer home, until purchased some years ago by Kentucky to serve as an experimental farm for the Normal and Industrial Institute, a State institution for the training of its negroes. Cedar Fort was not far from Melrose, was situated on an old highway, no part of which is now in existence, which entered Frankfort on the river bank just below the tunnel.

On the other side of Cedar Fort from Melrose, the famous O'Hara Academy was once conducted. The founder of this academy was Kane O'Hara, an Irish gentleman, who had received a collegiate training which turned out to be his most valuable possession. Being compelled to flee from English persecution in Ireland, he escaped to America, bringing with him little, save his education. He settled in Kentucky, first at Danville, where his gifted son, the soldier-poet, Theodore O'Hara, was born in 1820. In the poet's infancy his parents removed from Danville to Woodford County, but soon after located in this spot, where they remained until just after the Mexican War, that conflict immortalized by the sword and pen of their distinguished son, when they moved to a farm on Elkhorn, some miles below Frankfort, where the father died soon after. In all these places Kane O'Hara conducted an academy and lived and died distinguished in his profession, but it was that spot near Cedar Fort that is best associated
with his fame, which was as well, the boyhood home of the poet. This was the home of the author of the immortal "Bivouac of the Dead", during those years of life when the human organism is most sensitive to its environment. It is then, if ever, young men see visions.

Inclined to meditation tinged with sadness, he spent many a thoughtful hour amid the soothing solitude of the Frankfort Cemetery, near his early home, which suited just such a soul as his, for it is embowered in loveliness, crowns a height that is surpassingly picturesque, and commands a view fine enough to tempt the pencil of a master.

Within its hallowed inclosure, it is meet that the poet should finally rest amid the beloved scenes of his youth, and within the shadow of his own Marble minstrel's voiceless stone.

A house built and occupied by the Downey family stands where O'Hara's Academy once stood. Between this and the Big Eddy of the Kentucky River is that marshy tract locally known as Trumbos, so called from the family owning it, in part, in recent years. In former days it was largely the property of Charles Julian and John U. Waring. That of the latter was for many years the home of Richard Kidder Woodson, now of James Wakefield. Further down the river, and on the Glenn's Creek pike, is a considerable estate known as Windyside, formerly the property of Thomas Page, more recently that of the Walcutt family, and now the handsome suburban home of Gilbert Mastin.
Between this and Frankfort were once a number of smaller places, situated on the old roadway, all of which like it, have long since disappeared, save one, now a portion of Windyside, belonging formerly to the Scearce family. On the banks of the Kentucky River and nearly opposite the new Capitol, stood until recently a house known in the pioneer days as Yeatmans. Here at the mouth of a small creek, bearing the same name, flat-boats were constructed for the purpose of trade with the Spanish Port of New Orleans.

On the heights above is the Frankfort Cemetery, formerly part of Melrose, as was the adjoining beautiful site, now that of the Kentucky Feeble Minded Institute, but which was in ante-bellum days the location of Dr. Lloyd's celebrated school for girls.
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HISTORY
Frankfort, Kentucky

In the year 1773, James, George and Robert McAfee, Samuel Adams, Hancock Taylor and Mathew Bracken came up the Kentucky river and crossed at Buffalo Crossing, at Leestown, and on the 16th day of July, they surveyed the present site of Frankfort, their survey including six hundred acres.

These parties described Buffalo Trace as being a hundred feet wide and the dust as being several inches deep; in some places the hoofs of the buffalos had worn the ground several feet; this "Trace" was made by vast herds of buffalos in traveling to and from the blue grass fields of Scott, Woodford and other parts of the blue grass country and Drennon Lick in Henry County. The road crossed the river at Leestown, and it was so well marked and worn that it can be followed to this day; in that early day it bore evidence of having been traveled for hundreds of years by thousands of buffalos in their search for salt. The trestle which the Frankfort and Cincinnati Railroad Company built across this trace is one hundred and fifty-six feet high and eight hundred feet long; it is located a short distance east of the City. Leestown, which was located about one mile below Frankfort, was begun with a cabin improvement a year or two prior to 1775 and it became a noted stopping place and camping ground for explorers. In 1775 it was better established and other cabin improvements were added; these were not in the form of a stockade defense, but rather for the transient use and convenience of emigrants and explorers who came in from other regions by way of the Ohio and Kentucky rivers; it was also a resting place between
Lexington and Louisville. The first maps of Kentucky, which are on file in the State Library, show that Leestown was of sufficient importance to be located, while Frankfort was not placed on them.

Leestown is now only about one-half a mile below the present city limits of Frankfort. In 1776, several new houses were built and the town had prospects of becoming of considerable importance, but in the year 1777, on account of its exposed situation and the more menacing attitude of the Indians, it was abandoned for nearly ten years.

In the year 1780, William Bryan (one of the founders of Bryan's Station) Nicholas Tomlin, Ellison E. Williams, Stephen Frank and others, were on their way from Bryan's Station and the fort at Lexington, to Mann's Salt Lick, in now Jefferson county, for the purpose of procuring salt; and while encamping on the bank of the Kentucky river, where the town of Frankfort now stands, were attacked by a company of Indians. Frank was instantly killed, Tomlin and Bryan both wounded; the rest of the company escaped unhurt. From the circumstances—the killing of Frank—it is said the place was called Frankfort.

From the formation of the ground, to the east and north of the City, extending out the Owenton road and along this valley to Leestown there are many evidences that the Kentucky river, at some early period in its history, ran around to the east and north of Fort Hill in the place of being on the west side as it now runs. In the year 1883 the back-water from the Kentucky river extended up the Leestown branch to the back-water which ran up back of the Penitentiary, thus making an island of Fort Hill and its contiguous territory of several hundred acres.
The act of the Virginia Legislature establishing the town of Frankfort was entitled, "An Act for establishing a town on the lands of James Wilkinson, in Fayette County, and a ferry across Kentucky river." The act was passed in 1786 and it provided, "That one hundred acres of land in the county of Fayette, the property of James Wilkinson, which have been laid off into lots and streets, shall be vested in Caleb Wallace, Thomas Marshall, Joseph Crockett, John Fowler, Jr., John Craig, Robert Johnson and Benjamin Roberts, Gentleman, trustees, and shall be established a town by the name of Frankfort. The said trustees or a majority of them shall within six months after passing of this act, sell at public auction all the lots within the said town which have not been heretofore disposed of by the said James Wilkinson, advertising the time and place of sale at the court house of the said county of Fayette, on two successive court days. The purchaser shall hold the said lots respectively subject to the condition of building on each a dwelling house sixteen feet square with a brick or stone chimney, to be furnished fit for habitation within two years from the date of sale." The same act provides that a public ferry shall be constantly kept across the Kentucky river from the lands of James Wilkinson in the town of Frankfort to the opposite shore and fixed the rate of toll for men, horses, vehicles. The size of lots, evidently did not meet the expectation of General Wilkinson, as he went back before the Legislature and had the above act amended, November 27, 1787, by providing that the further time of three years shall be allowed the said trustees to sell the lots in the said town. The records of the County Court of Fayette county, where the deeds to these lots were recorded, were destroyed by fire in the early part of the last century, and the destruction of these records destroyed all evidence as to whom
the sale of these lots were made, but it is evident that nearly all of the lots were sold to the officers and soldiers of the standing army or to those whose time of enlistment had expired, a large majority of whom had served with General Wilkinson in the Revolution. Nearly all, and perhaps all of the first trustees whose names were mentioned in the act establishing the town had been in the Revolution and had served for several years under General Wilkinson.

The streets of Frankfort which were laid off by the first trustees of the town and named by them, were nearly all named for Generals who had taken a prominent part in the Revolutionary War.

Wilkinson street which runs parallel with the river and adjacent thereto, was named for General Wilkinson, who had the town established and who was at that time Commander-in-Chief of the western division of the United States Army. General Wilkinson was born in Maryland in 1757; he was thirty years old when Frankfort was established; he had been a revolutionary soldier under Washington; he was with Arnold and Burr, and held the position of Captain, on their expedition to Canada in the latter part of 1775 and the first part of 1776; he was afterwards on the staff of General Gates; in 1796 he became the Commander-in-Chief of the United States Army. In 1805, he was made Governor of Louisiana; in 1811, he was court-martialed and charged with treason, in connection with Aaron Burr, but was acquitted. Evidence was afterwards brought to light which would have convicted him. It has been shown that for several years prior to 1800 he received a pension from the Spanish Government; he was discharged from the United States Army. In 1815 he went to Mexico, where he made large investments and died there in the year 1825. General Wilkinson not only es-
established Frankfort but he also bid a great deal towards reclaiming the lower portions of the town from the swampy condition it was then in. The power part of the town extending up some distance beyond the penitentiary was very low and swampy and was in such unhealthy condition that it was not habitable. He drained all this section, with the labor of soldiers then under his command, during the years of 1795 and 1796. In view of what General Wilkinson had done for Frankfort the trustees doubtless though it was proper to name what was proposed to be the chief resident street, for the man who had established the town.

The next street parallel to Wilkinson, is Washington, which was named for General Georgw Washington with whom General Wilkinson was on very intimate terms and under whom he had several members of the board of trustees had served during the Revolutionary War. The next street parallel to Washington is St. Clair, which was named for General Arthur St. Clair, who was born in Scotland in 1734; he served as Lieutenant under General Wolf, at Quebec, in 1759. On the plains of Abraham, he siezed the colors which had fallen from the hands of a dying soldier and bore them until victory had been won by the British; he was, again, on the plains of Abraham, but with the American forces, in 1776; he was an intimate friend of General Washington and was one of his most loved and trusted generals during the Revolution. He died in the year 1818.

The next and last street laid off parallel to St. Clair street running from the river to the hill was Ann Street, which was named from Mrs. Ann Wilkinson, the wife of General James Wilkinson, who was not only a very beautiful woman but who was also attractive, "she was more popular with the officers
and soldiers, than was her distinguished husband." There is a short street parallel to St. Clair, located on the west of the old St. House, which is called Madison, in honor of James Madison, fourth president of the United States.

Wapping Street runs east and west, and though it too is parallel with the river, it is at right angles to Wilkinson Street, the river makes a bend almost at right angles, nearly opposite the intersection of Wilkinson and Wapping streets. The name Wapping was suggested by an Englishman who was visiting and prospecting at Lexington and Frankfort at that time and was so named for Wapping street, London, which was then known as the most beautiful residence street in the world. The next street parallel to Wapping, is Montgomery, which is now known as Main. Montgomery was named for General Richard Montgomery who was born in Ireland in 1736; he was commissioned an officer in the English Army but resigned his commission and came to America in 1773; he was appointed brigadier general by the Continental Congress in 1775 and was in command of the American forces, and fell in the attack on Quebec, December 31, 1775.

The next street parallel to Montgomery or Main, is Broadway or Market; it is the widest street in the town and it was known in the early history of the town as Market street; the first market house was built in the middle of the street near the intersection with Ann. The next street parallel to Broadway is Clinton, which was named for General George Clinton, who was the first Governor of New York, and was Vice-president of the United States; he was a general in the Continental army and was recognized as one of the staunchest of patriots and was one of the greatest men of that age.
The next street was called Mero, properly spelled Miro. This was the last street that was laid off at that time, and was named in honor of the Governor-General of the Spanish territory in America; at that time the gulf states and the Mississippi river were under the control and belonged to the Spanish government; Miro was in charge, and he granted to General Wilkinson some privileges of trade and the free use of the Mississippi river for the transportation of freight. Some twenty-five years later, General Wilkinson and other prominent Frankfort people were accused of entering into a conspiracy to transfer the territory of Kentucky over to Miro and the Spanish control.

The above named are the only streets which were laid off at the time the town was established; since then the city limits have been extended several times and other streets have been opened and named.

Prior to 1800 there were no sidewalks in the town, and the streets were in bad condition. They were not macadamized for several years after that period, and there were but few carriages or other vehicles except log wagons. On November 28, 1799, there was a long article in the Palladium, a literary and political paper published in Frankfort at that time and of which there are many copies on file in the state library, in reference to the improvement of the Kentucky river to its mouth; it was estimated that by an expense of $95,000 the river could be made navigable at all seasons, for boats drawing nor more than fifteen inches. Prior to the improvement of the river, there was a large island in the river nearly opposite the mouth of the Benson creek which was known as "Fish Trap" island. It was nine hundred yards long; in this distance was sixty inches. The falls in the river between the
mouth of Devil's Hollow and the point where lock number four is located was nearly seven feet. The main channel was on the west side of the island; a gris and saw mill was located on the east side near the lower end of the island. This mill has been described as "a saw and gris mill one mile below the town of Frankfort, in the river, which is low water, does a good deal of business, but it is not uncommon to see it completely covered by floods of the river, to withstand which it has no roof, is open on all sides, and is heavily loaded down on the corners and in the middle of the frame at top, with piles of stone.

A visitor in Frankfort in 1807 would have found a town of ninety houses including a state-house, a jail, a court house, a state penitentiary, a market house and four Inns which in size, accommodations and business were not surpassed in the United States.

How different today finds the flourishing City of Frankfort. With a population of twelve thousand, an abundance of pure water and natural gas, four good hotels and all the streets paved with concrete and asphalt, it ranks with the best in accommodating tourists and visitors.

It is located on the Bluegrass-Hoosie Route, the shortest and best way from the Carolinas and the southeast to Chicago; on the Taft Memorial Highway, the shortest route from Northern Michigan to Southern Florida; Lakes to Keys Route, the shortest, most scenic and historic route from Chicago to Florida; on State Routes No. 35, No. 37, No. 40 and U. S. Highway No. 60.

No American city offers more in scenic beauty and few cities indeed offer as much in historic background.
In the Frankfort Cemetery, Kentucky's Westminster Abbey, rest in peace the bodies of Daniel Boone, Theodore O'Hara, author of the world famous marital poem "The Bivouac of the Dead"; Governor William Goebel; Vice President of the United States Richard M. Johnson; many soldiers of all the wars and a number of Kentucky's illustrious statesmen and patriots.

Corner of Celebrities, is the title by which is known one block on Wapping street in the city, where were born, or lived, two Supreme Court Justices, two Cabinet officers, seven United States Senators, four Congressmen, three Governors, five Ambassadors to foreign countries, three Major Generals of the United States Army, three Admirals, and two Commodores of the United States Navy. The State institutions located in the city include the state Highway Department, the State Reformatory, the State Institution for the feeble minded, the State Normal School for the colored and the State Arsenal. The New State Capitol, erected in 1909, is not surpassed in architectural beauty by any other in the United States. This handsome building may be seen in passing north or south over the Bluegrass Hoosier route of the Taft Memorial Highway and United States Highway No. 60. A cordial welcome awaits all visitors and competent guides are available.

The Old State Capitol, in the center of Frankfort is now the home of the Kentucky Historical Society. It is one of the outstanding museums of America. The easy, circular stairway, only one of its kind in the world, built without mortar, so constructed that the keystone at the top holds each stone in place so that increasing weight strengthens it. The Society has collected and assembled in the old Capitol building a most remarkable lot of original early documents, paintings and relics, including, perhaps, the
largest and most valuable assortment of original Daniel Boone manuscripts in the country. Many old oil paintings of huge dimensions, some worth hundreds of thousands of dollars and hundreds of relics of by-gone days too numerous to mention.

Many side trips of unusual interest may be made from Frankfort. Visit from here High Bridge, Brooklyn Bridge, Shakertown, Dix River Dam, Herrington Lake, Tyrone Bridge, Harrodsburg, Boone Pioneer Memorial Park and many fine stock farms of the Bluegrass, a delightful one-day trip. Boats are available on the Kentucky river for delightful pleasure trips and fishing. Ample free parking space in connection with the Hotels.

The Frankfort Chamber of Commerce is located in the New Capital Hotel. The Rotary and Lions and Kiwanis clubs hold their weekly meetings and luncheons here. Visiting members are welcome, always. The beautiful Kentucky river, one of the most famous of all American streams, winds it lazy and majestic way through the heart of the City and within a block of the New Capital Hotel. This river for many years formed the only highway from some of the mountain sections of our Commonwealth to the Capitol and to the outside world. Upon its majestic bosom have come commerce, families in their migration, officials of the State government to their duties, and with these Kentuckians rode much of the golden tradition of our people. The river flows on, day in and day out, emptying its resources into the mighty Ohio, but its glorious traditions linger here on the banks of the river at Frankfort enriching all who breathe its scented charms.
Bibliography


Frankfort Chamber of Commerce.
The city of Frankfort, and Franklin county, are particular fortunate in possessing ample evidence of their beginning, and in having those beginnings identified with the first coming of the white man to Kentucky, and his earliest appropriation of lands north of the Kentucky river.

Leestown, one mile below Frankfort, was the first spot settled by white settlers in Franklin county, and as early as 1775 was a kind of stopping place or resting place for the explorers, who came in canoes down the Ohio and up to the Kentucky. With respect to the settlement and the naming of Leestown, attention must be especially directed to the year of 1775, for it was in the month of June of that year, that Hancock Lee, and his party arrived here, and then gave this place the name it has ever since borne.

Leestown was next after Boonsborough the first white settlement on the Kentucky river. It bears the name of one of the oldest and most removed families of Old Virginia, lying in a sharp bend of the river, near a shallow ford of shelving rock, and with a spacious sandy beech on which to land and load and unload canoes and other boats, and with never failing springs of cold, pure water near at hand, with a large natural meadow in easy reach and a rich bottom of level lands sufficiently extensive to provide the settlers with an abundant supply of corn, and with broad buffalo roads radiating to the east and west. That attracted the eye of the settlers and was chosen by Hancock Lee as the site for Leestown.

In the year of 1780, Stephen Frank and others were on their way to Munn's Salt Lick, in Jefferson county, and they camped on the present site of Frankfort. In the early morning they were attacked by the Indians and Frank was
killed and two other members of the party. The fact that Frank was killed and the further fact that there was a fairly good ford on the Kentucky river nearly opposite to the entrance of Devil's Hollow gave to Frankfort the name of Frank's ford which was contracted to Frankfort. The town of Frankfort was planned by General James Wilkinson, in 1786 an Act of Virginia of that year provided that the title to a hundred acres of land belonging to General Wilkinson be vested in seven trustees and established as a town by the name of Frankfort. Wilkinson not only had the town established, but with characteristic energy utilized his soldiers to dig great drains that dried the swampy low grounds in the eastern end, by his generosity and tact, attracted a most desirable population. Frankfort, lies in a valley, surrounded by towering hills spread like tapestried screens with their never ending changes of color from the masses of Redbud, White Dog-wood and the delicate green of the early spring, deepening in tones as the summer wanes, to the blaze of red and gold of October. Winding half around the town, dividing it in two is the incomparable Kentucky river, wooded down to its water's edge whence in many instances, garden walks lead back through lovely flowers to fine old square brick homes which have stood for many decades, and in a number of instances have been occupied through four or five generations of a single family to the present day, we see the picturesqueness of her situation her lovely gardens and spacious homes, her peaceful, nay even drowsy aspect, and this is Frankfort.

In the year of 1792, the Forks of Elkhorn began to be settled, Mr. Nathaniel Sanders, Old Brother John Major, Brother Daniel Jones, old William Haydon, old Lindsey and a few others had moved down. As there was prospect
of a large settlement Mr. Sanders suggested to his neighbor, John Major, that it would be right to get some minister to come down and live among them. This pleased Major, he being an old Baptist. So the oldest religious organization in Franklin county was established, and known as the Forks of Elkhorn Baptist Church of Christ. It is said that the people in this locality were compelled to guard themselves against Indians attacks for a number of years after its settlement, or until the early years of the nineteenth century.

Most of the early settlers were trained pioneers, before they came to this county; those who were not, were composed of a rugged breed that quickly adapted themselves to backwoods life, shut in by gloomy forests, and threatened on all sides by a savage foe, it was necessary for the pioneer to adapt himself to a semi-savage state. While he fought back Indian foes, and subdued the wilderness, he himself was molded by his harsh surroundings into a rude pioneer. How different, how strangely different, then and now, rude log huts the bark canoes the slow moving flat-boats, while they plowed the newly cleared fields with wooden plows. The grain was all cut with the sickle, the rude cabin was furnished with plain rude furniture. The old log schoolhouse was equipped with long planks for seats without any backs. Then magazines and newspapers were rare and expensive. The food while plain was of the most wholesome nature. The dress of the primitive pioneer was very simple, most of the materials were home spun. The pioneer circuit rider, those "Cavaliers of the cross" who blew their gospel trumpets far out on the border laid the religious foundation of the county. They were full of the spirit of the master and many of them was able educators and eloquent divine. They gathered their flocks in the shadow of the grove or beneath brush arbors and de-
livered sermons filled with gospel fervor. We who enjoy the comforts of modern life who sit in an easy chair and read the story of the Kentucky pioneer by a light as bright as a sunbeam little dream of the pale flare of their grease lamps, and crude and harsh surroundings that they endured. The explorer and the pathfinder came first to map the unknown land and to blaze the trail for the settler who was soon to follow. Glad in the garb of the backwoodsman with his rifle to procure his food and drive back the savage foe, and the ax to hew down the forest and build his log cabin, the settler laid the foundation of all our modern life, its joys and comforts and carved a great state out of the wilderness. We who enjoy the heritage left us by the founders and builders should bear the torch aloft and carry on, as it becomes the descendants of a race of heroes.

In the year of 1796 a settlement was commenced on South Elkhorn a short distance above its junction with the North Fork, and not far from the Innis's Fort. About Christmas in the year 1791, two brothers, Jesse and Hosea Cook and their families, and two or three other families moved to Main Elkhorn, about three or four miles from Frankfort. On the 28th of April 1792 an attack was made by about one hundred Indians on the Cook's. The brothers were near their cabins, one engaged in the sheering of sheep, the other looking on. The sharp crack of rifles was the first intimidation of the closeness of the Indians, and that fire was fatal to the brothers, the elder fell dead and the younger was mortally wounded, but was able to reach the cabin. The two Mrs. Cook and their children, were instantly collected in the house and the door a very strong one, made secure. The Indians unable to enter, discharged their
rifles at the door, but without injury, as the balls did not penetrate penetrate through the thick boards of which it was constructed. They then attempted to cut it down with their tomahawks, but with no better success, while these things occurred without, there was deep sorrow mingled with fearless determination and high resolve within. The younger brother mortally wounded, immediately the door was barred, sunk down on the floor and breathed his last, and the two Mrs. Cook were left the sole defenders of the cabin, with their children. There was a rifle in the house but no balls could be found. In this extremity, one of the women got hold of a musket ball, and placing it between her teeth, actually bit it into two pieces. With one she instantly loaded the rifle. The Indians failing in their attempt to cut down the door, had retired a few paces in front, doubtless to consult upon their future operation. One seated himself upon a log apparently apprehending no danger from within. Observing him Mrs. Cook took aim from a narrow aperture and fired, when the Indian gave a loud yell, bounded high in the air, and fell dead. This infuriated the savages, who threatened (for they could speak english) to burn the house and all the inmates. Several speedily climbed to the top of the cabin, and kindled a fire on the boards of the roof. The devouring flames began to take effect, and with determined and resolute courage within, the certain destruction of the cabin and the death of the inmates, must have been the consequence. But the self possession and courage of these Spartan females were equal to the occasion. One of them instantly ascended to the loft, and the other handed her water with which she extinguished the fire. Again and again the roof was fired and as often extinguished. The water falling the undaunted women called for some eggs, which were broken and the con-
tents thrown upon the fire, for a time holding the flames at bay. Their next resource was the bloody waiscoat of the husband and brother-in-law, who lay dead upon the floor. The blood which this was profusely saturated, check­ed the progress of the flames. The savage foe yielded, and the fruitful expedi­ents of female courage triumphed.
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The Frankfort Chamber of Commerce, personal interview

The County Agent, R. M. Heath, personal interview.

It would almost be impossible to get the information on these subjects, that we get from the very best authorities, if it was not for the valuable assistance of Mrs. Jouett Taylor Cannon, Secretary and Treasurer of the Historical Society and considered the best Historian in this section, and the cooperation and help of Miss Nina Vischer the very efficient Librarian of the Historical Society.

From personal observation
Franklin County abounds in Ground Hogs. It is not an infrequent sight to see a man with a sack and grubbing hoe enroute to their hide outs. These animals are the largest of the wild species remaining in this region and arouse the hunting instinct of the trappers and hunters for "big game". They are declared to be good eatings by those who hunt them and shoe strings, made from the hide, are of long life. Perhaps at times, though, their great number may be a little exaggerated by those easily excited by a possible subject for an extraordinary story, as is related in the following tale: Old John's fondest ambition was to hunt and fish and roam the country. By way of conversation he always had some exciting tale to tell. His tales were told in all apparent truthfulness but they very often wandered far from the truth. One day, chancing to meet a neighbor near the little village of Penson he said: " Sam I just saw FFC ground hogs down by the slope wall". "Aw", said Sam, "You didn't see no FFC ground hogs down there, why, they aint that many in the hole county". "Wal", said Old John, "I know I saw a hundred of em". "Now, John", insisted Sam, "a hundred ground hogs is too many to see in one place". "Wal", replied Old John in an unconcerned way as he shuffled on, "its a good place fer em, aint it Sam".

**told by**

Old Uncle Fount Hulette
(age about 80) Penson

About four miles west of Frankfort, but Penson Valley, is found a jagged old hill towering high above Penson Creek. The face of the hill is almost perpendicular and the only trail of ascent to its lofty height is through Wolf Hollow. The hill has been known for many years as Fuzzard Roost because, perhaps, of its contour being so suitable to the birds of prey. The nearest homesteads are about a mile from the foot of the hill. One night, many years ago, the inhabitants of the valley heard a blood-curdling scream come from old buzzard roost. The scream was so terrible and mysterious, that the awe-stricken people dared not venture from their homes at night. The next morning, after a sleepless night, they all assembled and armed with implements of protection, ascended the hill and searched every hollow and crevice to the best of their ability, but no living thing that could emit such a horrible scream was ever found. Some thought and still think that it was some sort of wild animal; but whether it was an animal or a human in distress, no one ever found out. The Old Fuzzard Roost is still held in awe by some of the old timers who have not forgotten that awful scream that disturbed their peaceful slumbers many years ago.

**told by**

Albert Ueltschi
(age about 80) Kennebec

There seems to be no doubt in the peoples minds that Daniel Boone roamed through the hills and valleys around Frankfort. It is generally believed that he first beheld the valley in which the city was later built from the hill where he now rests in the State Cemetery. Gilbert White, the painter, has portrayed him in the act of viewing the valley for the first time. Below the Boone Grave, on the steep cliff that slants to the Kentucky river, is found Boons Spring and Cave. Here, as the legend goes, he is supposed to have camped and drunk water from the spring and slept in the cave. He marked the place and on his various trips through this region would camp there. It is reported that he escaped the Indians by hiding in the cave. The spot is reached by descending the steep hill from his grave. A narrow trail leads through a hole through solid rock, through which you must crawl, down the hill to a place well hidden even in this day.

---BY THE AUTHOR.
"Yes suh, Child, jest go out therh on that ground and dig and you'll sho nuff find a pot o gold", said old Aunt Rachel, an old Negro Mammy of Civil War days. Her reference was made to the ground on which the State Institution for the Feeble Minded is located. She said that during war days the soldiers camped there and that they buried a pot of gold on the site before leaving. She used to work at the Institution and would tell the attendants this tale which she declared she knew to be true for she had been working there at the time. No one has ever been reported to searched for the pot of gold, but perhaps if some did search for the hidden treasure they would not have let it be known, through fear that they would be thought silly to believe such a tale from an old Negro Mammy; But old Aunt Rachel may still be right.

FOLK LORE

told by

Dolie Day
(age about 70) Frankfort.

These Legends told to

Bayless Hardin
Frankfort Ky.
ENTERING FRANKLIN COUNTY ON THE VERSAILLES ROAD.

by a Resident of Jett.

Driving from Lexington to Frankfort via Versailles, are you, Mr. Tourist? Well, we are sure you will arrive all right at the border of Franklin County—right there at the intersection of Shady Lane and the Versailles road. Now let us, the Franklin County Hospitality Committee, so to speak, personally conduct you the last seven miles into the Capitol City Frankfort.

We are taking you, as it were, on a kind of ghost ride. We think you will be interested in some of the happenings of the past—things characteristic of Kentucky country life as it was.

We mean Kentucky life and folks of fifty years ago. Here we are at Excelsior Institution. This was the private school owned and operated by Mrs. Eudora Lindsey South and her husband the Rev. James K. P. South. This institution flourished over a period of forty years and from its classes went forth some fine men and women. Vachel Lindsey, the celebrated poet, was a nephew of Mrs. South and as a young man spent some time at Excelsior in 1906, and afterwards wrote most appreciatively of the place and its cultural purposes and accomplishment.

Mrs. South was a widely traveled woman—a scholar delighting in the study of languages—she translated books from the German and French, wrote interestingly of her travels, also many poems.
Scotland or as it used to be Locust Grove.

Locust Grove was the home of Col. Robert W. Scott a gentleman of the old school who kept goats and ghosts. In order to keep his goats he had cedar trees set so closely together all around his 300 acre plantation that they could not get out but the entrance made a break in this green wall and then, as now, led to a rather impressive brick mansion—it is right there on the right and as you see has a modern and well planted entrance and the stone cut gate post says Scotland.

The cedars and the goats have long been gone but the ghost remains—modernized to be sure, for whereas his ghost-ship was used to glide about the place in a white carriage drawn by white horses on noiseless feet and wheels it now uses a phosphorescent auto but always going the route taken by the lover who having struck down his rival disappeared in the night.

Scotland has been owned by many folks during the passing years—lately it has been the home of C. W. Hay who used it for a stock farm and many good horses roam its pastures.

Look now over to the left and that was once the land of Washington Crutcher—the house, a comfortable red brick is scarcely visible unless you turn off on the cross pike—Mr. Crutcher was a fine farmer and did he live now would doubtless be medaled as a master Farmer.

Now the land on the left that we are passing is part of the old Jett place where two generations of that godly family lived.
FRANKLIN COUNTY.

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The original homestead was torn down years ago to make place for a new one which in its turn burned so the farm is houseless save for tenant homes.

There were two brothers Billy and Tom as types of Kentucky Gentlemen no better could be found. Tom, otherwise the Colonel—was such a neighbor as even the good Samaritan might have delighted to live by. When the mud road—the outlet for families living beyond his place, became impassable the Col. was wont to open his gates, taking down his bars and say, "Come on right through my farm—come through the parlor if it helps any."

He held no malice and rarely resented an injury. However, when upon a court day he hailed a neighbor and asked for a ride into town and said neighbor refused the Colonel waxed wrathful and declared, "It was the most unneighborly caper that ever happened to me and what's more if he dies before I do I won't go to his funeral."

Now we are at Jett—yes, named for the family, one member having donated the land for the depot on the L & N railroad. Now Jett is a small place and as you see there are gas stations to the right and more to the left but we are thinking of what Jett used to be. Well right there where the Post Office is now it has been for forty years, even when it was presided over by Lee A. Owen and the boys used to gather every night to play croconole.

Billy Quinn's shop was right there where the road turns down to the White school house and what the Radio means to day the shop meant in those days. There news was given out, events discussed and
marriges foretold.

Jett had no church building but in lieu thereof the Bible Society house stood there on the corner of what was known as Pick-Shin-Alley and the Pike, and there gathered young and old on Sunday nights for services.

Johnson Hearn owns the house now. The Hearn family did then, and do now, own much property in the vicinity.

Passing through Jett we come next to the links of the Frankfort golf club which occupies what was once one of the old Colonel prize fields.

The impressive residence just across the side road is the old Giltner--Jones--Hoge--Collins place. It having been owned and occupied by all these families during and since the civil war.

But lets detour--lets go down this aide lane known as the Hanly Lane. Half a mile back stands a sweet and modest home with broad acres lying about--that is WHEATLAND. It was built by Edmund Vaughn before the war then owned by Edmund Botts--lastly by John Hanly and his lovely wife Edith Sheldon Hanly. Never a more worthy man graced that or any other home and Edith Sheldon Hanly wrote such lovely poems about this very little lane and these trees and fields that they are a part of Kentucky lore.

The children of these two good people live at Wheatland today--Ruth Hanly Booe, the eldest, being the Ruth in "Rebecca-Ruth Candy"--nationally known.

Over there across the fields lived the Cromwells--descendants of Oliver Cromwell--English and aristocratic to the bone but busy farmer folks with door always open and table with an extra plate always set.
Marcus and Emily Cromwell they were with eight children. Allen was the nurse of the neighborhood away back when the trained ones had not arrived on the scene.

Now back to the main road and so towards town. We pass the old McMillian place what was once the toll gate and we are getting to town--once it was all farms out there but these city looking homes have lights and water and so we will turn over the task of piloting the tourist to the City Fathers.

Uncle John's Courtship.

Uncle John Giltner was a widower and decided he needed a wife. He didn't but he thought he did. His maiden sister kept house for him and his six children but he wanted a wife; so he went to church one Sunday morning and met a woman there suitable he thought for his wife. He started home with her after church on horseback, I think. I don't think they had buggies then. As time was short, on the way he courted her. The woman said, "I'll come if you will send your sister and children to your farm."

Uncle John said, "I'll see you in the Devil first," but he went on home with her for dinner.

He was a man that would go to sleep every time he sat down. The woman had to go see about her dinner. This was during slave time so she had slaves. While she was gone Uncle John sat down in front of the parlor fire and soon was asleep. When the woman came back she
found him taking a nap. She said, "Mr. Giltner, you didn't take my refusal very seriously."

"No'm", he answered.

"Well, I have reconsidered," she told him.

"So've I", Uncle John said.    Mrs. Geo. A. Lewis.

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Two Little Darkies.

This story was told me by old Mrs. Railey. It happened on the Church place on Main Elkhorn near Steadman Lane.

Elkhorn Creek used to be very rapid and would rise very suddenly. If there was a hard rain or cloudburst above the water would just roll down in rolls several feet above the low water; it may still do this, I don't know.

This was during slave times and on the Church farm were two little brothers, slave children, who were perfectly devoted to each other. They always played together and would never play with the other children.

One day they were playing in the creek; the water was very low that day. Suddenly they saw the water coming. They ran to the bank but one of the little darkies ran faster than the other. He got on the bank safely but the water got his little brother. The little darky that was left wouldn't play anymore, or eat anything. Slowly day by day he drooped and finally died.

Dr. Josephine Hoggins
REFERENCES:

This splendid article on Jett was given me by a member of one of the families mentioned in the article, but she won't let me use her name. Age 50-55--white.

Mrs. Geo. A. Lewis, Second St.--Frankfort, Ky.--about 86--white
Dr. Josephine Hoggins, Capital Ave.--Frankfort, Ky.--about 55-60--white.
The various religious denominations are well represented by their beautiful churches. On Ann Street, opposite the Capital Hotel, is the Christian Church, a marvelous brick structure. On West Main Street is found the Northern Presbyterian while the Southern Presbyterian is on the corner of Third and Steele streets in South Frankfort. On Washington Street, between Broadway and Main, is the Episcopal Church. The M. E. Methodist Church, South, is located on the same street between Main and Wapping. On Wapping Street, opposite the Federal building, is the old Catholic Church. The Baptist Church is on St. Clair street, near the Catholic. There is also a church of this denomination at Thornhill, a suburb of East Frankfort, on route 35, and a Philathea Baracca Mission, sponsored by the Baptist Church, on North Wilkinson Street. In Bellepoint, across the river west of Frankfort, on Benson Avenue, route 37, is located the Church of the Nazarenes. On Holmes St., route 35 is found the Church of Christ. These are the most important churches for the white people in this vicinity. There are, however, a number of smaller meeting houses; as, for instance, the Holy Roller, Pentecostal, Russellite and others.

The colored churches in the city are the St. Johns A.M.E Methodist on Clinton street, the First Baptist Church, corner of Clinton and High streets and the Corinthian Baptist on Mero street.

In the county are found two very old colored churches; one at Farmdale, Little Benson; and the other at Green Hill.
ON THE MAP OF FRANKLIN COUNTY

1. The remains of old Fort Innis are still to be seen near State Highway 35 just a few miles Northwest of Frankfort.

2. Cove Spring is still to be seen.

5. There are no remains of Geer's Station. Located by Mrs. Jouett Taylor Cannon of the State Historical Society.

6. Arnold's Station is located by Histories and by Mrs. Cannon. No remains.

7. Hamilton Station is located by Judge Boone Hamilton, descendant. No remains.

3. No definite marker of the Cook's Massacre.

8. Fort Mill, part of the Northern boundary of Frankfort, no markings.

9. The original Buffalo Trail may be easily traced today.

4. The intersection of the first three counties was about four miles West of Frankfort, at Conway's Mill, the intersection of Big and Little Benson Creeks. They also intersected at the mouth of Benson Creek. Bellepoint was in Jefferson County, Frankfort was in Fayette and South Frankfort in Lincoln.

11. Big Eddy is a famous camping resort in the summer, about three miles up the river from Frankfort.

The distilleries named are operating.
Innes Fort. Located on a low divide separating two abandoned meanders of Main Elkhorn Creek at a point about five miles northeast of Frankfort, on State Highway 35. Judge Harry Innes, the first Judge of the U. S. District Court of Kentucky, built a very substantial double log house on a stone foundation. It was fortified throughout and constructed with port holes in the ends of the second story for its internal defense. The remains of this old famous station are still to be seen on the farm of Joe D. Bradburn, junior, just this side of Church's Grove in the valley of Main Elkhorn Creek.

The original station-fort, built with care by Judge Innes, was not fortified without a real purpose and apprehension, for one of the boldest Indian forays and massacres in the annals of Franklin County took place in this neighborhood. Inne's Station successfully withstood the attack without the loss of life.

You can not see this fort from the highway, it is about one half mile from the roadway, visitors are allowed to drive in the gateway and back to the old forte. it is in a tumbled down condition, at this time, but I have been told by good authority that it is the only remaining forte of this kind in the State.

Cedar Cove Spring. Is located about one mile from Frankfort on Highway 35, just to the left at the top of the Cedar Cove Hill, it is a few feet back from the road and I doubt if you could see it from the highway. The Stagg Distillery uses this water from the spring exclusively for the making of their whiskey, I mean that this is used in the whiskey.

Elizabeth Hedrick.
In Robert McAfees description of their coming to the place where Frankfort now stands, and their surveys in this vicinity. So far as records go their description is the earliest extant, and may be the first that was ever written of the Frankfort townsite and adjacent parts of Franklin County. James McAfee describes his brother Robert's survey as situated," at the great meadows on the river," which was indeed an apt description of a part of the primitive townsite of Frankfort. The path alluded to by the McAfee's was the buffalo trace. The spring at which they left their axe, tomahawk, and fish gig was a small spring about fifty yards from a cliff and a half a mile below Cedar Cove Spring. The McAfee spring is to be found today still flowing, a small-clear crystal stream on the old Lysander Hord property about one mile and a half northeast of Frankfort. It was from the nearby Cedar Cove Spring that Frankfort was, some thirty years later, to derive its principal water supply.
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PLACE NAMED IN FRANKLIN COUNTY, KY.

Compiled by Susanan Hirt Shelby Chapter, D.A.R.
Frankfort, Kentucky

FRANKLIN COUNTY- Formed in 1794 from Woodford, Mercer & Shelby; named for Benjamin Franklin.

FRANKFORT- County-seat since formation of Franklin County from Woodford, Mercer and Shelby in 1794; charter for town procured by Gen. James Wilkinson from Virginia Assembly at October Session 1796; town laid out and streets named by Gen. Wilkinson, who named the town in honor of Stephen Franklin, who had been killed by Indians at this place in 1760. State Capital since 1793.

Frankfort appears at this time to be the only incorporated town in the county, severa villages formerly incorporated having relinquished their charters, and several which formerly had Post Offices now being served by Rural Routes, these villages which still have Post Offices in 1940 are:

Porkesville- Elkhorn- On Highway 40 about six miles east of Frankfort at junction of North and South Elkhorn Creeks from which it derives its name; on old Buffalo Trail; "place of notoriety" and settlement there prior to 1760; picturesque situation; "K. Taylor Distillery" Plant; country store; blacksmith shop; former site of Maclin Mill on Highway 60, miles east of Frankfort; named for Mrs. Letty Jett, who in 1840 gave the land for the L. & N. Railroad Station at that point; long established as a shipping-point for cattle, grain and whiskey; Mill; country store and Post Office. Matthew Jett pioneer to Franklin Co., in Bulger Co. Va., 1796.

Pottsgrove- Post Office in northern part of county on west side of Kentucky River- Named for Pottsgrove family, numerous descendants of George Pottsgrove who settled on land on Plat Creek in 1831.

Shallowfield- On "Long Branch" of Elkhorn Creek near the mouth of the latter stream in the northern part of Franklin County; Post Office, Church and store. No information on name.

Switzer- Post Office on Frankfort & Cincinnati R.R. in W. part of county near Scott Co. line; on "Rocky Branch" county road; store now not now operated- country store. James Switzer appears first on records in 1839. Village situated on north Elkhorn; good fishing.
Among the un-incorporated villages which formerly had Post Offices the most important are the following:

**Bridgeport**—On Highway 60, 3 miles from Frankfort on South Benson Creek—takes name from covered wooden bridge over South Benson built in the 1830's on road to Louisville; an early settlement; 2 Churches; County High School; 2 stores; good country neighborhood. The Julian, Hawkins, Brown and Armstrong families very early in this section of the county.

**Peak's Mill**—10 miles north-east of Frankfort; named for Daniel Peak or James Peak, early settlers who owned land on Main Elkhorn and built an important Grist Mill which supplied the neighborhood for many years and is still standing; 2 churches; Hodge Hall; 2 stores; Peak's Mill Turnpike branches off of Highway 35 two miles north of Frankfort and rejoins it three miles below Peak's Mill at the crossing of Elkhorn Church, Penn, Jackson, Graham and Bacon families early settlers.

**Woodlake**—8 miles from Frankfort on Highway 40; good section near Scott County line; store; takes name from lake on farm now owned by John C. Noel, formerly the home of Major Russell Butler of the Mexican War and of Major Henry C. Johnson. Early settlers in neighborhood were the Lewis at "Illegolen" and "Belair", the Woodes and Bells.
Still other villages in Franklin, not incorporated, and not having Post Offices, but important in their sections are:

**Belleville**—Immediately across the Kentucky River to the west of Frankfort, of which it is now a part, is at the mouth of Big Benson Creek; on Highway 37; site of farms formerly the homes of Francis Preston Blair, Benjamin Hensley and Judge Samuel Todd, prominent early residents; also of Albert G. Hodges, publisher of The Commonwealth. Streets now regularly laid off and about 1,000 permanent residents; Sower Athletic Field and **Ballground** for Frankfort High School; Lock Number 4, in Kentucky River.

**Leestown**—"Settled" in 1775-'76 by Hancock Lee; one mile below Frankfort on Kentucky River, at old Buffalo crossing mentioned by many early explorers; Warehouse for the Inspection of Tobacco established by Virginia Assembly in 1783; mentioned by Gen. George Rogers Clark in letter to brother in 1778 as a place of some importance. The settlement there was "broken up" by Indians in 1777, and Willis Lee killed, but was soon re-inhabited and became well known as a shipping-port for tobacco, hemp, corn and whiskey for the New Orleans market. Large boats were built there and loaded with produce and shipped south, when the stage of the river would permit. This point has long been the site of a distillery, and the George T. Stagg Company now owns and operates its large distilling plant on the land laid out for a town by Hancock Lee. A marker to commemorate the early settlement there was erected by Susannah Hart Shelby Chapter, in 1923. The white marble from which the Old State House was erected in 1827 was quarried from the shoal bar across the Kentucky river which had served at low water as a ford for buffalo and early explorer alike. A stone house built for the residence of Commodore Richard Taylor of the Revolutionary Navy in 1816, is still standing in good repair, in the distillery grounds.

**Stedman's**—No longer a "town" but once the busy site of Stedman's Paper Mill on Main Elkhorn and cross-road between the Georgetown and Peak's Mill turnpikes. Amos Kendall, later Postmaster General under President Jackson built and operated the Paper Mill, sold it to Eben Stedman in 1834. The latter operated it for many years as a paper and grist mill, and built a number of good log houses which were occupied by his employees and lighted with natural gas which was struck when a well was being bored for water. The Stedman, Cox, Church and Martin families were prominent in the neighborhood.
"Neighborhoods" where sections of the county are recognized as communities on account of proximity to a country Church or schoolhouse or store or cross-roads or for some other reason are quite numerous. Among those which are thus known in Franklin are the following:

- **Bald Knob**: High elevation in northwest part of county; voting precinct includes nearby county high school and voting precinct.

- **Benson Flag Station**: On Big Benson Creek and L. & N. Railroad five miles west of Frankfort. Derives name from creek which enters Kentucky River at this point. Former site of the J.M. Baufeld Distillery.

- **Blameyton**: on Highway 35 in northern part of county; voting precinct; no information on name.

- **Cedar Run**: Voting precinct on Lawrenceburg Pike about one mile from Frankfort. Derives name from small creek which enters Kentucky River at this point. Former site of the J.M. Baufeld Distillery.

- **Church's Schoolhouse**: County grade school four miles from Frankfort on Wenton Pike (Highway 35); voting precinct; derived name from Mr. Robert Church who gave land for schoolhouse in about 1870.

- **Crutcher's Schoolhouse**: Near junction of Versailles and Georgetown turnpikes (60 and 40); voting precinct; derived name from family of Mr. Lafayette Crutcher.

- **Conway's Mill**: At junction of Big Benson and South Benson Creeks on old Benson county road and L. & N. R.R. four miles west of Frankfort. Derived name from Folk Conway.

- **Elmville**: In northeast part of county near Owen County line.

- **Farmdale**: Country store on Highway 35 south of Frankfort; near site of old Kentucky Military Institute, now "Stewart Home." Derived name from Ben. Farmer.

- **Flat Creek**: Community in northern part of county on creek of that name.

- **Harvieland**: Community between Stoney Creek and Kentucky River; derived name from John Harvie, first Register of the Kentucky Land Office, who owned large tracts of timberland in that section.

- **Moore's School House**: In western part of county; named for Judge Dan Moore.
**STREAMS.**

**THE KENTUCKY RIVER** - This long and important stream passes through Franklin County in a generally northerly direction but with many curves. It derives its name from the Indian word which describes the land through which it flows - The Great Meadow.

**Elkhorn Creek** - A beautiful long stream with many branches which suggested to the early explorers the prongs of an Elk's horn was so called by some of the very earliest visitors to Kentucky. The two principal branches unite at the village known as The Forks of Elkhorn on Highway 40, forming the main creek which empties into the Kentucky River fifteen miles north of Frankfort. A pretty Indian legend attributes the origin of the stream to an incident in which the mythical elk Wa-piti saves two Indian lovers from a stern parent, bringing them on his back to the Kentucky Country where they "lived happy ever after" and the rivulets which gradually grew into the famous creek springing from the horns of Wa-piti when he at length died.

**Benson Creek** - Big Benson and its branches, South Benson and North Benson water the southern part of Franklin County. Big Benson rises in the southeastern part of the county, and flows wortwardly and northeast in a circuitous manner, forming part of the boundary between Franklin and Shelby, and empties into the Kentucky River immediately opposite Frankfort to the west. When "Kentucky County" Virginia, was divided in 1780 to form the three counties of Fayette, Lincoln and Jefferson, the corner from which the survey was begun was at the point when Benson enters the Kentucky River, on the south side, now under a abutment of the Benson bridge into Bollepoint.

**South Benson** - Rises near the main creek and follows the same general direction, being crossed by Highway 40 at Bridgeport, and flows into the main creek at Conway's Mill.

**North Benson** - Rises near the Shelby County line and flows into Big Benson at Benson Station on L. & N. R.R.

**Little Benson** - Not connected with the other creeks of the name, flows in an opposite direction into the river, the having its origin near the head of Big Benson. It forms part of the boundary between Franklin and Anderson counties - All four streams derive their names from Richard Benson a Virginian who came to Kentucky with Capt. James Harrod and "raised a crop of corn and made an improvement in 1776" and was granted a pre-empted of 400 acres with a 1000 acres adjoining, at the mouth of Little Benson Creek.

**Flat Creek** - A long winding stream in north part of county.
FRANKLIN COUNTY PLACE NAMES

1. **FRANKPORT:** Where was Frank killed? There seems to be a difference of opinion—opp. Devils Hol. or at the mouth of Benson's Creek?

2. **FORKS OF ELKHORN:** When and by whom 1st settled? When vil. est. and by whom? Why was Elkhorn so-named? What's the comm. now called locally? What's there now? Where is/was Elsinore? Is this another name for the same place? Why so-named...

3. **JETT:** (po est. 2/1883, Lee A. Owen...) (...)
   
   *Dietl* "The 1311

mii/uch/ (woodrow)

4. **LEESTOWN:** Who named for: Hancock Lee, Willis Lee, both of them, the 3 sons of Hancock Lee? Who were these 3 sons? What do local people now call this vic? Lees/town
5. **BRIDGEPORT**: When first settled and by whom? When est. as a comm., and by whom? I assumed it was named for the old covered bridge? What's there now?

6. **SWITZER**: (po est. 3/1882, John H. Switzer...)

7. **SWALLOWFIELD**: (po est. 8/1887, Wm. H. Fitzgerald...)
9. **STEADMANTOWN**: Is this the proper spelling or should it be sp. without the "a"? When did the Stedmans buy the mill and from whom? Who built the mill and when? Was this the same as Sam'l. Cox's Mill? Who was John Stedman (the 1st pm, 1855) to Ebenezer and Sam'l.? What's at site now? Do local people still know this name? _not changed_.

10. **POLSGROVE**: (po est. as Palsgrove's Store, 7/1870, Wm. H. Palsgrove Disc. 4/1875 and re-est. as Polsgrove, 4/1880, Geo. W. Guthrie ....) What is the proper spelling of this name? A Flat Creek po was est. 1/1847, with Wm. Palsgrove as pm. Disc. 4/48; Where was this place? Same Palsgrove? (.....)
*11. PEAKS MILL: (po est. 5/1877, Sam'l. C. Gaines... ) (There was a Pecks Mill po est. 6/1856, Asa Bison(?) Tarrant (?)... oh, to Tiger, 9/1859, David A. Peters; disc. 12/59) Were these at the same site? (...)  

*12. ELMVILLE: (po est. 6/1877. Hiram West... ) (...)  

*13. HARVIELAND: (po est. 9/1883, John W. McQuillen.. ) (...)
FRANKLIN COUNTY

"Major's Station was built by John Major, St., about 1784, south of the Forks of Elkhorn on what is now the country estate of Judge E. C. O'Rear."

Pub. Lib.
Pioneer, Ky., by W. R. Jillson, 1934
p. 93 - 35 words
PLACE NAMES

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Arnold's Station was erected west of the Kentucky River opposite the mouth of Glenn's Creek, 30 miles above Frankfort in 1783 by John Arnold.

By - William Rouse Jillson
Pub. The State Journal Co., Frankfort, 1934 - p. 72
Words - 35
Wilkinson's Ferry was established by James Wilkinson at Frankfort in 1786, over the Kentucky River."

Pub. Lib.
Pioneer, Ky. by W. R. Jillson, 1934
p. 130
"East Frankfort Ferry was maintained under enactment of the Kentucky legislature of 1798 across the Kentucky River about a mile above the city of Frankfort."

Pioneer, Ky. by W. R. Jillson, 1934

Pub. Lib.
PLACE NAMES

"Kennebec Spring is located two and one-half miles west of Frankfort in Franklin County on the valley of Main Benson Creek. A never-failing source of clear cold limestone water it has been recognized from the earliest times as one of the remarkable springs of this part of Kentucky."

Pub. Library
Pioneer, Ky.
W. R. Jillson - 1934
p. 114 - 80 words
+ Columbia - Bee.

(Kennebec) - river in Maine at the mouth of which was the first English colony (1607), Kennabec pronunciation meaning at the "Song Water"
Cave Spring as distinguished from any of the above is located at the head of Cave Spring Hollow, a short tributary of the Kentucky River near Thornhill in Franklin County. It was discovered by the McAfee exploring party in 1773. Years later its water supply was brought to Frankfort through wooden pipes. (Ref. Pioneer KY: Gillson)
*14. **CAMP PLEASANT**: (...)

\[\text{Handwritten text}\]

*15. **CLOVERDALE**: (...)

\[\text{Handwritten text}\]
16. WOODLAKE: (....) (po est. 3/17/1879, Christopher K. Wallace...)

17. FLAGFORK: (po est. 5/1875, John T. Deakins...) (....)

18. HARP: (po est. 4/1883, Hugh Burns...) (....)
22. KENNEBEC: (...)  

On Benson Creek  

where the KENNEBEC Distillery was  
closed 2 yrs. ago.  

*About 30 homes along creek  

Other places and names:  

23. Elk Horn (or Elkhorn)  
24. Farmdale (Military Institute)  
25. Laputa  
26. Bald Knob  
27. Spring Bank  
28. Weed Lake Fogg  
29. Joshua  
30. Wigginton  
31. Tioga  
32. Honeysuckle  
33. Cave Point  
34. Forsee  
35. Holmes  
36. Elmoro (Elmoro?) (is this Elsimore?)  
37. Chase  
38. Bellview  
39. *Buttimer Hill  
40. *Capito Hts.  
41. Chattville  
42. *Cliffsota  
44. Crestwood  
45. Evergreen  
46. Fairview Hts.  
47. *Franklin Hts.  
49. *Green Hill  
50. Hickman Hill  
51. *Hoge  
52. *Indian Hills  

*23. Other places and names:  

55. *Winding Way (com)  
56. Scrabble (DPO)  
57. *Butler (com)  

*58. Arnold Spring  
59. Bailey's Mill  

who was  

Eliz. Hedrick  

[---]
Franklin County is in the North Central part of the State in the heart of the Blue Grass, and may be divided in a general way into four phases or types of topography. First, along practically all of the streams are found more or less flat or undulating valley lands, also along the Kentucky river and Elkhorn creek, are found a number of deserted oxbow channels containing hundreds of acres of fertile valley lands. The abrupt cliffs and outcropping ledges of Limestone enclosing the valley lands constitute a second phase of topography. Through the Eden area the long sloping and more or less abrupt hills constitute a third phase and the fourth phase consists of the more gentle rolling or undulating table lands, found mainly in the South Eastern portion of the County, and also South of Benson creek and West of the Kentucky river between Bridge-Port and the Anderson County line.

Taking the County as a whole about two thirds is made up of hills of varying degrees of slope from rolling land to bluffs, gently undulating on the side next to Scott and Woodford, is more rolling next to Anderson and Shelby, while that on the waters of Flat creek is hilly. Franklin County is bounded on the North by Owen and Henry, on the East by Scott, on the South by Woodford and Anderson and on the West by Shelby. It has an area of 127,360 acres of which about 90 percent is in farm lands.

The County is divided approximately into halves by the Ky. river, which takes a meandering course from the South towards the North. From where the river enters to where it leaves the County
measured in a straight line as 16 miles but due to its meanders it traverses within the County a distance of 26 miles. Elkhorn creek flows Northwest through the Eastern half of the County and empties into the river about four miles above the point where the river crosses the Northern boundary line of the County. Benson creek flows East, dividing the Western half of the County and emptying into the river just North of Frankfort. Flat creek drains the Northern portion of the West half of the County, and flows into the river just North of the Franklin-Henry County line. Cedar creek drains a small area in the Northeastern part. At Frankfort the Ky. river forms a letter S within the corporate limit. The river, according to Geologists, formerly flowed Eastward around Fort Hill, but a natural cut off was made, probably aided by Benson creek, so that the river abandoned this course to the Eastward of Fort Hill and took a more direct path to the West where we see it today. Downcutting of the streams caused by uplift of the region, has left an elevated flood plane on the side of the river banks and upon this flat land the City of Frankfort is built.

At the position of the Government instruments at Frankfort the elevation above sea level is 503.75 ft. which is about on the level with the layout of the City. The altitude of the County varies from about 470 ft. above sea level in the lowlands to about 900 ft. for the highest summits. The new State Capitol stands 599 ft. above sea level.

Comparatively little of the land in Franklin County is unfit for cultivation. The climate is usually settled and regular. The precipitation is generally sufficient for agriculture and
water supply, except for a very few unusual years, like the Nation wide drought of 1931. The precipitation for the year 1935 was an average of 5.58 inches. The climate, generally mild, warm and rainy in the Spring. Temperature ranging in the Summer from 80 to 100 degrees; the highest reading in 1935 being 98 degrees.

Mineral resources and products in economic quantities in Franklin County are limestone, clay, medicinal waters and sand. The limestone ranges in color from white to dark bluish gray. The best known of these limestones is the "Kentucky marble" also called "Birdyes limestone because of the fractured surface, tiny crystals of calcite scattered through the stone sparkle like the eyes of a bird. Geologically, this limestone is the Tyrone of Trenton. Ordovician age. It is massive, compact, thick bedded, white to dove colored, it trims easily. When sawed it is of a pleasing appearance. Kentucky marble has been used as a building stone to a considerable extent; examples of buildings in which it has been used are the Old State Capitol, walls of the State Reformatory, and many residences in Frankfort. It is of value not only for building purposes, but also for curbing walls, bridges, culverts, paving, chimneys ballasts and road mettle. The Tyrone limestone is reported to burn to a good lime. Several quarries in the Tyrone limestone are situated near and in Frankfort. The limestone outcrop along the banks of the Ky. river where they are quarried, crushed, if desired, and shipped by water or rail. One quarry is situated on the side of the abandoned meander of the Ky. river, Eastward across the valley from Fort Hill. Additional quarries are situated elsewhere near Frankfort. Sand is taken from the
river and finds a ready market in and out of the County.

Pottery Clay of high quality, valuable in the making of art pottery and stoneware, occurs on the uplands near Frankfort. Alluvial clays found in considerable thickness in the Ky. river and Benson creek valleys, find their uses in the manufacture of brick, tile, and cement; weathered limestone is also used for this purpose.

Medicinal water also drinking water is obtained from drilled wells ranging from 50 to 150 ft. deep. Usually the yield of such a well is copious and fresh. The water obtained in some of the deeper wells, however is sulphurous and ferruginous, and possesses excellent therapeutic values. The Murray well at Frankfort is 1,250 ft. deep and encountered a strong flow of salt sulphur water in the St. Peter sandstone at a depth of 900 ft. The water from this well was at one time sold for medicinal purposes. It undoubtedly has considerable value in the treatment of certain diseases associated with the organs of digestion and exertion, and properly handled should find a ready market. The County water supply is plentiful at all times, furnished by the river the creeks and natural springs. There are a number of rural springs noted for their historical importance, which furnish drinking water for the district in which they are located. The water system at Frankfort vies with the best, the water being pumped from the river to a reservoir high above the stream, the altitude being 818.75 ft above sea level.

The soils of Franklin County are typical of those of the Blue Grass region of Central Kentucky. The County contains thirteen
different types of soil, seven are transported soils, and six are residual. Of the total area of Franklin County, 199 plus square miles, thirty one square miles or about 15 plus per cent has transported soils. Of these transported soils, two are upland and five are bottom soils. They consist of both recent deposits and old time deposits.

The materials come from a great variety of rock formation across which the Ky. river and its tributaries flow, ranging from the Coal Measures of Eastern Kentucky to the Ordovician limestones exposed upstream and at Frankfort. These soils thus vary greatly in physical and chemical properties. Of the residual soils three occur in the hills and bluffs, and three are on rolling to undulating topography. They differ from each other according to the underlying strata from which they originate. And a mixture of transported materials also aids in the variation of these soils which are unusually rich in the mineral elements and with the exception of the gray or white silt loam soil, are only slightly acid.

This constitutes a general topography of Franklin County, fertile spot of the Blue Grass, abundant in natural resources and rich in the lore of historical events.

This topography is made possible by the help and writings of the following people:

Dr. Willard Rouse Jileson, former State Geologist and now a prominent business man, who resides at 301 West third Street, Frankfort, Ky.
From an "Industrial and Civic Survey," a booklet published in 1927 at Frankfort, by the State Journal Company by Dr. Jillson.

From the report of the "Kentucky State Agricultural Society," published at Frankfort, in 1857 by A.C. Hodges, a public printer, prepared by Robert W. Scott, Corresponding Secretary to the Agricultural Society.

By Guy Barrett of the United States Engineering Department at Frankfort.

By "Kentucky Resources and Industries," published at Frankfort in 1929 by the State Journal Company by Newton Bright, Commissioner of Agriculture.

From personal observation.

With the aid of Mrs. John Cannon and Miss Nina Vischer of the State Historical Society.

The books mentioned here are in possession of the State Historical Society at Frankfort.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Elk Horn (dpo) or Elkhorn</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Frankfort (co. seat and state cap.)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bridgeport (com. &amp; dpo)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Farmdale (dpo) had been Military Inst. (com)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Flat Creek (dpo)</td>
<td>ngbr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Forks of Elkhorn (com. &amp; dpo) aka Elsinore (com)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Laputa (dpo)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Benson (dpo and com)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Stedmanville (dpo)</td>
<td>Steadmanstown (com)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Peak’s Mill (dpo)</td>
<td>Tiger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Bald Knob (dpo)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Spring Bank (dpo)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Military Institute (dpo) not No. 4, above</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Palsgrove Store (dpo) mic later Palsgrove (com)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Flagfork (dpo) (com)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Peaks Mill (dpo)</td>
<td>(com)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Elmville (dpo)</td>
<td>(com)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Woodlake (dpo)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Joshua (dpo)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Switzer (dpo) (com)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Wigginton (dpo)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Fogg (dpo)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Jett (dpo, com, rr)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Harp (dpo)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Tioga (dpo)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Harvie Lad (dpo)</td>
<td>(com)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Swallowfield (dpo)</td>
<td>(com)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Honeysuckle (dpo)</td>
<td>ngbr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Saffell (dpo)</td>
<td>(com)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Cave Point (dpo)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Forsee (dpo)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Holmes (dpo)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Elmore (dpo)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Williams (p.o. est. but never in op.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Ottusville (dpo) (com)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Chase (dpo)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Leestown (ext. comm., now a part of Frankfort)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Baileys Mill Ngbr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Bellepoint (com)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Bellview (com)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Bloomington Ngbr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Bradburn Ngbr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Bryants Ngbr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Buttmer Hill (com)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Camp Pleasant (com)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Capito Heights (com)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Chatville (com)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Church Ngbr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Cliffside (com)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Cloverdale (com)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Club (House Heights (com)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Colston Lane Ngbr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Crestwood (com)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Evergreen (com)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Fairview Hts. (com)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Fort Gap Ngbr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Franklin Hts. (com)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
59. Glore Ngbr.
60. Graefenburg Ngbr.
61. Grandview Hts. (com)
62. Graves (popr)
63. Green Hill (com)
64. Gregory Ngbr.
*65. Head of Caeder (sic) (crossroads)\[****
*66. Head of Grassy (com)
67. Hickman Hill (com)
68. Hoes (com)
69. Indian Gap Ngbr.
70. Indian Hills (com)
71. Kennebec (com)
72. Knights Bridge Ngbr.
73. Lebanon Ngbr.
74. Leestown Terrace (comm)
75. Louisville Rd. Ngbr.
76. Lucas Lane Ngbr.
77. McDonald Ferry Ngbr.
78. Millville Ngbr.
79. Millbrook (com) X
80. Mt. Zion Ngbr.
81. Normal Hts. (com)
83. Pleasant View Ngbr.
84. Roberts Ngbr.
85. Rocky Branch Ngbr.
86. St. John Corner (popr)
87. Shadricks (sic) Ferry Ngbr. (or is it Shadrack?)
88. Sulphur Lick Ngbr.
89. Terry Schoolhouse Ngbr.
90. Thorn Hill (com)
91. Thorn Hill Hts. (com)
*92. Union Store Ngbr.
93. Winding Way (com)
*94. Woodlake (com) © (opo) X O
95. Bethel Ngbr.
*96. Scrabble (opo)
18. Burtin (com)

*71. Amboy Spring

\[Example: Nebr = \text{sample}
\text{popr} = \text{reserve}
\]
\[\text{NT} = \text{excluded}
\]
\[P = 2.24 = 1\]
\[POP. = 2\]
\[= 5.2\]