HISTORICAL SKETCH OF HENDERSON, KENTUCKY.

Incorporated in 1810. Now a city of the third class.

Henderson County formed in 1799.
Henderson, Kentucky, the seat of government of Henderson County, owes its existence to that unusual land company, known as the Transylvania Company, but using the legal signature of "The Richard Henderson & Co."

Organized in North Carolina by nine Virginians and Scotchmen, it bought from the Over Hill Cherokees twenty-million acres of present Kentucky and Tennessee at the Treaty of Sycamore Shoals on the Watauga River. This scene is beautifully portrayed in the Gilbert White lunette in the capitol at Frankfort and in the great bronze Transylvanian tablets on the Henderson House by George Honig, the gift of Ambassador Robert Worth Bingham.

Though their lands had been taken from them by Virginia and North Carolina each of these states gave them two hundred thousand acres of land in Kentucky and Tennessee, respectively. The Virginia grant "on the waters of the Ohio and Green Rivers", was made, as stated in the conveyance, because "they had been at great trouble and expense in making a purchase from the Cherokee Indians." "As Virginia is likely to receive great advantage therefrom by increasing its inhabitants and establishing a barrier against the Indians", it is, therefore, just and reasonable that the said Richard Henderson & Co. be made compensation for their trouble and expense." This grant from Virginia of 200,000 acres still constitutes the greater part of Henderson County, organized in 1822 and, like the town, named for Colonel Richard Henderson.

All but two of the original members of the Transylvania Company were dead when, in 1797, they—James Hogg, John Williams and the heirs of the other members—decided to build the third Transylvania town on their grant along the Ohio River. For some time they had
delayed doing this for it was then the "far west" - far from the lands they had settled, from the Boonesborough Fort they had built, the government they had established under the "Boonesborough elm" and open to the attack of hostile Indians.

Having decided, they sent General Samuel Hopkins, a Revolutionary officer, and former member of Washington's staff and Colonel Thomas Allin, a distinguished soldier and surveyor, to lay off a town on their chosen site, called by the river men who named every sawyer and sand bar, "the Red Banks" from its high red clay bluffs, conspicuous from the River and standing above all of the Ohio floods.

General Hopkins rode from Hanover County, Virginia, through the Mountains, picked up Col. Allin at Danville and Mr. Purviance, a land speculator, at Lexington, and having sent on their horses, came down the Green River in a pirogue, arriving at the Red Banks in the rain. The next morning they began their survey, careful reports of which are still preserved, and on the fifteenth day of July, 1797, Henderson stood forth as the third Transylvanian town.

The plan of the new town was a generous one to its future citizens and to this day frequent appreciation is expressed for its stately, wide streets, giving greater beauty to the city and safety from the automobile. Four streets, two and quarter miles long, were parallel with the River. Three of them were one hundred feet wide - the fourth, Water Street, was two hundred feet. There were twenty-five cross streets, also one hundred feet wide and each block was intersected at right angles by twelve foot alleys. The entire Water Front of two and a quarter miles, a most unusual civic asset, was given to the citizens. Here Audubon was to build his famous mill.
Cutting through the town was a park of six blocks—twenty-four acres—of which only two blocks remain, and which, often called the "Public Square" or "Central Park" has been named by the City Commissioners "Transylvania Park" for the founding company, to mark the two hundredth birthday of Colonel Richard Henderson. The town was surrounded by ten acre "outlotts" and they by estates of forty acres each. A crumbling old document in the archives of the Court House is entitled "Ordinance of the Transylvania Company, commonly known as the Richard Henderson & Co., directing the disposition of the town of Henderson and the outlotts." The paper bears the signatures, of John Williams, James Hogg, Walter Alves in right of his wife, Amelia Johnston, the only woman member of the Company, and the heirs of deceased members.

The site of Henderson was occupied before the coming of the Transylvania Company by a few people who, with no special title, had settled there, first in the "old Hughes Field" above town, and then, driven by the spring floods up on the red bluffs, had built there a stockade. It stood between the present Louisville and Nashville Railroad Bridge and the beginning of Powell Street, along the River Front. The Sprinkles, Husbands, Upps, Haussmans, Kuykendalls, Smiths, Dunns and McCallisters were of good German and English stock and are represented now by very substantial citizens. Two of them founded Indiana towns. Michael Sprinkle built the first cabin in Newburgh and Hugh McGary, a son of the hero of Blue Licks, built one at Evansville, where the Green River lumber trade quickly developed a town. They are to-day, hailed as the founders of those towns. The Sprinkles are said to have known of the "lost silver mine" revealed to them by an Indian and for some time to have circulated
silver coin. This was investigated by a government man who decided that these unstamped coins, richer in silver than the legal ones, were merely being sold as silver and the question was dropped. From John Husband, son of Harmon, leader of the North Carolina Regulators is descended Rear Admiral Husband Kimmel of the United States Navy.

The little settlement had taken the name of the location and was for long called "Red Banks", the title gradually fused into its right name of Henderson. The Red Banks Trail was a continuation of the old Natchez Trail and probably ended at Vincennes. One part of it in Indiana is still the "Red Banks Road". It was crossed by the Shawnee Trail from that Indian town to the Mouth of Green River Ford, near which Daniel Boone, says tradition, was captured by the Indians.

The most dramatic events in the story of the "Stockade People" are the deeds of the river and land pirates - Murrel and his men and the Harpes - who terrorized the Ohio Valley, and the capture of the Red Banks boys by the Indians. From their headquarters at Cave-in-Rock, Illinois, they sallied forth to rob and murder, often holding rendezvous at Diamond Island where for years after they were driven out, men would come at night to dig for treasure, leaving holes so large that a cow falling in would be killed. Big Harpe was taken, executed, and his head placed in the forks of a tree. To this day the place is called "Harpe's Head". The numerous wives of the Harpes were imprisoned in the block house of the stockade that served for a jail and Negroes still tell blood curdling tales of how, leaving their midnight service, they would see before them a headless house with blood streaming down would tramp along the street and turning to the site of the "old jail" would disappear from sight.
The capture of the Red Banks boys happened during a lull in Indian hostilities when several boys, Michael and Jake Sprinkle, Young Kuykendall and other boys, crossed the Ohio in a canoe to hunt, when suddenly from behind the trees sprang a party of Indians who shot one boy, captured two, killed another and let a good swimmer escape across the River. "The two captives were tortured in many ways - made to walk forced marches, then beaten with many stripes, and, finally, having undergone a terrible journey, barefooted and almost naked, marched into Sandusky on Lake Erie from whence, after having lived a most frightful life, they escaped and some time after arrived at Red Banks, to the joy of their kin and comrades." E. L. Starling, History of Henderson County.

Tales of the Turtle Indians revived from the finding of a tree with a turtle, the tribal emblem, carved on its side. There is a sparkle of silver in the freshly cut stone of the neighboring quarry from which was built the Audubon Museum.

The coming of the Transylvanians brought a great change at the Red Banks. They began the evolution of a cultured, happy and prosperous social condition that saw no pause until the invasion of Kentucky in the sixties. A succession of Court Houses was built on the beautiful Court House Hill, beginning with a log cabin and ending with the present Doric columned building, stately in its age and in its memories of a long line of eloquent members of its bar. General Hopkins, agent and attorney in fact of the Transylvania Company, returned with his family and servants to settle on his broad Company lands. He brought out the first Negro servants. Soon after came Walter Alves and his wife Amelia Johnston to settle at the Old Bluff on their holdings of 32,000 acres of land. The walls of the dignified old home have long since gone into the Ohio together with
much of the old graveyard and its sacred dust. Other Transylvanians who came for their land interests were the Hendersons, Harts, Williams and Lynes. "A little after" says E. L. Starling, 'there was an influx of most desirable citizens from other states. The Dixons, Alves, Harts, Cowans, Willyers and others from North Carolina, the Towles, Cabells, Subletts, Townes, Terrys, Wilsons and Atkinsons from Virginia; John J. Audubon from Louisiana (an error, as he came down the Ohio from Louisville) and the Ingrams, Herndons and others from Central Kentucky." The lands outside "The Grant" were given by Virginia to Revolutionary officers and soldiers who brought their families out. These people made homes of culture and refinement on their plantations or in town homes and became the dominant element of the region. The planter directed the cultivation of his land. Sometimes he erected a tobacco factory there; sometimes a doctor was also a planter and practiced from his country home; the men took a strong part in religion and politics, riding up to the polls and voting viva voce without fear or favor. There were no saloons licensed in Henderson, only "Coffee houses", after the old English custom. The first place of worship was in the community church, built in 1825, perched on an extension of the "graceful hillside of the Court House Hill", later cut down to fill a ravine along Main Street within the "Public Square", now Transylvania Park. The site is to be marked by the Henderson County Historical Society. The early school house on the "Seminary Lands" was also used for services. Old Grave Creek Baptist Church was the first county church. The first clergymen in Henderson seems to have been the Rev. Mr. Kavanagh, an Episcopal clergyman, father of the distinguished Bishop of the Methodist Church, and tutor in General Hopkins' family. The Rev. James McGready, a Presbyterian divine, so greatly aroused the entire Green
River Country and beyond, that a reformation of many careless folk took place. Especially did he condemn "vain and profane swearing."

No one of the highest standing was spared. Mr. Starling says "General Samuel Hopkins, Eneas McCallister and Andrew Rowan, the first chief justice of the Court, under whose authority the jury was empanelled, the Second Chief Magistrate of the County Court, and the High Sheriff of the County, were each indicted and like old patriots, confessed the fact and paid their fines without a murmur."

St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church was organized in 1831 at a "meeting of citizens" not all of whom were of that faith. Gradually the Presbyterians, Methodists and other churches were organized until there was a full complement. There was, as everywhere much more difference in the forms of worship, more intolerance and more narrowness. Yet an Episcopalian always entertained the Roman Catholic priest on his visitations and had pews in both the Presbyterian and Episcopal Churches. But he was thought to have too much interest in the French Encyclopedists! It was a shock to some Christians when one church installed an organ. It would be "a fiddle next" they said. A tuning fork served instead. Many who danced, played cards, or went to a theater were "turned out". Between the extremes of indulgence and total abstinence, the serene ones went along the middle of the road, but always the Rector or Parson was held in profound reverence as the father of his people. The "ladies" - never were they called "women", administered the homes, society and busied themselves with church work. Those who speak of "languid Southern ladies" have little conception of their good business qualifications. Theoretically they did not "work". Without the modern inventions, they yet generally brought up large families of
children, who had to be trained, clothed and educated. There was usually a large group of "servants" as the more cultured people called their slaves. They had to be kept busy, trained into various vocations; there was spinning and weaving, sewing, the care of milk and butter, the preserving of fruits, vegetables and meat. The mistress usually herself administered medicines to sick servants, the physician's practice among them being the best in the county. The young people had their dances and went riding horseback from one gay houseparty to another. The ladies travelled little as a rule but the men went to New Orleans, and to Philadelphia on business, sending supplies, barrels of sugar, oysters or molasses. They brought their families delicate china, silver and cut glass, often miniatures of themselves - all of which are now treasured as heirlooms. Many a silver julep cup or a goblet was won at the County Fair, perhaps, the inscription "For the best Hundred Hogs."

The standards by which the young people were reared were those of dignity, honor, independence, courtesy and hospitality. Quoting the Saturday Evening Post of a long past date, "The Transylvanians (Kentuckians) were taught to ride, to shoot, to speak the truth and vote for Henry Clay." Those who could have a tutor admitted friends' children to the school. Many boys went to the University of North Carolina or to the University of Virginia, to "Old Trinity, Hartford, Connecticut, or to Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio. The girls were "finished" at Science Hill, Shelbyville, or at the "Bishop's School" near Louisville. Some went to the J. B. Anderson School across from Louisville, the principal of which had the honor of admitting -(in Pittsburg) a young Scotchman named Andrew Carnegie to his library on Sunday afternoons and so lead directly to the Carnegie library movement.
But there were many others, in fact all sorts and conditions of people. Certain classes tended to go North being more or less crowded out economically. There were practically no objects of charity.

In the early days before there were steamboats, the "Ohio Packet" was one of the many keelboats cordelled, that is, drawn up stream by the hands of men. Possibly the Volga boatmen worked much like this. So a large traffic was carried on. The year 1811 was the annus mirabilis of Henderson. This was the time of the great earthquake, the comet and the coming of the first steamboat down the Ohio and Mississippi.

The earthquake was caused by the subsidence of land over vast underground places made by the washing of underground streams in the strata of soft stone, forming Reelfoot Lake in Tennessee and Kentucky and shaking the earth from the Rockies to the Atlantic shore. It brought down every brick structure in Henderson - mostly chimneys - and long prevented the building of brick homes. The trembling continuing for several years the people hung pendulums in their houses. The vibrations suggested at times the safety of out of doors. Mr. Starling describes the earthquake. "There were rumbling sounds succeeded by discharges, as if a thousand pieces of artillery were suddenly exploded, the earth rocked to and fro, vast chasms opened whence issued columns of water ... hissing sounds, caused, perhaps, by the pent up gas, while, ever and anon, flashes of electricity gleamed through the troubled cloud of light, rendering the darkness doubly horrible. The current of the Mississippi was driven back on its course." Another account is given by Audubon and another by
Charles Latrobe who with Nicholas Roosevelt, ancestor of President Roosevelt was on the Orleans, the first steamboat to go down the Ohio and Mississippi. It was Nicholas Roosevelt who had the Orleans built and he went with his wife on this trip. When the boat arrived at Henderson its screaming whistle seemed to the Negroes the voice of his Satanic majesty and they fled to the woods. The crowds assembled on the River Front, watched the boat round in and saw Mr. Audubon dive under the bow and come up at the stern, a characteristic piece of exhibitionism in the great naturalist who was a master swimmer, skater, dancer and walker and loved to use his accomplishments.

The great comet of this "wonderful year" rounded it out and gave it permanent fame. The next year of 1812, by the freezing over of the Ohio and a sudden and dangerous breakup of the ice, ended the series of strange events. The Orleans was soon followed by "The Comet", the "Vesuvius", the "Enterprise" and others, the forerunners of the great steamers that like floating palaces, carried the travelers of the Ohio and Mississippi for many a year. The Enterprise took stores down to General Jackson at New Orleans. This second war for independence from England, called the War of 1812, found Henderson men ready to serve. Captain Robert Smith of Smith Mills, Henderson County, fitted out his own company and took them down by flat boat to reinforce General Jackson and many of them promised to bring back a red coat to friends as a souvenir. "These Kentuckians, floating down the Mississippi, unarmed, little thought they were soon to face the Duke of Wellington's trained soldiers...About eleven hundred Kentucky militia and a Tennessee Brigade formed the center of Jackson's army behind the breastworks...During the greater part of the firing, so dense was the smoke, the enemy could not be seen and when the firing ceased the British were in full retreat. Several Henderson
boys mounted the breastworks to rush out into the field and secure a red coat when they were peremptorily ordered back." One can imagine the ovation the Henderson soldiers received when they came home again. This year a Henderson man Judge Thomas Towles was appointed by Madison, a judge of the Illinois Territory, an appointment repeatedly renewed. An interesting event of early Henderson was the purchase of a white man on the streets of New York city by Senator Talbot. He was indentured servant who being illtreated by his master, begged Senator Talbot to buy him. He was brought to Henderson, worked out his bond and became a good citizen.

In 1819 when there were sixty-eight steamboats on the river, the fare from Henderson to New Orleans was $110.00. The alternative was a walk along the Natchez Trail. In 1822 the County was laid off in twelve school districts. The Seminary lands had been established before and were at the basis of public education here. Deep in the memories of the people are two events, the terrible cholera visitation in 1832 when Bishop Smith issued an appeal to turn and repent, believing it a visitation of God for sin. The "rain of stars" in 1833 was a magnificent meteoric shower that continued through the night and until "extinguished by the light of day." The same year was exhibited in the old Audubon Mill, turned now into a tobacco factory by Mr. George Atkinson, a small locomotive brought from Lexington, Ky. A car was attached to it in which people delighted to take rides.

In 1833 a sandbar above Henderson began to take on respectable proportions so that in time it became the "Tow Head" or "Upper Henderson Island." The year 1840 saw the emancipation of thirty-eight Negroes by their mistress, Elizabeth D. Gwatkin. One became a pauper but was allowed a sum for his support by the Court. The first
newspaper was "The Columbian", published by William R. Abbott. A file of this paper would bring a handsome price today but there are few copies remaining. Among the picturesque characters of the early times was "old Mrs. Mullins of ginger bread fame" whose little shop was on (Audubon) Mill Street, now Second. Her license included one to sell drinks but when her husband applied for a renewal it was refused. The amusing old records say "Mullin silently withdrew from the presence of the court, and with a countenance bitter with anguish and deep with indignation he rushed from the hall of Justice."

Charles Dickens, then a young man, came down the Ohio on the "Fulton" enroute to St. Louis. "During the greater part of his time in Henderson, he amused himself walking about the town and viewing the sights of which none were more important than the town pump at the intersection of Main and Second Streets." Starling.

The third American war - for the independence of Texas and its secession from Mexico - found Henderson men ready to do their patriotic duty again. Major Philip Barbour, a distinguished officer was killed on the breastworks of Monterey as he was leading his men to attack.

The gold rush to California of 1848 lost some fine citizens to Henderson but the German revolution of the same year brought us others of importance. Among them "the old Music Master" Caspar Artes, for many years organist here. The visit of the Hungarian patriot, Louis Kossuth and his party, coming down the Ohio brought an immense crowd to see him.

A notice in a Mt. Vernon, Indiana paper of this time notes that in Kentucky cornstalks grow to sixteen feet - a feature of the "Bottoms."
Then came the War between the States about which the town and county were excited beyond measure for the sentiment was divided. Many Southern people, must have been bewildered. Inheriting from the great Southerners, Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Marshall, Henry and others, the American principle of self determination, emphasized by three successful wars, but inheriting, too, a great love for the Union for which the South was so largely responsible, they were divided between the American principle on the one side and the love of the Union on the other and so it was that often brother was against brother and families and communities were torn apart in that tragic era. We know that it ended in the triumph of force. Twice a gunboat was sent to burn Henderson. Out of it came a pretty romance, since Captain C. G. Perkins had a sweetheart here and so failed to burn the town. One of his unspent balls is in the Audubon Museum. He returned after the war, married and settled here. It is true that Negroes were put in the Court House as an untactful measure, but from that, too, came a story. A ball was given by the young Henderson men at the Hancock House, a hotel across from the Court House. The white captain of the Negroes not being invited, was so offended that he brought his Negroes down the hill and shot into the young people happily dancing there. The rattling of the bullets no sooner began than the young men rushed out and quickly dispersed the Negroes. Many are the stories of the execution of young boys in retaliation of supposed Guerilla deeds as told by Mr. Young E. Allison. The murder of the beloved citizen, Mr. James Rankin was a tragedy. The people could get the reverberations of the terrible Battle of Fort Donelson where there was a Henderson Company. The traditions of General John Foster in the town are unfortunate.
No story of Henderson would be complete without some account of the exploits of Gen. Adam Johnson, Col. "Bob" Martin, Amplias Owen, Captain Ollie Steele and others. Their daring was amazing as was their success. Three of them, calling themselves "The Breckenridge Guards," took Henderson when it was in the hands of the Federals." The Northern papers greatly magnified my numbers, wrote General Johnson in his interesting "Partisan Rangers", and the London Times had a lengthy editorial on the importance of the capture of Henderson (Kentucky) and Newburgh, (Indiana); and as Henderson was a great tobacco market, the price of that weed suddenly rose. The taking of Newburgh, the first town captured across the Ohio, was dramatic. General Johnson, at the Soaper Farm, Henderson County, heard there were hundreds of stands of arms in the Newburgh arsenal and determined to capture them. Gathering a handful of men, they dashed up river to a point opposite Newburgh. With two pair of old wagon wheels, a stovepipe and a charred log, they made two dormidable quaker guns and pointed them over the bank straight at the building containing the arms. With Felix Akin and Amplias Owen, he quietly, rowed across the river, went at once to the arsenal and began to barricade the doors but hearing a disturbance at the riverside hotel, near by, he left Martin to get the arms, while he walked into the hotel and finding eighty men "with their rifles cocked all ready to fire. "He walked right among them telling them that no one should be hurt if they put down their guns before his men came. They stacked arms. Leaving them with Martin as guard, he faced the Home Guards gathering outside. By this time the guns were on their way across the Ohio. Abruptly he addressed the commander, "I came here to get these guns, I have them and I purpose
to keep them. I want nothing more and I do not intend to disturb any of the citizens or any of their property, but if I am hindered or fired on, I'll shell this town to the ground', and he pointed to the terrible quaker guns. Martin with his last load of guns was soon crossing the river, and I, with my body guard of two men, walked quickly down, and pushed off into the river, unmolested."

A board of Southern Relief was organized and sent large supplies further South where their necessities were greater than ours. Then, at last, the war was over. The entire economic system of Kentucky, though she did not secede, was destroyed without the compensation England had offered in the emancipation of her colonies, being interested in their welfare. (But Henderson, like so much of the South, began with the slow but tremendous energy of agricultural communities, to rebuild her prosperity.) All conditions were changed. There was not enough capital, and many young people went West or to the North, which being protected now, by a high tariff was growing very rich. English, Scotch and Irish tobacco-nists began to build factories to pay large salaries to home men. A number of these fine citizens came here to live. Henderson developed more enterprises, many moved into town to educate their children, the old municipal ownership was developed until Henderson had her own gas and electric light plants, as well as her water works, an unusual acreage in parks, schools, public library, ending with her municipal pool, golf grounds and recreation centers. The days of chain pumps and ice houses passed with the horse and buggy days. Henderson is aided by her location on the Ohio, at the meeting of two railways, two highways and a near by airport. At the center of navigation of the Ohio, the Wabash, the Green, the Tennessee, the Cumberland and the Mississippi, she is surrounded by cities. Around her
are Louisville, Nashville, St. Louis, Evansville and Indianapolis. She is near the center of population of the United States. Surrounded by rich farming lands, the County is diversifying her crops. Not only tobacco but apples, peaches and corn are making her prosperous.

The story of the Cuban War when Southern soldiers and Henderson men with them, took up the cudgels for self determination and separation, this time from Spain. It was followed by the World War, when "self-determination" was again the battle cry. Henderson gave richly of her young men and her young women to the hospitals while those who were left, surely kept the home fires burning. The city made a special record in "going over the top", never failing to give more than was asked in her response to the "Buy a bond" of many drives.

These last days see a busy city, with scarcely a vacant house, with paved streets of much beauty and with incoming industries, and its historic back ground outlined.
There should not be an historic sketch of Henderson without mention of its Negroes, in the main a faithful class whose service is much preferred to any other. With their good schools, their library, their churches, their own organizations, their portion of the parks, there has been a steady rise in their education if not in their marvellous skill in "cooking by ear." From the general level several names stand out. "Uncle Skillet", "dead long ago", who cooked for the hunters and so got the nickname of Skillet, respectfully called "Uncle Skillet" by the younger generation deserves mention. His portrait, painted by Lida Williams, has hung in the Metropolitan Museum, New York, and a picturesque figure it shows, with the fuzzy white hair, the patched pants, one on the seat and one on the left knee. His bell which he rung along the streets calling out his rhymes to bring people to auctions, is in the Museum. He is still remembered as carrying three buckets of water, to the Court House, as janitor, one on his head and one in each hand. His rhymes are treasured, and his "young mistis" remembers her Sunday afternoon task of reading the Bible to him when he was old and came home to his "white folks."

Nor should one forget that "the Father of the Blues", William Handy, was once the errand boy of J. D. Hambleton's Drygoods store at Henderson, and says that he learned most of his music there.
Although it is quite probable that there were some Catholics among the first settlers in Henderson, so record of Catholic activity here is found prior to 1810 - 13 years after the town was laid out and named for Col. Richard Henderson.

In the spring of that year Rev. Chas. Nerinckx, in a letter dated April 14, 1810, to Archbishop Carroll of Baltimore, embodied the results of his findings on a Missionary tour through this section. It that letter he refers to Henderson as "an incipient settlement on the Ohio, called Red Banks, where there are at present ten Catholic families."

The earliest records of the parish were written by the Rev. Elisha J. Durbin in 1824. Having headquarters at St. Vincent, Union County, he traveled on horseback through the vast territory of his missions which extended from near Vincennes, Indiana to Nashville, Tennessee, and was for about thirty-five years a familiar figure in Henderson. For some time he was regularly entertained at the home of Esquire John Daniel Anderson, of the Episcopal Church.

During this period Mass was celebrated and the sacraments administered in the homes of early settlers and for more than ten years in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Francis Millet on Third Street. (No. 230)

Hon. Ben J. Webb, in his 'Centenary of Catholicity in Ky.' published in 1884 - says of the first Catholic Church in Henderson (St. Louis of France), a small brick structure which was built on the northwest corner of Third and Ingram Streets in 1860. "... among the most liberal of the benefactors of the church of St. Louis, Henderson, are to be named Gov. Lazarus W. Powell; Archibald Dixon, ex-lieutenant Governor of Kentucky and senator in Congress; Dr. Richard Garland; Mrs. (Louis) Reigler; Jacob Schaeffer; Peter Fosse;
Holy Name Catholic Church

(James) Manion and Frank Livers. The first four named were not Catholics, though Dr. Garland afterward became on . . . . .

- Rev. Wm. J. Dunn (the first pastor) served from 1866 to 1871
- Rev. Dominic Crane        1871 to 1872
- Rev. T. J. Jenkins       1872 to 1873
- Rev. A. M. Coenen     1873 to 1875
- Rev. Wm. Vanderhagan     1875 to 1881

In January 1881 Rev. Thos. F. Tierney became pastor, a larger church was needed to on June 1, 1882 a lot at Second and Ingram was purchased and plans for the present church of the Holy Name were begun. The first service was held in January 1891. Father Tierney died June 21, 1901 and was succeeded by Rev. Edw. J. Lynch and during his pastorate the present Rectory, adjoins the church - the present School and Convent were realized. Father Lynch died Feb. 25, 1920. From September 1920 until January 1927 Rev. B. J. Boland was in charge. This was an outstanding period of advancement in the history of the church and school. In 1923 the church was completely gove over with beautiful interior decoration. New stations and other furnishings were installed at a cost of over then thousand dollars, largely made up of a gift from the estate of Dr. P. H. Griffin, a former parishioner. Rev. P. J. Dalton and Rev. Wm. P. Lennartz, members of the Holy Cross Order had charge of the parish from September 1927 to July 1938.

December 10, 1937 Pope Pius (260th successor of Peter) decreed the constitution of a new ecclesiastical Province comprising the Dioceses of Kentucky and Tennessee. The Most Rev. John A. Floersh (6th Bishop of the Diocese of Louisville) was constituted first Archbishop of the new Arch Diocese.

The Diocese of Owensboro was erected December 9, 1937, with the Most Rev. Francis R. Cotton elected its first Bishop, Holy Name Church being then included in said Diocese.

Rev. Francis J. Smith, appointed pastor in July 1838, was called to his eternal reward June 27, 1939.

First Baptist Church of Henderson was organized Aug. 12, 1839. Centennial of Church to be celebrated in October, 1939. Present church building was erected in 1893. Was partially destroyed by fire in March, 1932. Building is of Gothic architecture. Exterior of brick with stone foundation. Stone was hauled from Cerulean, Kentucky. Interior of building is plaster, except ceiling, which is of wood including overhead beams. When originally built church was equipped with hand power pipe organ. Later the power was changed to water power, under which it was operated until destroyed in the fire of March 1932. The organ and choir loft were located about 10 feet above and behind the church pulpit, but in remodeling after the fire organ console and choir pit were built on a level and behind the pulpit. The Baptistry is immediately behind the choir pit and the opening is decorated with two-tone velour. The seating capacity of the church is approximately 500 persons. The pews are of golden oak wood placed the full length of the church in three sections. To meet the growing demands of the church membership and Sunday School an annex was built in 1910 for use as an educational building. The membership is approximately 1200. Sunday School enrollment of 658 with a faculty of 45 teachers and officers.
Around the middle of the last century the second great wave of immigrants from Central Europe had come to America. A large percentage of them joined the general trek to the west. Along rivers and lakes were their first choices as settling places. Thus it was that such cities as the Henderson, Kentucky, of the years just prior to the war between the States, found in increasing numbers as citizens-to-be these immigrants from Germany. Industrious, thrifty, intelligent, upright folk they were, ready and eager, to make their contribution to the community like as best they might.

During the first decade or so of their life in Henderson the religious needs of these newcomers were only spasmodically cared for. This was due, for the most part, to their inability to understand the English language, at least to the extent that they might use it as a medium of worship.

However, in the year 1871, under the leadership of the Rev. C. F. Kranz of Evansville, Indiana, the Zion Evangelical Church of Henderson, Kentucky was founded. Dr. Kranz was the president of the Seminary of the Evangelical Synod of the West. This institution was located in Evansville. With the removal of the Seminary to Elmhurst, Illinois the following year, the old seminary building was changed into a college. One of the faculty members, the Rev. C. Eppens, took over the pastorate of the Henderson congregation. Soon after, Rev. Eppens moved to Henderson, thus becoming the first resident pastor.

As yet, Zion Church had no sanctuary of its own. The local Presbyterians very graciously allowed them to use their Sunday School quarters, located just north of Washington Street on the west side of S. Alvaśia. But the following year "after earnest and prayerful
deliberation", it was decided to build a church. The building committee consisted of Mr. Henry Kleymeyer, Mr. W. Bruening, and Mr. F. Juergensmeier. On December 14th, 1873 the dedicatory services were held. The sermons of the day were preached by the Rev. C. Schenk, Sr., of the Sion Evangelical Church of Evansville, Indiana, the Rev. Davies of the Henderson Presbyterian Church, and the Rev. Briegle of the local Episcopal Church. The Evansville Evangelical and the Henderson Episcopal Church choirs rendered the special music.

The following year a parsonage was built adjoining the rear of the church. About a quarter-century later, when a manse was erected next to the church, the first structure was remodeled to serve as a Sunday School auditorium.

The story of the development of Zion Church would not be complete without a word about the language question. Originally all the services, instruction, and business were conducted in the German language. For a number of years a parochial school was maintained and conducted, primarily in German. The English language was introduced gradually, but not soon enough to avoid inflicting upon the future congregation a considerable loss in membership of those youth of the church who were not acquainted with the German tongue. But for this fact, Zion Evangelical Church might easily have become one of the leading and most flourishing congregations of the city. However, since the early '20's all services are now conducted in English.

Attention should be called to the fact that the Evangelical Synod of the West, of which this congregation was originally a member, was one of several kindred bodies in America. As children of the Church of the Reformation, though some had come up through the Reformed (or Calvinistic) tradition, and some through the Lutheran,
it was ever the particular passion of these "unionist" groups to proclaim and practice 'the unity of the Spirit.' After several years these kindred bodies merged to form the Evangelical Synod of North America. June 26th, 1934 is a date of great significance, not only for the congregation and denomination, but for all American Protestantism. On that date at Cleveland, Ohio the Evangelical Synod of North America and the Reformed Church in the United States inaugurated a merger, thus bringing into being "the Evangelical and Reformed Church." In accordance therewith the Henderson congregation officially changed its name to the Zion Evangelical and Reformed Church.

The present pipe organ was dedicated to the service of the Triune God for services of worship on December 9th, 1906. Alterations in and additions to the physical equipment of the church have been made from time to time. A kitchen was erected on the rear of the Church School building. Memorial doors and several art-glass memorial windows have been installed in the sanctuary. The stark severity of the sanctuary room might be reminiscent of the colonial style of architecture; the rounded arches of the doors and windows suggest the Byzantine; while the altar and the spire are quite Gothic.

Since the formal services of this Communion are traditionally semi-liturgical, the altar is definitely given a central place as the symbol of worship. The pulpit and baptismal font are placed on either side and forward. Two stationary candelabra of "Sabbath lights" adorn the front of the chancel. The organ case and console are to the left and the choirs face each other just in front of the chancel.
Besides its regular sessions of study and services of worship, Zion Church is organized for specific activities for men, women, and youth.

The present pastor, the Rev. Robert W. Brockstruck, is the nineteenth to serve to date (1939) the congregation of the Zion Evangelical and Reformed Church of Henderson, Kentucky.
HISTORY OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The Christian Church had its beginning in Henderson in 1841 through the preaching of Elder William Brown at that date. At that time there were in Henderson but two members of the Church--Philip Vanbussum and his wife.

In 1844, William Steels, a silversmith and local preacher moved to Henderson and held services with Philip Vanbussum and his wife for two years.

In 1854, Elder P. H. Morse visited Henderson and held a successful meeting, baptizing and receiving into the Church 16 additions. The Church was then organized with a membership of twenty.

In the same year, 1854, by the industry, self-levied and almost superhuman efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Vanbussum, a small Christian Church was built at the corner of Washington and Green Streets. This Church was dedicated by the lamented John F. Johnson, brother of Richard M. Johnson, Vice President of the United States and Elder R. Puckett.

During the Civil War the Church suspended services. The building was taken by the Federal authorities and used as a military prison and hospital.

In the year 1865, Elder George Plattenburg, a minister of great pulpit power, reorganized the congregation getting together a membership of 23.

The ladies prepared a supper amounting to $500 and with additional help from friends and brethren renovated the church.

A later preacher, Elder R. C. Cave of Hopkinsville, by his
great personal popularity and brilliant pulpit oratory, attracted large congregations and gave to the church a standing it had never before attained.

Under the preacher J. C. Creel of Glasgow, Kentucky, the membership increased considerable, the auditorium extended and a front erected.

Rev. James Vernon served two ministries at the Christian Church, first from latter part of 1889 to 1897, the longest pastorate in the history of the Church and then several years in the twentieth Century. In his first pastorate, a neat and comfortable room was fitted up in basement for use of Sunday School and mid-week prayer services.

In the Fall of 1897 to March, 1901, E. J. Willes of Louisville came to hold a series of evangelistic services, at the close of which the church extended him a call to become the regular pastor. During the first ministry, 165 additions were made to the church, 104 by baptism, and 61 by letter and statement. His second ministry was from Nov. 1, 1921 to Feb. 16, 1927.

The windows, doors and fence were all burned, the plastering knocked from walls and a number of holes burned through the floor.

Under the ministration of Mines W. Bottom of Russellville, Kentucky who came to Henderson Sept. 15, 1927, the new Christian Church front was built. This modern educational building was built in 1929.
The Architecture of the Church is modern and shaped in a rectangular form. The Church is a combined educational and church plant. There are 12 regular rooms besides the kitchen. Each of the Sunday School Rooms are distinctly apart from the auditorium. They are not separated from the auditorium by a partition. According to Rev. Lacey it is the best proportioned building in the city for all purposes. The church has 7 pianos, $1,600 pipe-organ. According to Harry E. Von Tabel, a leading musician of Henderson and organist of the First Presbyterian Church, it is the best small organ he had ever seen.
Bibliography

Lacey, Rev. E. C.-----201 S. Elm--------Pastor of First Christian Church

Tapp, Frank---------Dealer in Real Estate and Member of Board of Education, and leading member in his newspaper clipping.

Starling, Edmund L.---History of Henderson County.

Tapp, Frank-----------101\(\frac{1}{2}\) N. Main St.-----Henderson, Ky.
St. Paul's Episcopal Church (open to the public), corner of Center and Green Streets, is fashioned after a Gothic design brought to the congregation from England by Bishop D. Smith. Its prototype is the church at Stoke Regis, England, in the graveyard of which Gray wrote his famous elegy. The structure, built in 1860, is of brick, with exterior walls plastered.

Three stained glass windows in the chancel depict scenes from the life of St. Paul. These windows were made in Holland and were installed in memory of Alexander Buchanan Barret, one of the first millionaires in the United States. This memorial was erected by Mr. Barret's daughter, Mrs. Virginia Barret Gibbs. Besides these are other handsome windows, and a tablet dedicated to Bishop Channing Moore Williams, who opened Japan to the Christian Missionaries soon after Perry opened it to commerce. At one time Bishop Williams was a member of the Church of St. Paul and was then employed as a clerk in Alexander Barret's store.

The Rev. William Kavanaugh was the first clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church who resided among the people in and around the city of Henderson. Rev. Kavanaugh came to Henderson in 1806, and he filled the post of tutor in the family of Gen. Samuel Hopkins. The services performed by him (says Mr. Deacon) indirectly contributed to the organization of the church.

Until 1830 there is a gap filled in only with the tradition that Gen. Hopkins conducted services — whether regular or occasional is not known — in the absence of a minister. Gen. Hopkins was a soldier in the Revolution, a member of Congress, and the agent of the Henderson Company.

The first confirmation in Henderson was in 1830.

The Church — St. Paul's — was organized at a meeting of citizens on October 31, 1851.

The Journals of the Diocese record that the parish was not admitted to
union with the church of the Diocese until 1835.

The first rector was the Rev. Nahum G. Coggood. He took charge on May
21, 1832.

The first church building was erected in 1838 on the corner of Third and
Main Streets, southeast corner (a frame structure, 50x25, 100 to 150 seating
capacity). This church was abandoned in 1867-88, and services were held in
the Court House.

The cornerstone for a new church was laid in 1868. The church was expected
to be finished during November of that year. However, it was not finished
until 1859 at a cost of $12,000. The organ contracted for at a cost of $1500,
and was installed during 1859 or 1860.

Channing More Williams, afterwards first Episcopal Bishop of Japan, was
confirmed on April 7, 1850, and received his first communion on May 5, 1850,
in the original church.

The above information was copied from the history of St. Paul's Episcopal
Church, written by the Rev. Charles Lewis Biggs.
St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church, Henderson, Kentucky.

This was the first church organized in Henderson of which a record is found. In 1831 there was a meeting of citizens, Episcopalians chiefly but other citizens of English descent who thought of this church as a civic necessity, and an organization was made. The first Episcopal minister had come as a tutor in the family of General Samuel Hopkins. The first Rector of St. Paul's died within the year of cholera. The real father of this church was the Rev. R. H. Deacon. The incorporators were "Daniel H. Deacon, Thomas Towles, Sr., James Alves, Edmund Lyne Starling, Henry Delano, William J. Alves", the first elected vestry of this church." E. L. Starling.

The organization took place in the little Union church in the present Transylvania Park. Deeds in perpetuity were made to those who bought pews. The quaint old church was outgrown by the congregation and in 1859 the present building was completed, on a spacious lot the gift of Mrs. Maria Davis Alves, and consecrated by the Rt. Rev. Benjamin Bosworth Smith, first Bishop of Kentucky. The first Henderson organ was duly installed. In 1848 came "the old music master" Caspar Artes, from Germany, because his liberal ideas were unwelcome there, and for many years this church enjoyed the wonderful music that floated down from the organ loft.

This church gave to the missionary field the famous Bishop Channing More Williams who opened Japan to the Christian missionaries shortly after Commodore Perry opened it to world commerce. His bronze Church, tablet in St. Paul's was the cause of its photograph and full description being filed in the government archives.
St. Paul's Episcopal church (cor. Center and Green Sts.) of early English design, Gothic type, a copy of the old church at Stoke Regis, Eng. It was in the graveyard surrounding this church that Grey wrote his famous elegy. The three stained windows of the chancel were made in Holland and portray scenes from the life of St. Paul. Several beautiful windows are installed as memorials and a tablet is dedicated to Bishop Channing Moore Williams who opened Japan to the Christian Missionaries soon after Perry opened it to western commerce. Bishop Williams was a native of Henderson and at one time was employed as a clerk in a Henderson dry goods store. The doors of St. Paul are opened at all hours to visitors.
The Rev. James Mc Gready left a congregation in Orange County, North Carolina, in response to an invitation from former parishioners in Kentucky to come to Henderson as their pastor. He arrived in the fall of 1796, when thirty-three years old.

Congregations shortly afterward placed under Mc Gready's charge were those at Gasper Muddy and Red rivers. All of these were in the Green River Country, south of that river in what was then Logan County, but has since been partitioned to form other counties.

Shortly after the arrival of Mc Gready other Presbyterian ministers came into this country, including William Hodge and Samuel McAdoo, who, in collaboration with Mc Gready, instituted intensive revival meetings that swept the entire section. Presbyterian camp meetings in this area were the direct outgrowth of this revival; the first was held at Gasper River Church in the summer of 1800.

Mc Gready's declining years were spent in Henderson, where he died in...
A MUNICIPAL CHURCH

The first church in Henderson was ideal in spirit but difficult in its use. It was called the "Union Church" and was, in fact, a municipal church. It stood on public ground, given to the people by the Transylvania Company for a park. All sorts and conditions of religious people were welcome to worship there. It was built in 1826. Gradually the various denominations organized, building their own churches and that portion of the hill in which the Union Church stood was cut down to fill a great gully, extending along Main Street and to the Ohio.
The African Baptist Church in Henderson had its beginning in log cabins, corn and tobacco fields, in barns and under shade trees. "In 1840, they were admitted and received to memberships in the 'White Baptist Church', and baptised by Rev. H.B. Wiggins, and there provisions were made for them until 1845; then a committee of five white brethren was appointed to organize an 'African Baptist Church'. Seventy members of colored, with white brethren and pastor met on the eighth of June, 1846. Willis Walker, who was a slave, was chosen pastor, and was afterward bought from his owner by the colored church at a cost of $520." From this church other Negro Baptist congregations sprang, especially after 1865. Until the emancipation of the Negro this congregation was sponsored by white persons, chiefly owners, in the county.

In Dec. 1860, "the teaching of negro Sunday Schools was prohibited, and the meeting of that race in the city for public worship when conducted, controlled, or assisted by a slave, or free negro, was declared to be a nuisance. It was made the duty of the Marshal to disperse all such meetings, and to arrest the person or persons by whom the same was conducted, and if the preacher, speaker or exhorter be a slave he was to be punished by any number of lashes not less than ten, nor more than twenty, and if a free negro to be fined not less than twenty, nor more than fifty dollars."
The beginning of the First Christian Church in Henderson, Ky., dates back to 1844 when William Steele and his wife moved to Henderson. Mr. & Mrs. Philip Van Bussum had moved to Henderson in 1841 and were of the same faith as Rev. Wm. Steele and Mrs. Steele.

In 1854 after a number of members had united with the Vanbussums and Steeles in holding services in the different homes, they began the building of a church on the corner of Green and Washington Streets and this church was dedicated in September 1855.

The church as it stands today includes the building, which was dedicated in 1855 and it has been made larger to accomodate the increased membership.

In 1862 when the Civil War began, Federal troops took charge and used the building until 1865 when the church began holding services again.

From 1865 to 1928 the membership had grown until it was necessary to make provisions in some way to accomodate the many Sunday School classes, that were crowded into several different departments and two classes had to meet in the Annex of the Center Street School.

The only available space was to add the educational rooms to the front part of the church.

Under the leadership of Rev. Minor Bottoms, this addition to the church was completed in 1930 and stands today, as it was completed at that time.

The church and auditorium seats about 300. It has a pipe organ which was presented to the church in 1902 by E. T. Robards.

In the new addition there are ten class rooms and the Minister's study.
Among the many Ministers who have served this congregation, Rev. Jas. R. Vernon has the distinction of serving the church the longest period of time – about 17 years. He was minister 9 years and left Henderson and was called again after several years to come back as minister and he then remained about 8 years. He was beloved not only by his congregation but also by the entire community.

Rev. E. J. Willis, also served the church at two different times and rendered the church a splendid service.

We had as our minister from June 1931 to August 1938, Rev. E. C. Lacy. He brought the congregation through the trying years of the depression and by his untiring efforts held the congregation together. To know Rev. Lacy was to love him and among the ministers serving the church during the past fifty years, there were none more ready to render service wherever needed, than Rev. Lacy.

Rev. Courtney C. England has been pastor of the church since February 1939. The church is making progress under his enthusiastic leadership.

The membership of the church is approximately 400.

Style of architecture – the rounded arch behind the chancel suggests the Byzantine style of architecture.
In the year 1822 a lot was deeded to Captain John Posey and Major Fayette Posey elders of the Presbyterian congregation in Henderson, Kentucky— one acre of ground adjoining the Public Square.

With this deed begins the earliest authentic record of the church. From 1824 to 1840 the church made little progress; then came to this section Elder John McCullagh. Neither the old church nor the present structure could have been possible without the untiring efforts of John McCullagh and Mrs. Rebecca Stites. The old church building was finished in 1842.

Early in the year 1891 began to be discussed the advisability of having a new church edifice. Several months later a lot was purchased on the corner of Washington and Main opposite Transylvania Park and on June 1st 1894 the present structure was completed. The church auditorium is fan shaped in design. Its seating capacity including the Sunday school room is 1300. The wainscoting and paneling of the church is of quartered oak. The pews are circular in design and also of quartered oak. A handsome organ is the most notable accessory of this house of worship. Its casework is of select quartered oak in harmony with the other church furnishings. There are few more beautiful structures than the First Presbyterian church. Without its walls of white stone, its spire rising heavenward, its graceful dome and pinnacles, and the softened light that comes into the sanctuary through the stained glass of its casements constrains to reverence and prayer. The interior is Gothic and an individualistic type. The outside is strictly Gothic.
This church situated at the corner of Washington and Alvasia Streets is a beautiful structure of red brick with Gothic windows. The seating capacity is.

In the fall of 1883 the question of organizing this church was agitated, but not until February 10, 1884 was the church organized. It was first called the Chestnut Hill Presbyterian Church, but in the last decade has been known as Central Presbyterian.

It first pastor was Rev. Angus McDonald whose administration lasted several years. Today the church is flourishing under the capable and talented Rev. Clayman the present pastor.
PARKS OF HENDERSON

1. CENTRAL PARK, founded in 1867, said to be the first park west of the Allegheny's divide the town into North and South Henderson. The park is the former home of the Henderson County Historical Society. A boulder in the northeast corner of the park, placed by the Central Park Historical Society, marks the site of the old Union Church.

2. AUDUBON PARK, named for the artist, is a section of the riverfront, extending from Powell to Third Street, which has been beautified by the Civil Improvement Society of which Mrs. Lucy Steffen Harter was the originator.

3. LUCY STEFFEN PARK is a section of the riverfront, extending from Powell to Third Street, which has been beautified by the Civil Improvement Society of which Mrs. Lucy Steffen Harter was the originator.

4. CENTRAL PARK, founded in 1867, said to be the first park west of the Allegheny's divide the town into North and South Henderson. The park is the former home of the Henderson County Historical Society. A boulder in the northeast corner of the park, placed by the Central Park Historical Society, marks the site of the old Union Church.

5. Audubon's original site—"the entrance gateway is constructed of the stones from the old mill wall."

6. LUCY STEFFEN PARK is a section of the riverfront, extending from Powell to Third Street, which has been beautified by the Civil Improvement Society of which Mrs. Lucy Steffen Harter was the originator.
Henderson County Courthouse, completed in 1845, stands on a hill in Hendersonville. It replaces an earlier one erected in 1829. The two-story structure of stone and brick has a classical portico with four Doric columns supporting a pediment. An octagonal cupola adorns the entrance.

The simplicity of the building is evident in the use of materials and in the design. An octagonal cupola, situated on the corner of the building, is a notable feature.

In 1853, the interior of the courthouse was completely remodeled. During the Civil War, the building served as a military headquarters and as a hospital and prison. The interior was so marred by the conflict that, in 1865, the cost of $5,000 was appropriated for remodeling.

In 1874, it was decided to add to the building. Henderson County was noted for its brilliant writers. Among those who contributed to the literature of the county were Robert W. Kendall, John Young, and David T. Swaney.

The structure, built in 1893, is of brick with exterior walls plastered. The stained glass windows in the chancel were made in England and portrayed scenes from Shakespeare's plays.
Although it has had several additions during the years in the house's lifetime, the original dwelling and its surroundings have been preserved to a large extent. Old George Town coastal house, built in 1700, still stands in the county. This century-old two-story home has remained much as it was when it was built.

The Milton "Lamplight" house has been restored to its original state. It was built in 1820 as a two-story brick building.

The second floor is a stringer door. Leading to a balcony with wrought-iron railings, the second floor is a recessed panel door with the same overhanging. Inside, the door leads to a recessed panel door with the same overhanging. The panel is painted white, accenting in 1820. Its brick steps with mosted iron railings.

The "Lamplight" house's southern exposure is a two-story brick building.

The building's east side, facing the ocean, is a two-story brick building.

The house has been restored to its original state. The door leads to a recessed panel door with the same overhanging. Inside, the door leads to a recessed panel door with the same overhanging. The panel is painted white, accenting in 1820. Its brick steps with mosted iron railings.

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LOCKETT HOUSE, corner Elm and Jefferson streets, was built in 1856
for Judge Pascal Hickman Lockett, nephew of Capt. Pascal Hickman
(see Biographical Notes), one of the heroes of the River Raids during the
War of 1812. The one-story house is frame with a basement of brick. In
the sitting-room is the first coal oil lamp used in Henderson County.
Judge Lockett brought it from New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1856. During the
War between the States the Union soldiers under the command of Captain
Shanklin, of Evansville, Indiana, crossed the Ohio River and camped in the
woods opposite this house. As soon as Judge Lockett heard of their coming,
he had one of his slaves remove a portion of the cellar wall and dig a
trench in which he hid valuables, and the contents of the smokehouse and
other provender. He then had the wall repaired so as to defy detection.
The front door still bears the scars made by the butts of the soldiers'
guns in their effort to gain an entrance. When Captain Shanklin learned
that Mrs. Lockett was his former sweetheart and an intimate friend of his
family, he ordered his men to refrain from further disturbance of the family.

INDIAN VALLEY FARM, 11 mi. from Henderson on State 136, is a part of
the 200,000-acre grant to the Transylvania Company, inherited by Walter
Alves and his wife, Amelia Johnson Alves. Haywood, their second son, chose
this valley opposite Diamond Island as his portion, and here, facing the
river, he built, in 1840, the Georgian Colonial house. The two-story
structure is built of brick with a one-story wing. Deep French windows and
a square porch adorn the front. The farm is part of old Indian Valley, a
camp site of Indians in prehistoric times. That they lingered long in this
valley is evidenced by the Indian mound which still stands and the quantity
of arrowheads and other artifacts found in the soil.
Points of Interest

DIAMOND ISLAND, opposite Indian Valley, is approximately three miles long and a half mile wide. Originally covered with gigantic trees and luxurious vines, this island was said to present "so wonderful a scene that it attracted early travelers who passed it. In the early 1800's, Diamond Island and Indian Valley on the mainland became the rendezvous of John Murrell, "Little Harpo," the Hasans, and an infamous band of pirates who preyed upon unwary pioneers floating down the Ohio River with their goods and gear loaded on flatboats. In Tour of the Western Country (1810), Fortesque Cuming, an early traveler, describes a visit to this island. He says: "Nothing could be more beautifully situated than this island... This used to be the principal haunt of banditti from 20 to 30 in number... They attacked and plundered the passing boats and frequently murdered the crews and passengers." These pirates were finally driven away from this region by a local band of "regulators." For years afterward men came by night to Diamond Island to dig for treasure believed buried by the pirates. Today the island is a cornfield.

DADE PARK RACE TRACK, 4 mi. north of Henderson, is in that part of Henderson County that was cut off on the north when the Ohio River changed its course. A track was constructed and races begun here in 1922, by the Dade Park Jockey Club. The track is named for Albert B. Dade, the original owner. James Ellis of Owensboro, president of the Jockey Club, bought Dade Park at a bankrupt sale and invested $350,000 in improvements consisting of grandstands, stables, and levees. Races are held here each year for a period of twenty-eight days, usually in August.

AUDUBON MEMORIAL STATE PARK, 3 mi. north of Henderson, is a 500-acre tract presented to the State by citizens of Henderson County in memory of John James Audubon, who spent the years from 1803 to 1819 roaming through
Points of Interest

the forests of Kentucky. The wooded hills and valleys of the park lie along the Ohio River between a branch of the old Natchez Trail from the south and the Shawnee Indian Trail to Green River. This region, beloved by Indians and early settlers, is rich in association with the great naturalist. Here he hunted, fished, made bird studies, and sometimes carved his name in delicate letters on the trees. It is fitting that this wooded land, a survival of "the beautiful, the darling forests of Kentucky," should be preserved as a memorial to the man who said "the highest title I desire is that of the American Woodman."

Just within the park is the gray stone MEMORIAL MUSEUM which permanently identifies Audubon with Kentucky. The French Norman style of architecture was chosen for this building because of Audubon's French ancestry and because it permitted the round tower that contains holes in the masonry for nesting birds. A sixty-foot hall of two stories, two rooms at the back, and several galleries contain a collection of original paintings by Audubon, prints, portraits, manuscripts, and other Auduboniana. Another room is called the Transylvania Room and contains the growing collection of material concerning the historic background of Henderson and Kentucky. Early maps, manuscripts, portraits, prints, and a wealth of historic materials have already been provided for this room. Near the park entrance there is a GATEHOUSE built of stone, a reproduction of a French Norman Inn with a tearoom, banquet hall, and a cobbled courtyard with ten tables. In the formal French garden adjoining is a bird bath formed from the millstones found on the site of the Audubon mill.

Within the park is an artificial lake set apart as a refuge for wildlife. Its secluded situation and tree-lined banks make it an ideal brooding place for birds. In a different section of the park is another lake for
Henderson County, Kentucky
(District 1)

Homes

Old Governor Lazarus Powell's Residence

Henderson County
Henderson, Kentucky
216 South Elm Street

The original part of this house, which is frame, was built by Lazarus Powell, father of Governor Powell, in 1818. There are four large square rooms, two upstairs and two downstairs, and a central hall with a hardwood stairway in this original part. The inside panelled front door has eight lights above and three below. The side lights have nine lights above and six below. All the lights are of hand-made water glass.

The doors have hand-wrought butterfly hinges. There are two original locks remaining, one upstairs and one downstairs, which bear the coat of arms of King William IV of England. (According to what Miss Arnett and Mrs. Ella McCormick could determine.)

The nails and the laths are hand-made, the beams are hand-made and hewed, and large hand-made wooden pegs join the beams in the cellar of the original house.

The lot on which this house stands was bought in 1815 by Captain Lazarus Powell from Daniel Comfort and the deed was recorded in the courthouse. (Daniel Comfort and his wife Dorothy Comfort were
among the pioneer school teachers of Henderson) The lot extended from Elm Street to Green Street and took in half the block. Governor Powell later sold a part of this lot to William Barret, where Neel Barret lives today.

In 1857 Governor Powell added two brick rooms, one for his bedroom and one for his office. These were built so that he might have quiet and privacy after being governor and senator. His living quarters were also somewhat crowded as his sister and her children were living with him. It is said Governor Powell allowed no one to come into his rooms unless invited.

In the back yard are the slave cabins. In the days following the Civil War, Mrs. Henry Powell, daughter-in-law of Governor Powell, says the members of the Ku-Klux-Klan kept their apparel, worn on their night rides, in the cellar of the cabins.

Governor Powell intended to have the entire house veneered with brick, but he died before his plans could be executed. The original part of the house is lined with bricks up to the second floor at the present time.

Mrs. Ella McCormick, president of the Henderson County Historical Society, lives in this house at present.
Bibliography

Historic Homes

Information on Governor Lazarus Powell's residence secured from Mrs. Ella McCormick, president of Henderson County Historical Society, Henderson, Kentucky, and present inhabitant of this home.
Lazarus Powell House

Owner - Mrs. Alexander Blair

Built 1816 - later addition

Condition - Good

Two Stories

Brick foundation - Frame - Weatherboarded

Ash Floors - Random Width

Quoting Miss Susan S. Towles, Henderson, Kentucky.

"Home of Gov. Lazarus Powell was built in 1816, by Lazarus Powell, father of the Governor. Added to by the later; doors with butterfly hinges, some with coat of arms of King George of England; handwrought lumber put together with pags. Center of early hospitality."

The addition to the house was built by Governor Powell, the two rooms on the first floor used by him for offices. The first floor of this addition is approximately twenty-one inches above the floor of the original part.

Quoting Collins History of Kentucky. Vol. II, pages 680 and 681:

"Powell County, the one hundred and first formed in Kentucky, was established in 1852, out of parts of Montgomery, Clark, and Estill, and named in honor of Lazarus W. Powell, then Governor of the State."

"Lazarus W. Powell, in honor of whom this county was named, was born in Henderson County, Kentucky, October 6, 1812. He graduated at St. Joseph's College, Bardstown, in 1833; studied law with Hon. John Rowan, and subsequently attended a course of law lectures at Transylvania University. Accumulated a fortune by his profession. Was elected to the State Legislature in 1836; Democratic district elector in the Presidential canvass of 1844; defeated for Governor of Kentucky by Hon. Jno. J. Crittenden, the whig candidate, in 1846. Elected Governor in 1851, and inaugurated September 5th of that year***"

"He died, at his home in his native county, on July 3, 1867."
The home of Judge Paschal Hickman Lockett and his wife, Elmdra King Eskins Lockett, was built on the corner of Elm and Jefferson Streets in the city of Henderson Kentucky December, 1858.

During the War between the States, the Union soldiers under Captain Shanklin of Evansville, Indiana camped in the woods directly across from his home. When Mr. Lockett heard of their coming, he immediately had one of the slaves take out a portion of cellar wall large enough for him to get under and dig a trench in which to put the contents of the smokehouse, including meat, lard, etc., putting bricks back in place to avoid detection, and thus he saved his provisions.

The front door still bears the scars made by the butts of soldiers' guns in trying to gain entrance into the house. When Captain Shanklin discovered that Mrs. Lockett was an old sweetheart of his and a dear friend of his family, there was no further disturbance.

In the parlor of this home over the mantel is a large oil portrait done on wood of the great-grandmother of Elmdra King Eskins Lockett who was the mother of William Rufus King who was vice president when Millard Fillmore was president of the United States. William Rufus King was born in Simpson County, North Carolina.

The house is now owned and occupied by the Misses Buelah and Eva Lockett, the two youngest daughters of Paschal Hickman Lockett and wife, Elmdra King Eskins Lockett.
WATERWAYS.

Formerly river towns along the Ohio were dependent upon the elements regarding transportation of river freight, since it was not unusual when the river was at low stage to have the boat grounded on the sandbars, but now the towns which are fortunately located on the river, may thank the legislators (whether it be for private gain or public good) the river now because of innumerable dams placed therein by the federal government enjoy and reap the benefit of a nine foot stage of water from Cairo to Pittsburg, the year round,—but brings the disadvantage of so contaminating the water that it needs strong methods of purification before drinking.

This town which has adopted the slogan true and well merited of—"On the Ohio, but never in it," and the word Ohio calls to mind a little conundrum proposed by the young people 'What is round at both ends and high in the middle?—O—hi—O.'

Riversmen have noted that the current at the channel span is unusually strong and any size vessel is able to go through safely, but often the smaller craft has been known to be cracked to pieces in this strong current. This current created by government dams has carried to Indiana many acres of rich Kentucky land.

There are three barge lines operating today on the Ohio River. The entire output of one of Henderson’s largest tobacco factories is started via barges on the Ohio, connect with the Mississippi and thence to the Atlantic Ocean, the entire voyage being by waterways all the way to its destination in Australia.
The Ohio River due to several bends, the larger of which is known as 'Horse shoe bend' meanders for a distance of 17 miles between Henderson and the Audubon Memorial Bridge. The distance by land between these two points is four and a fraction miles, the road travelling across the peninsula, which the Ohio at high water constantly threatened to cut through leaving Evansville off the map. River.

Green River—For the most part, bounds Henderson County on the east but near its mouth it enters Henderson county. This river is navigable for 200 miles and for many years steamers plied between Evansville, Ind., on the Ohio River to Mammoth Cave on Green River. Such traffic has been suspended due to railroad facilities in the territory.

At one time rafts of logs were floated down Green river to Evansville, Ind. then a lumber center.

Only small gasoline towing barges of coal, logs and crude oil now navigate this stream. In order to maintain a stage of water for navigation several locks and dams have been built in this river. One of these dams is located at Spottsville, in Henderson county—Many fish are found in this stream especially perch and bass which are found mainly below these dams providing fishing sport for fishermen in this vicinity.

Two bridges cross the river at a point below Spottsville in this county. One is a railroad drawbridge, used by the L & N railroad's line to Louisville, Ky. The other bridge is for vehicular traffic named for the late Richard Owen (head of the Highway Commission) and is on Highway 60, one of the longest highways in the U.S.A.

Green river has always been considered one of the deepest rivers in the U.S.A.
and when it is at floodstage it becomes a menace to low lands and affects the rise or fall of the Ohio River at this point. Green River is a haven for boats and other floating stock during the winter when ice flows in the Ohio River. Green River seldom freezes over although it is narrow.
IMMANUEL BAPTIST

The Immanuel Baptist Church was organized in 1914.
It has a departmental Sunday School work.
The church has a seating capacity of about 600.
It is a brick building, with large Corinthian pillars
at the approach, and is located at the corner of Second and
Adam Streets.

Rev. Martin Miller is the pastor.
AUDUBON MEMORIAL STATE PARK

Audubon Memorial State Park is a 400-acre tract donated by Citizens of Henderson County in memory of John James Audubon (1785-1851), the ornithologist, who roamed through Kentucky from 1808 to 1826. It includes one of his favorite haunts, Wolf Hill, where he hunted, studied the birds and sometimes cut his name on trees. Here, too, though the exact spot is unknown, is the Grave of Lucy Audubon, his little daughter.

The Audubon Museum houses a collection of Audubon prints ... The French Norman Style of architecture was chosen for this building because of Audubon's French ancestry.

Public Library
Kentucky - A Guide to the Bluegrass State
Kentucky Writers' Project
p. 316 - 112 words -
**ROBERT A. FARLEY RECORDS**

**The Old Farley Cemetery**

The land for this cemetery was given many years ago by Robert A. Farley for a family burying ground. It was originally part of his farm - located on the Airline Road in the area known as "The Barrens". It is very well kept and still being used by the descendants of this ancestor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Date of Death</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASHEY, Edna J.</td>
<td>Aug. 27, 1873</td>
<td>Aug. 12, 1902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(wife of W. A. Ashby)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRAFTON, Infant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Son of F. &amp; D. L. Crafton)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Born &amp; died Oct. 30, 1903</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROOKS, Nettie</td>
<td>1876 - 1940</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CRAFTON, William</td>
<td>Mar. 31, 1866</td>
<td>Jan. 2, 1903</td>
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<tr>
<td>BROOKS, R. S.</td>
<td>1868 - 1938</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Son of L. M. &amp; M. C. Crafton)</td>
<td>May 31, 1876</td>
<td>May 18, 1877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROOKS, E. C.</td>
<td>May 14, 1845</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CRAFTON, L. M.</td>
<td>May 27, 1839</td>
<td>Aug. 5, 1906</td>
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<tr>
<td>BROOKS, Sarah</td>
<td>Apr. 13, 1844</td>
<td>Jan. 28, 1914</td>
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<td>(wife of E. C. Brooks)</td>
<td></td>
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<td>CRAFTON, Mary C.</td>
<td>May 17, 1841</td>
<td>Dec. 25, 1881</td>
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<td>(wife of L. M. Crafton)</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMPTON, Add</td>
<td>1910 - 1940</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Son of E. J. &amp; Irene Compton)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CRAFTON, William</td>
<td>Aug. 27, 1870</td>
<td>Sept. 3, 1892</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Son of L. M. &amp; F. F. Crafton)</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMPTON, Irene</td>
<td>1888 - 1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRAFTON, Mary</td>
<td>Aug. 13, 1874</td>
<td>Aug. 10, 1876</td>
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<tr>
<td>(wife of Wm. J. Doyle)</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMPTON, Ernest J.</td>
<td>1885 - 1960</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRAFTON, Esther</td>
<td>1878 - 19--</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRAFTON, Charles M.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRAFTON, Georgia I.</td>
<td>1876 - 1953</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRAFTON, Peggy Ann</td>
<td>1936 - 1937</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOYLE, Mary Farley</td>
<td>July 28, 1871</td>
<td>Mar. 19, 1898</td>
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(Dau. of L. M. & M. C. Crafton)
May 31, 1876
May 18, 1877

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May 27, 1839
Aug. 5, 1906

**CRAFTON, Mary C.**
(Wife of L. M. Crafton)
May 17, 1841
Dec. 25, 1881

**CRAFTON, Waverly D.**
(Son of M. J. & F. F. Crafton)
Aug. 27, 1870
Sept. 3, 1892

**CRAFTON, John R.**
(Son of M. J. & F. F. Crafton)
Aug. 13, 1874
Aug. 10, 1876

**CRAFTON, Halcyon M.**
(Son of M. J. & F. F. Crafton)
July 24, 1871
Sept. 9, 1871

**DOYLE, Mary Farley**
(Wife of Wm. J. Doyle)
July 28, 1874
Mar. 19, 1898
Ridgewood Church was rightly named, as it is situated on a ridge in a wooded area, about one half mile from Highway #60, near Spotsville in Henderson County. The present building was erected on the same location as the first church and the interior is still very much the same. The pews were beautifully hand carved and red velvet cushions were on the seats. Of course these cushions have long since disappeared. Down the middle of the center section of pews, from front to back, was placed a panel of wood from the floor to the top of the pews, thus forming two sections. This was a common practice in early churches for the purpose of separating the men and women worshippers. This partition was so well constructed that it is still in place and in very good condition.

As the population in this area grew, a school, also called Ridgewood, was erected across the road from the Church on ground belonging to the Raney Family. This school, built in the 1870's continued in use until around 1910, giving an education to many children.

The Ridgewood Church and School were very popular and the Church was a very active one. Aside from the services of worship the members enjoyed different types of entertainment, especially the fine ice cream socials. Gradually the congregation became so small the Church was forced to close. Ridgewood Church still holds a warm spot in the hearts of the heirs of these early members. Recently, members of other faiths have been allowed to use the Church. So again Ridgewood is a place of worship.

The following are some of the sessions reports from the beginning of the Church:

Jan. 1852. Mr. Edward Eastin and Mrs. Amanda Eastin, Miss Eliza Scroggin, Mrs. Jane D. Pierce, Wm. M. Pierce, (Memphis Church), Ben B. Pierce, Dr. John Gardner, Mrs. Francis Gardner. Mrs. Mary Gardner signed a petition to the Presbytery of Muhlenburg praying to be constituted a church to be known as the Ridgewood Presbyterian Church. Whereupon Presbytery did appoint Rev. J. J. Pierce to organize said church at Ridgewood.

Jan. 6, 1852. On a visit of Rev. Isaac Bard at Ridgewood, a session was formed consisting of Rev. John J. Pierce, Rev. Isaac Bard and Brother Edward F. Eastin. Meeting was held in the home of Edward F. Eastin - Presbyterian members present - Mrs. Amanda Eastin, Mrs. Jane D. Pierce, Mrs. Mary Gardner, Miss Eliza Scroggins, Mrs. Frances H. Gardner, Mr. Ben R. Pierce was received as a member and Miss Eliza Scroggins was received by letter. E. F. Edwards and Mr. Ben Pierce were elected ruling Elders of the church.

Jan. 7, 1852. Brother B. R. Pierce was ordained to the office of ruling Elder. J. J. Pierce, Moderator.

Aug. 20, 1853. Session met and was opened with prayer. The following persons were presented as applicants for Church membership: Mrs. Anna Scott, Mrs. Sudie A. McBride, Louisa Scott, Mrs. Mary E. Pierce. Said applicants were received as members. On following Sabbath, Aug. 21, 1853 - Mrs. Lydia A. McBride and Mrs. Louisa Scott were baptised. Elizabeth P. infant daughter of L. A. McBride and Mary, infant daughter of Louisa Scott were also baptised.
RIDGEWOOD CHURCH continued:

Feb. 18, 1855. W. M. Pierce was installed Ruling Elder. J. R. Cheaney and Maria P. Pierce were admitted for membership in the Church and J. R. Cheaney was baptised.

April 21, 1856. Session met and opened with a prayer. Miss Nancy Tate and Mrs. Sarah Washington were admitted members of the Church. Mrs. Washington was baptised.

April 17, 1857. The record committee of Ridgewood reports that the minutes are not sufficiently full and explicit. Moderator, Jahleel Woodbridge.

Since April 1857 there was no resident Ruling Elder and no meeting of sessions was held. Preaching on the Sabbath was continued except by the occasional sickness of the minister and his absence for two months on a tour of health.

June 15, 1858. Mrs. Elizabeth Hopkins was received as a member of the Church and was baptised, she and her household - daughters, Ann Elizabeth and Lucy Jane Hopkins. At a meeting in June at Race Creek Church the infant son of Elder Fayette Posey and Alexander and Cate, infant son and daughter of Mr. William Beverly were baptised.

June 1860. A communion session was held by the Rev. John J. Pierce and assisted by Rev. Jahleel Woodbridge. The infant son of John Jesse and Mary Baskett was baptised.

March 18, 1861. The Rev. J. J. Pierce has been preaching to our church under the board of Domestic missions since July 1859 to this date, when he departed this life after a painful illness of eight days. He died in the full assurance of faith in the Gospel and hope in Christ. He was certainly a faithful Minister and discharged all the duties as such to this Church and to the community in which he has lived for the past twenty years. Mr. Pierce was seventy years old. The above record was made by myself as the only ruling Elder of Ridgewood Church - E. F. Eastin - Clerk.

June 25, 1864. Session met for the first time since the death of Rev. J. J. Pierce. Opened with a prayer by Rev. Jahleel Woodbridge. Mr. S. B. Vansant received as a member by letter from the Church of Leavenworth, Kansas. Also Mrs. Mary Yates from the Church of Montgomery, Missouri. This church having been broken by the war and the troubles of the country. E. F. Eastin - Clerk and Elder of Ridgewood Church.

June 26, 1864. Rev. Woodbridge celebrated the Lords Supper and baptised the following: Nicholas Vanzant, son of Mrs. Sarah Vanzant and Andrew Stratton Yates, infant son of Mrs. Yates. Mrs. Emily Saubert was received into the Church from the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Henderson. She was unable to obtain her letter on account of the Church having broken up.

July 2, 1865. Rev. Yates commenced preaching to the Ridgewood congregation some time in the year of 1864 and continued until the fall, not fulfilling his engagement and joining the Methodist Church during its conference in Henderson. Since then Alexander Rankin has preached to this and the Race Creek Congregation and in the vicinity, four Sabbaths in each month. Ridgewood has decided to give him call according to the usual Form of the Presbyterian Church. E. F. Eastin - Clerk.

July 1, 1865. Session met - Rev. Woodbridge, Fayette Posey, ruling Elder and E. F. Eastin present. Mrs. Sarah Washington dismissed to the fellowship of the Presbyterian church in Morganfield. William A. Eastin received as a member from Henderson Church. E. F. Eastin - Clerk.

Page Two
Ridgewood Church continued.

July 4, 1866. Rev. Woodbridge, Rev. A. Rankin, Minister and E. F. Eastin present. Mrs. Susan Clay was received into the Church. She has been baptised by immersion as a member of the M. E. Church. E. F. Eastin - Clerk.

Report of Woodbridge Church to Presbytery on April 20, 1866.
Paid for preaching - $200.00. Funds raised for building - $600.00.
Children in attendance on Sabbath School - 45.

May 17, 1866. Session met - Rev. Rankin and Elder E. F. Eastin present. Only business - Can our Pulpit be used to give notice of the sale of any books except the Bible and the books of the Board of Publication? Decided in the negative.


Sept. 1, 1867. Children baptised by Rev. Woodbridge - Frank S. Snust, born March 14, 1862. Henrietta Gilbert, born Feb. 21, 1867. Sermon by Rev. J. Woodbridge. Our congregation is increasing in number and appears to be more than usually interested.

Nov. 10, 1875. Rev. D. O. Davis of Henderson and Rev. W. D. Horton of Morganfield held a protracted Service. The Church had been without Gospel Ordinance for several years and had been served by the Pastor of the Henderson Church. The protracted Service was therefore expected with some anxiety. But the attendance was large and the interest deep and general. During the meeting the following persons were admitted on profession of faith: Mrs. Susan F. Clay, Mrs. Sarah Barbour Vanzant, Mr. Charles Clay, Mr. Thomas Henderson McKinley, Mrs. Nancy Lewis, Mrs. Lon Vanzant, Mrs. Sallie Langley, Mr. Robert Scroggins Eastin, Mr. Robert Scott Eastin, Mr. Frederick Tscharner, Mr. Richard Pennington and Mr. Z. Madison Eastin.

Nov. 7, 1875. Rev. Davis baptised the following children at the house of Brother Thomas H. McKinley: Francis, John and Frederick Pierce; Frederick and Maria Petella Tscharner; Sallie Woodrufe and Arthur Hopkins, children of Thomas H. and Annie Elizabeth McKinley.

Dec. 11 - 12, 1875 Mrs. Maria Clay renewed her profession of faith having joined the Church forty years ago in Virginia. Miss Ada Vanzant was received by letter.


Account of money received and paid out:
1869 - August - oil for lights..............65 cents
November - oil for lights..............60 cents
1870 - February - 10 bushels of coal......90 cents.
Cash collected by donation to pay Mrs. Vanzant for sexton of Church ...$3.00
March 20 - the Chair collected $2.00.

April 1876 - The Rev. R. M. Tuttle of North Carolina was unanimously called as minister for the Church. On being notified, the Rev. Tuttle accepted the call.
RIDGEWOOD CHURCH continued:

The Rev. W. L. Bedinger served the Church as minister from 1886 until July 1888. In June of that year Rev. Evans and Rev. R. V. Hooper held a meeting at Ridgewood and received 63 members into the church.

Rev. W. H. Miley was Pastor from 1888 to 1891.
Rev. R. H. Adams served in 1891.

In 1894, the old church building was removed and in its place was built a more commodious and comfortable structure. The house is a handsome one and reflects great credit on the membership and community.

At different times the following persons have served as Ruling Elders of Ridgewood Church - E. F. Eastin - Benjamin R. Pierce - R. S. Eastin - W. A. Eastin - Charles Clay Samuel Conaway - Moses Cheaney - Thomas H. McKinley - Y. L. Williams - M. B. Hicks and John Jesse Baskett. As Deacons the following have served - Frederick Tscharner - Dr. B. S. Reid - Claud L. Williams - Nicholas Vanzant - Allie Jennings - G. Wildharber - Robert J. Jennings and J. I. Key.

September 7, 1904 - The following list of names are those who contributed to the memorial of Rev. J. J. Pierce and Mrs. Jane Pierce. (Their graves are in the Ridgewood Cemetery).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Baskett</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. J. Baskett</td>
<td>20.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. R. F. Cheaney</td>
<td>.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Green</td>
<td>2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woodson Hopkins</td>
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<td>Etta Browder</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. C. Green</td>
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<td>S. W. Langley</td>
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<td>James Key</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Enochs</td>
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<td>Mrs. Lizzie Baskett</td>
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<td>Allie and Quince Jennings</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. R. Hopkins</td>
<td>.50</td>
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</table>

$54.75  Y. L. Williams - Clerk

The above records were contributed by Mrs. Frances J. Smith Langley - Mrs. Mary Lou Enochs Haag and Mrs. Robert Tscharner. The complete records of the Ridgewood Church were sent to the Presbyterian Association in Hopkinsville, Ky.
HOW SOME COMMUNITIES GOT THEIR NAMES

Anthosten - The people who settled this place formed the name out of the Greek word "Anthes" which may be translated as "flower."

Audubon - It was named for John J. Audubon, the ornithologist who at one time made his home there and operated a mill not far away.

Baskett - This railroad and coal-mining town was named for John Baskett and his sons who settled in the area and owned a considerable amount of land.

Bluff City - This small mining town was given its name on account of its location on a high bluff overlooking the river.

Corydon - Mrs. J. N. Dorsey gave this settlement the name of a love-sick swain mentioned in the writings of Virgil.

Dixie - This place was named for Dan Emmett's song, "Dixie," as it was located in the "South" end of the county.

Hobbsville - The place was named for Charles Hobbard a blacksmith and one of the early settlers of the vicinity.

Highland Creek - This place was so named because it meanders through a of highlands or hills.

King's Mills - The name was given to this place to give recognition to the fact that a man by the name of King established a small grist mill there.

Henderson - The settlement was first called "Red Banks" and later renamed for Colonel Richard Henderson, who received a grant of several thousand acres from the state of Virginia and who laid out the town.

Reed - This place, which became a railroad station and for D. W. H. Reed, who owned a considerable quantity of land in that locality.

Robards - This railroad town and post office was named for J. D. Robards, who owned a great deal of land in that vicinity and operated a tobacco factory.

Scuffletown - There was a tavern located at this point which in the early days became the rendezvous for many rought characters.

Smith Mills - This place was named for Colonel Robert Smith who established and operated a mill at this point and ground corn into meal.

Spottsville - This place was named for Major Spotts and earlier settler's there.

Vananda Landing - This settlement was named for John W. Vananda, on whose land a ferry landing was located.

Weaverton - This place was named for a Revolutionary war soldier.

Zion - This place was named for the "beautiful city of Zion," "the house not made with hands."
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Formation of Henderson County, Kentucky .............................................. 1
Pension Records -- Revolution Soldiers -- Henderson, Co. ......................... 6
Poem -- Past-Present-Future .................................................................. 8
Lost Cities -- Few Details of Five Planned Sites in the County ................. 9
Walking Through Downtown Henderson in the Year 1810 .......................... 10
Wilson Station's Name Given it by a Railroad ....................................... 11
Henderson County Association of Baptist .............................................. 13
How Some Communities Got Their Name .............................................. 16
Here and There With Home Folks ......................................................... 17
Long Shots ......................................................................................... 25
Vital Statistics of the White Family and Accounts Kept at Stage Coach House 27
Robards Family Records -- Marriages & Births ....................................... 28
Jacobs Bible Records ........................................................................... 29
Pruitt Bible Records ............................................................................. 30
Swope Family "She Hid the Family Silver in a Barrel of Lie and Then Couldn't Tell a Lie" 31
The Muncauters Once Had Thriving Business at Wilson Station ............... 33
Charles L. King ................................................................................. 35
Thomas B. Beck .................................................................................. 36
Hon. P. Barrot ..................................................................................... 36
Hon. J. H. Powell ............................................................................... 37
Henry Dixon ......................................................................................... 37
Kleymeyer & Klute Brick & Tile Works .................................................. 38
Richard Henderson Soaper .................................................................. 40
Thomas Soaper .................................................................................... 41
Walter Brashear ................................................................................... 42
Hon. Augustus Owsley Stanley .............................................................. 42
Andrew Jackson Worsham ................................................................... 44
Hoy C. Boaz ....................................................................................... 46
Robert McFarland .............................................................................. 46
Miles Cooksey Dunn, M. D. ................................................................ 47
John H. Barrot ..................................................................................... 48
Harrison Wilsom ................................................................................. 49
Elijah Sollors, Jr. ................................................................................ 50
Lez W. Powell ...................................................................................... 51
Elijah Sollors ....................................................................................... 51
HISTORY OF BASKETT STATION, KENTUCKY

(Reviewed by the Henderson County Historical Society)

1926

About seven miles east of Henderson, is located, what most people call "Baskett Station". This little village was formed during the year 1888 and began to build up immediately after a coal mine shaft was sunk by an Owensboro firm. This shaft was started in 1888, while the railroad was being planned and laid. Settlers began to gather in, realizing that with the installation of the railroad and the opening of a modern coal mine that it was offering a bright future for the settlers who would choose to build their homes around.

In 1886, when plans were being made for opening this mine which was known as the Baskett Coal Co., the entire section around was covered with heavy timber, mostly sugar trees. When the work started on the mine the settlers began to drift in and began hewing down trees and building their homes. The coal company bought ten acres of land which is now covered by Baskett. They built small homes to which they could induce men to come from other points with their families to settle here and work in the mine. The first private home completed was that of Al Keach.

Preparations for the laying of the railroad through the neighborhood were begun in 1888 and during the early part of 1889 trains were running. An announcement was made that on a certain date, the first trip would be made with a passenger train to Louisville. The settlers from far and wide gathered at the station on this date to witness the leaving of the first trip of the train. But to the sorrow of the anxious observers, it was learned that the train would be three days late, and the sad hearted citizens returned to their cabins to await the final day when the train would start.

The first telegraph operator and ticket agent at the railroad station was Charles Blevins, who is at the present time singing in a quartet which broadcasts from various stations over the radio. Residents of Baskett have heard his voice several times lately over their radios.

The land which surrounds Baskett was at one time owned by Jesse Baskett. This locality is where the Baskett families were brought up and the little village was given its name from Jesse Baskett, whom the land was bought from to start another small village in Henderson County.

Baskett Station lies at the opening of a valley which is known far and wide as having the most fertile soil for agricultural purposes of any belt in Kentucky. Some of the best farms in the state are found along this valley which is estimated at about one mile wide and beginning just above Baskett, running through to Henderson. This black layer of fertile soil is said to be over 20 inches thick in some places and it produces the best crops grown in Henderson county, especially corn. The fine farms of Lee Baskett, Allen Claycomb, Jesse Farley, Joe Lockett, and many others will be found in this belt.

While Baskett is estimated at the beginning of this valley, the land surrounding on both sides is rolling. About two miles north is the Green River bottoms which overflows yearly and leaves a rich coat of fertile soil and the farmers have refreshed ground each year from which they raise the best type
"BASKETT STATION" CONTINUED:

of corn grown in this section. A large part of this land on the river has fine timber which is very valuable to the owners of the land.

The first store built in Baskett was erected by R. C. Armstead in 1888. The building erected by Mr. Armstead is now occupied by H. C. Wells, who also runs a grocery in the building. This grocery was the only one for many miles around when it was built in 1888.

The first church to be erected was in 1892 when the Methodist church was constructed. This building remained for a number of years, but finally reached a dilapidated condition and was sold to J. Goodley, who tore the old building down and built a modern home on the lot.

When the settlers were beginning to build their homes around the Baskett mine, E. W. Siiss saw a future for a brick yard. While the equipment wasn't sufficient to have a large output, it is quite amazing to learn the quantities of brick which Mr. Siiss has supplied.

BASKETT FAMILY CEMETERY

JOHN BASKETT owned a large farm near Baskett Station. He fenced in a shady rolling section for a family cemetery. The Posey family lived in the neighborhood and many of them are resting there too. In later years the land adjoining became the public cemetery for Baskett Station.

The following were copied from the original Baskett family cemetery:

BASKETT, John
March 18, 1798
May 6, 1865

BASKETT, Sally
(wife of John Baskett)
May 18, 1805
March 20, 1888

BASKETT, Hilrey
1831 - 1877

BASKETT, Infant
(a son of John and Martha J. Baskett)
born and died April 11, 1872

BASKETT, Infant
(a son of John and Martha J. Baskett)
May, 1877 - Sept. 1877

BASKETT, Robert L.
January 21, 1830
March 7, 1863

BROADWELL, Dora M.
(wife of Walter Broadwell)
(dau. of Wm. and M. V. Baskett)
January 9, 1853
June 2, 1875

HAYS, Ida
(dau. of J. & R. Hays)
Dec. 20, 1886
Dec. 25, 1893

HAYS, Noaly
Sept. 31, 1866
March 7, 1900
POSEY

Elizabeth - wife of Major Fayette Posey and daughter of Colonel Charles and Elizabeth Davis of Henderson County - Born Feb. 26, 1788 - Died Dec. 13, 1821

Thomas Lloyd - son of Major Fayette and Elizabeth D. Posey

Thorton A. - son of Major F. and Elizabeth D. Posey - Born April 12, 1812 - Died July 13, 1812

Fayette A. - son of Major Fayette and Elizabeth D. Posey - Sept. 8, 1816 - Died June 20, 1818

Lucy F. A. - daughter of Major Fayette and Louisa J. E. Posey and wife of Dr. R. G. Slaughter - Born Aug. 11, 1825 - Died April 13, 1847

Mary E. T. Mitchell - wife of Leroy A. Mitchell and the daughter of Fayette Posey departed this life March 5, 1855 - aged 17 years 5 months and 16 days.

Henry Clay Posey - who was born on the 6th of March 1832 and departed this life on the 8th of August 1833

Fayette P. - grandson of Major Fayette and Louisa J. E. Posey and son of Dr. R. G. and Lucy Fay Slaughter - Born Nov. 4, 1843 - Died March 24, 1844

Martha Alexander Rives - departed this life on the 11th of Feb. 1835 in her 53rd year.

Walter C. Langley - born Feb. 24, 1783 and departed this life July 8, 1835 - Aged 52 years 4 months 15 days.

Lucas - son of A. G. and Sally Bryan born July 29, 1860 and died July 20, 1861

(The inscription on the large monument over the grave of Henry Clay Posey)

1 year 6 months old

"Bold infidelity turn pale and die
Beneath this mound an infant ashes lie.
Say is it lost or saved.
If Death's by sin - it sinned because tis here.
If by Heaven's works in Heaven it can't appear.
Reason Ahi how depraved.
Review the Bible's sacred page
The knots untied
It died for Adam sinned, It lives for Jesus died.
ALZEY, KY—Was so named by Charles Cline of Mt. Vernon, Ind. (just across the Ohio River) who was a merchant in this village, keeping a store of general merchandise. He named the Post Office Alzeey for the name of his old home in Germany. It is a river town and post office there has been recently discontinued, and is served by star route from Smith Mills.

BASKETTS—Railroad meal mining town named for the late John Basket and his sons who owned considerable land in that neighborhood.

BEALS—Voting precinct with small freight depot on L.H. & St. L. Ry. It is so named for a family by the name of Beal who live in that vicinity.

CANOE CREEK—Circles the city of Henderson, Ky., and was so named because it was only (in the early days) navigable for the Indians in their canoes.

CORYDON—Second largest community in the county of Henderson, and is situated on the Illinois Central R.R., is a post office. Named by Mrs. J. N. Dorsey, wife of Dr. Dorey, one of the early settlers in that locality. The word "Corydon" is the name of a love-sick swain mentioned in Virgil.

DIXIE—So named because it is in the "South" end of the county, and for Dan Emmett's minstrel song—"Dixie."

GENEVA—Named for Geneva, Switzerland.

GREEN RIVER—So named because the water has to all appearances a greenish cast.

HARRISVILLE—Named for Charles Hebbard, a blacksmith, one of the first settlers in that locality.

KING'S MILLS—So named because a man by the name of King established a small grist mill at that point.

HIGHLAND CREEK—So named because it meanders through a lot of high-lands or hills.

ANTHOSTON—Named by some learned settlers in that locality—'from the Greek word—"Anthos"'

SCUFFLE TOWN—A tavern located at that point in the early days was a rendezvous for rough characters where they got drunk and had numerous scuffles or fights, and therefore was called "Scuffle town." It is on the Ohio river in the North end of the county of Henderson.

WEAVERTON—Named for the late A. B. Weaver, who for years conducted a tobacco factory at that point. It is suburb of the city of Henderson, Ky.

HENDERSON, KY—Named for Col. Richard Henderson, a Revolutionary soldier who laid out the town. His grant being several thousand acres of Cherokee Indian land which is included in this county.

NIAGARA—Named for Niagara Falls, New York.

POUND CREEK—So named because it fed numerous ponds along its meanderings.
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NIAGARA—Named for Niagara Falls, New York.

POUND CREEK—So named because it fed numerous ponds along its meandering.

REED'S—Named for Dr. W.H. Reed, who owned considerable land in that vicinity. Is a railroad station and post office.

ROBARDS—Railroad town and post office. Named for the late J.D. Robards who owned a great deal of the land in that vicinity and operated a tobacco factory at that point.
UTLEY: Named for the Utley family who reside in that locality.

VANADA LANDING: Named for the late John W. Vanada, a farmer on whose land said landing was located. On the Ohio River.

WILSON'S: A small community on the Illinois Central Ry. named for the Hon. J. Thomas Wilson, former representative in the General Assembly of Kentucky, and a large landowner in that locality.

ZION: Named for the "Beautiful city of Zion" beyond the skies where we all hope to go when we "shuffle off this mortal coil," and go EXACTLY to that "Borne from which no traveller returns—the house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens."

SMITH MILLS: Named for Col. Robert Smith, an American officer in the War of 1812, who took part in the Battle of New Orleans, on the 8th day of January 1815. He established and operated a horse mill with a sweep attachment and ground corn into meal at this point, and also owned and operated a steam saw-mill; and the village was later on, when a post office was established—it was appropriately named "Smith Mills." Col. Smith served several terms as magistrate for that district.

BLUFF CITY: Small mining town on KHK Green River. So named because it is situated on a high bluff overlooking said river.

AUDUBON: Name of the East end of the city of Henderson, Ky., was taken into the city limits some ten or twelve years ago. Named for John J. Audubon, the ornithologist, who for many years made his home in this city, and operated a mill here.

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Henderson, Ky.
April 20, 1922,

Mr. Will G. Steele,
Eugene, Oregon.

Dear Sir:—

On this, and the preceding pages you will find the information asked for in your letter of the 15th. April, and hope it will meet your requirements. These historical matters are somewhat of a hobby with me, and I would like to hear more about your work along this line.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]
THE ORIGIN OF HENDERSON

(Excerpts from manuscripts by Miss Susan Starling Towles)

In December 1778 through the influence of Colonel Richard HENDERSON and Nathaniel HART, the Virginia House of Delegates granted to the Richard Henderson (Transylvania) Company, 200,000 acres of land in Kentucky, situated between the Ohio and Green Rivers. In 1783, the North Carolina Legislature granted a like amount to the company.

During the last decade of the 18th century, the two living members of the Transylvania Company, James HOOG and John WILLIAMS, together with the heirs of the other late members, decided to found a town on this grant. The land was then considered the "Far West," open to attack of hostile Indians and overrun by a ruthless band of river pirates. The chosen site had long been known as "Red Banks" from the high red bluffs that lifted it above the highest floods.

A small group of German and English settlers had landed there from flat-boats, and without title to the land, had built cabins and a small stockade.

General Samuel HOPKINS was engaged by the Transylvania Company as agent and attorney. He rode from Hanover County, Virginia through the mountains to Danville, where Colonel Thomas ALLEN, a surveyor, joined him. At Lexington, Mr. PURVIANCE, a land speculator also joined the party. Having sent on their horses they came down Green River in pirogues to Red Banks. On April 6, 1797, the survey of the town of Henderson was completed. This date is the birthday of Henderson. Named for Colonel Richard HENDERSON—the president of the Richard Henderson Company, or better known as the Transylvania Company.

General HOPKINS did a most intelligent piece of work in laying off the town. The original plan of the "Old City," shows that four streets two and a quarter miles long were parallel with the river: three of them were 100 feet wide, the fourth, Water Street, was 200 feet wide and was set apart as a gift to future citizens, not to be transferred without their vote—a rare example of civic foresight. These four streets were intersected by twenty-five cross streets, also 100 feet wide. Through the center of the town was a park, the first municipal park west of the Alleghenies, known first as Transylvania Park in memory of the founding fathers.

The HOPKINS family was one of the first to come with their servants to occupy the land grant. General HOPKINS had received for his services to the company. He brought the first servile servants into the county. Soon after, Walter ALVES and his wife, Aelia JOHNSTON, only child and heir of William JOHNSTON, secretary and treasurer of the company, built a home on their holdings of 32,000 acres. The HENDERSON heirs, the HARTS, WILLIAMS, and LYNES were other Transylvanians who took up their land in the grant. From North Carolina came the DIXONS, HARTS, COWANS, MILLERS, and others; from Virginia came the TOWLES, CABELLS, SUBLETTS, TOWNES, TERRYS, WILSONS, and ATKINSONS. The land outside the Henderson and Company grant were given by Virginia to officers and soldiers of the Revolutionary War. All these people built their homes on their plantations or in the town. The soil bore abundant crops and made them rich, they added the material things that made possible luxurious and pleasant living.
By 1810, when Henderson was incorporated, the population of the county was 1,763, that of the town 160, of whom 35 were of voting age. The men of the community took an active interest in religion and politics.

From 1800 to 1819, General HOPKINS donated for the Transylvania Company twenty nine lots in Henderson and twenty-seven were sold. Four of them were sold to John J. AUDUBON, and in the spring of 1810, he and his partner, ROZIER opened a general store in a small one-story log cabin. Later his brother-in-law, Thomas BAKEWELL induced him to build a steam saw-mill and grist-mill on the riverfront. This land was leased to AUDUBON for ninety-nine years.

**COLONEL RICHARD HENDERSON**

Richard HENDERSON, the brilliant and eloquent jurist and colonizer for whom the town and county of Henderson was named, has been called "the political father of Kentucky" and "one of the greatest of American land speculators and commonwealth builders." He was born in Hanover County, Virginia, but moved early in life to North Carolina where he studied law and ultimately became associate justice of the western district of North Carolina. This position he held for a full term of six years, retiring from the bench in 1774. Possessed of extraordinary ability and ambition, personal magnetism, and unusual qualities of leadership, it was natural that HENDERSON should not be content with the humdrum life of a country barrister. His talents demanded stirring and brilliant opportunities, and his eyes turned toward Kentucky—then a most exciting subject.

Among the first of the many land companies was the Richard HENDERSON Company, formed August 27, 1774 (Transylvania Company).

Daniel BOONE suggested that HENDERSON settle Kentucky. It was decided to purchase the Cherokee title to Kentucky for the purpose of establishing a colony there. On March 17, 1775, Judge Richard HENDERSON, Colonel Nathaniel HALL, James LAMBLE, and Daniel BOONE met with the entire tribe of Cherokee Indians, twelve hundred strong, at the Sycamore Shoals of the Watauga River in Tennessee. The conduct of Richard HENDERSON was just and equitable, and he was most careful that the Indians understood the nature of the treaty. When the treaty was completed the Transylvania owned about 20,000,000 acres of land for which they paid 10,000 pounds.

**GENERAL SAMUEL HOPKINS**

General Samuel HOPKINS was a man who had served with distinction through the eight years of the Revolutionary War. He was wounded at Germantown, taken prisoner at Charleston. He fought in the battles of Princeton, Trenton, Morristown, Brandywine, and Germantown. He was one of the picked 2,000 men who crossed the Delaware with Gen. George WASHINGTON on Christmas night in a driving storm of sleet and drifting ice when Washington surprised the Hessians at Trenton.

General HOPKINS was a man of ability and energy. He represented his district in the State Legislature, State Senate, and Congress of the United States. As Presidential Elector he cast his vote for James MADISON in 1809. At the close of his Congressional term in 1815 he returned to his homestead, Spring Garden, near Henderson, where he passed away in 1819.
Spottsville, Henderson County, in the famed "Pennyrile" section of Kentucky, is located on Green River about eight miles from its junction with the Ohio.

There are few records of the early settlers and their attempts at home building in this section. An authentic record of 1765, beginning in May of that year, is a diary of Colonel George Croghan, of the English Army stationed at Fort Pitt (now Pittsburgh).

Because of Col. Croghan's friendly trading with the Indians, he was sent down the Ohio River to find and pacify the Illinois tribe of Indians. In his diary he described in detail the country and the spot on which he camped at night. His party, composed of white men and friendly Indians, traveled in two batteaux. He recorded thus: June 1st. - camped one mile above the falls of the Ohio. (site of Louisville) June 2nd. - passed the falls, passed on north side of island, traveled six miles and camped at the mouth of Pigeon River. June 3rd - the party traveled eighty miles and camped on what the Indians called Low-lands. June 4th. - Came to five islands, country very flat, traveled about ninety miles and camped on one of the islands. June 5th. - below the islands came to the largest river they had seen and called it Owl river. June 6th. - reached Ouerbache River (probably Wabash River) From the distance Col. Croghan and his crew had traveled since leaving Louisville, Owl River must have been what is now called Green River.

As early as 1784 patents to land in this section were being issued by Virginia and soon after sales were made to settlers. Many came from that section north of the Ohio River known as North-west Territory.

A location is not a location without a name. Prior to Major Spott's work here the settlement was called "Knights" for some early settler. From Henderson County records, John Knight, from Knox County, Indiana, had land near the falls deeded to him, Jan. 1, 1801, by Samuel McCrary, of North-west Territory. March, 1812, Isaac Knight bought one hundred acres on Green River. The small village doubtless took the name "Knight" from one of these men.

In 1799 from Court records of Henderson County, we know that a ferry was licensed to operate at the mouth of Green River. There must have been people and travel to demand such a convenience and produce a revenue from its operation. Other records show that citizens were "called out" on certain days to clean Green River of debris and fish pots. All persons failing to come when called, or sending a substitute, were assessed a fine of seventy-five cents. All persons working the river should not be called to work the public roads, and the number of days required to work must not exceed three in one year. It must have been a very useful stream to what was then a settled community.

There was not much interest in the general development of this site until 1822 when Major Samuel Spotts of the U.S. Army, stationed at Fort Moultrie on the Atlantic coast, bought a plat of the Richard Henderson Grant, this plat contained 1406 acres of land under the John Williams claim.
SPOTTSVILLE (Continued)

Major Spotts spend the next six years planning and arranging for development but work did not begin until about 1829 when he bought from James Clark, of St. Louis, Mo., another 142 acres of land along the river. During the period from 1822 and 1829, Major Spotts visited Henderson County several times to study his holdings and to decide what developments he wanted to make. He also made entries for coal both inside of a hill and in the river bank. About the fall of 1829, he induced his two nephews, John and George Spotts, of Wilmington, Delaware, to come west and build for him two mills, a grist and a saw mill. These mills were built on a flat under the hills and back towards the bluff.

When the mills were being built by John and George Spotts, there were settlers there for John wrote of going on Sunday afternoon with some pretty young ladies to gather mulberries. May 30, 1830, John Spotts again writes to relatives at Hawesville, Ky., stating that the steam mills were finished and in full operation. At this time, Major Spotts built two homes, one for himself and one for his brother-in-law, Robert Scott, of Wilmington, Delaware.

In the same year of 1830, the name of the small community was changed by John Spotts to Spottsville, merely by heading his letters "Spottsville, Henderson County, Ky. - Steam mills". At whose suggestion or on what authority he did this, no one knows.

The Scott family, with all their possessions, reached Spottsville in the fall of 1830, after living for a year in Hawesville, Ky., on the Ohio River, where Major Spotts had other interests. The five children of the Scotts were: Elizabeth, first wife of John E. McCallister; Lydia, who married James M. Barbour; Robert E. Scott; Mary, became the wife of Isaac Shelby Hart; and John, who was quite young.

Robert Scott helped operate the mills and opened a coal mine. This was a shaft mine in the side of a hill. The coal from the mine was to be flat-boatred to New Orleans, where Major Spotts was surveyor of the Port. He had been appointed to this position by President Andrew Jackson, with whom he had fought in the Indian Wars with the Creels and Seminoles. In the Battle of New Orleans, Major Spotts fired the first shot. A monument was erected in his honor at the entrance of the park covering the battle field.

Since water transportation was almost the only means of carrying commercial products in that day, it was important that Green River should be navigable. The State undertook to build locks and Joseph Barbour was put under contract to do the work. He began in the fall of 1834, and large quantities of rock were quarried from the hills and piled along the river, ready for work in the spring. But the winter was so terrible that the rocks could not withstand the hard freezes and began to crumble. All this work was rejected by the government engineers. Barbour gave up his contract and Capt. William Brown was then assigned to build the locks and dam. Rock was brought in from other localities and the work was completed in 1842. This opened up a way for a line of passenger and freight boats and was a great benefit to Spottsville. Three of the earliest boats plying Green River and serving Spottsville were - The Barbour - The Mohawk - and the Glasgow.
SPOTTSVILLE (Continued)

The tragedy of loss of life at the lock and dam has not been unknown, but most memorable of all accidents was the capsizing in 1840 of Capt. Brown's tow-boat the "Buck Snatcher". Only four or five of a number of passengers were saved.

About 1842, General Z. Eastin came in from Paris, Ky. and built a home at Spottsville. He saw great possibilities in the tremendous water power and obtained a lease for thirty years made to him by three commissioners appointed by the State to attend to this business. He contracted to build two mills on the island. One a grist mill and the other a saw mill. The details of the lease were recorded in the records of Henderson County. Gen. Eastin built the mills but in 1851, he subleased to his sons - W. A., Henry L, and Thomas Eastin, for a period of three years. The mills continued to be operated by these sons until the island was occupied by Federal troops in 1862. At that time the mills were practically destroyed, high water and vandalism completely finished whatever remained, and they were never rebuilt.

Hunting and fishing near Spottsville were both a business and a pleasure. Green River afforded as fine as game fish as ever delighted the palate. Sun fish and Bachelor perch were two favorite kinds. Gentlemen from Louisville Clubs came each season to enjoy the fishing and the hospitality of the Scott's home and the delicious cuisine of Mrs. Scott.

Some fishing was done for a living. Of this class were Peter Johnson, Peter Koogler and a companion. They made their home in a hollow log - the remains of a hugh sycamore. Later, Peter Koogler, salvaged the pilot house from a wrecked boat and made it his home. His couch was in a box built in one corner and fitted with a lid which he pulled down after he retired. It is not known if this was protection from his enemies or from the weather.

In 1832, there was neither a school nor a church in Spottsville. The nearest being Race Creek, eight miles away. Urged by her uncle, Major Spotts, Miss Lydia Scott, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Scott, organized a small school. She was the only teacher. It's fame spread until there were pupils sent to board in the Scott home and profit by instruction received in this school. But in 1833, the school closed, as the teacher, Miss Lydia Scott married James M. Barbour, a member of a family prominent in Henderson's early history.

Mr. Barbour died in March 1835, the only child of this marriage was Anna M. Barbour. She married Thomas F. Cheaney. After her husband's death, Lydia Scott Barbour reopened her school.

Within a few years, date unknown, the Rev. John J. Pierce, revered and beloved by young and old, assisted by his son William, conducted a superior school at Ridgewood, one mile from Spottsville. It was attended by pupils from Spottsville and neighboring counties seeking the advantage of instruction by a University man. Beginning in 1861, Spottsville and Ridgewood united and had a public school taught in the old Ridgewood church for a term of three months each year, beginning the first of August, so as to close before winter.
between 1850 and 1853, Rev. John Bryce, of the Henderson Baptist Church organized a Church of that faith at Spottsville, and it was the first. The membership conducted services from time to time. The building was never finished and as the Church membership had ceased to function as a church, the unfinished building was sold to a company, composed of W. B. Woodruff, L. W. Powell and R. G. Beverly. It became known as the Woodruff and Beverly tobacco factory for buying and selling tobacco.

In 1870, Dr. G. W. Watkins gave the land as a site for a Union church. The building was erected by the Methodists and it has since been their property. Dr. Watkins was one of the first doctors in this area.

After the sudden death of Major Samuel Spotts in 1833, leaving only minor heirs, no attempt was made toward general development of Spottsville, though new settlers now and then came and small business enterprises sprang up. In 1860, after much of the land had passed from the old settlers into new hands, lots were laid off and began to be sold, as were small farms off the main body. In a few years the Woodruff and Company buyers had disposed of all their holdings. At this time Spottsville precinct was formed and it became a voting place.

Various persons, Morris, Hedges, Coxon, Willis and others operated small mines between 1865 and 1870. At that time, Tilman Shiver and his brothers bought all the small mines and controlled the industry for over twenty years. Under the Shiver management business prospered and the population increased rapidly. So great was the increase that a charter was secured and the city government put into operation.

When ill health lessened the activities of Tilman Shiver, the leader of the Shiver firm, and other misfortunes destroyed the prosperous days of Spottsville the charter was lost.

The first stores were built on a flat near the river banks. One of the first merchants whose name is remembered was John Settlemire, whose wife and eight children were lost on the ill-fated "Buck Snatcher". Only three of his children were saved.

Beals is another merchant name of early days. A letter of 1847 tells of a big fire in Spottsville and mentions the burning of the homes of Mr. Eastin and Mr. Custer and the store and stock of goods of the Beals.

Another storekeeper was Mr. Jesse Baskett, whose name was linked with the romance of the town. It seems he made a visit to his sister in Louisville, Ky., and in a short space of two weeks, met, fell in love at first sight, courted, married and brought home his wife, Miss Sarah Beals. Death soon claimed the bride.

Before the coming of the railroad and the building of the bridge across Green River in 1888, the most interesting variation of dull days was the arrival of the steam boat. These boats had good accommodations for passengers and space for freight, carried mail, and many a party on a pleasure trip. They traversed Green River and its tributary Barren River from Evansville, Ind. to Bowling Green, Ky. This was the favorite way of making the first start on the trip to Mammoth Cave from this part of the State.
SPOTTSVILLE (Continued)

As the hills became the favorite building place for homes and churches and a school, naturally business followed, so the town is now on the hills and not under them as it once was.

The Scott home, a roomy old log building, had been from the beginning, a stopping place for visitors to Spottsville. After the death of Robert Scott and one year later, the death of the wife of their son, Mrs. Scott left Spottsville and made her home with her son, Robert E. Scott. Her old home then became the town tavern and had its sale of liquors as all taverns did. There were various keepers - Mrs. Bright, the Shryarks and Tom Long. The old Scott home became uninhabitable and the last tavern owner Tom Long built a new home a short distance up the street and down the hill and ran his tavern there until his death.

On May 12, 1848, Spottsville took a stand for temperance. A division of Sons of Temperance was organized by Spottsville and Ridgewood men, but known as Ridgewood Division No. 166. The original charter bears the names of members of nearly all the leading residents. Everyone joined, even three noted drunkards. One of these men did not expect to join but did so while under the influence. A few days later and in his right mind, he was visited by the committeeman whose paper he had signed. He was asked if he still wanted to have his name on the roll and take the pledge. He replied, "I do not remember signing it but it is my signature and I will stand by it." This he did to the end of his life.

In 1869, Col. John Hickman, was asked by temperance leaders to deliver a lecture at Spottsville. The lecture was delivered in the Union Church, the building was filled to capacity, and so convincingly did he expound temperance and its merits that sixty charter members that night formed the Good Temperance Lodge. Many new members joined until Spottsville had the second largest lodge of the order. Soon a petition was sent to the Legislature to be allowed to vote on a local law forbidding the sale of intoxicating liquors in less quantity than five gallons, within five miles of the center of Spottsville. The vote was taken and the act carried and became a law. Spottsville was known as a dry town with never a saloon. If a man had to have a spree, Evansville, Ind., was an open port, not far away, and the laws of Spottsville remained intact.

Closely associated with the early history of Spottsville and the nearby area were the families of the Hopkins, the Baskets, the Eastins, the Lynns, the Langleys, the Pierces, the Warfields, the Cheaneys and many others. The influence of these early settlers is still felt, though few of their descendants call Spottsville their home.

Reference: Material was collected from Court records, old papers, family letters, and traditions, besides personal recollections.

Compiled by - Alice Cheaney McDaniel 1928

Copied from old records of the Henderson County Historical Society now non-existent - by Katheryn Howe Baskett.

17
HENDERSON COUNTY, KY. POST OFFICES

1. HENDERSON C.H. - 10/1/1801, George Holloway; 10/1/1802, John Huband.

2. SMITH'S MILLS- 12/23/1830, Hosea Smith; 1/26/1837, Wm. P. Smith,... 8/22/1845, Robert Smith; 5/12/1853, Robert Smith, Jr.; 2/16/1858, Henry D. Williams; Disc. 10/6/1859; Re-est. 11/15/1859, Persen Latta; Disc. 6/18/1862; Re-est. 2/25/1863, Noah Humphrey; 12/4/1863, Walter A. Towles; Disc. 7/30/1864; Re-est. 6/19/1865, Wm. F. Thornberry.... 5/22/1893, name changed to Smith Mills, Benjamin F. Utley; 5/15/1897, Charles L. Cartwright....

3. RICHLAND- 5/21/1832, John H. Priest; Disc. 9/12/1845;

4. HEBBARDSVILLE- 2/25/1840, Abram Hatchitt; 5/11/1842, Geo. M. Priest....

5. CAIRO- 8/1/1840, Albert G. Walker; 4/17/1841, David J. Hancock.... 6/12/1903, Joseph H. Hancock; Disc. 10/22/1903, effective 10/31/1903 (papers to Henderson);

6. CORYDON- 9/1/1849, John N. Dorsey; 4/16/1850, Richard J. Dorsey.... 6/6/1861, Jacob G. Epston; Disc. 6/18/1862; Re-est. 2/11/1871, Edward S. King; 10/26/1874, Charles L. King....


8. PLEASANT HILL- 7/19/1850, Achilles J. Norment (?); Disc. 10/7/1851;

9. WALNUT BOTTOM- 8/27/1851, Benj. Faulkner; Disc. 12/30/1856;

11. ZION- 6/29/1857, Theodore R.T. Fowlkes; 9/8/1858, Alfred C. Norment; 1/27/1864, John E. Swann; Disc. 5/12/1866; Re-est. 7/8/1867, Andrew J. Dunn; 1/22/1875, John R. Lambert... 4/5/1907, Walter E. Farley; Disc. 6/30/1913 (mail to Henderson);

12. SPOTTSVILLE- 5/4/1858, Robert S. Eastin; Disc. 10/25/1859; Re-est. 7/20/1860, John W. Letlemire... 12/17/1861, Lewis Hope; Disc. 4/4/1862; Re-est. 3/17/1868, Thomas R. Long; Disc. 2/1/1870; Re-est. 6/26/1871, James G. Hendricks....

13. GENEVA- 6/7/1860, John D. Pernett; 7/6/1860, Wm. G. Walker; Disc. 6/18/1862; Re-est. as Geneva, 1/25/1870, Miss Charlotte Walker; 1/18/1871, John Farmer.... 1/29/1878, Wm. A. Sisson; name changed to Geneva on or before 5/2/1881, Wm. A. Sisson; 11/1/1881, Ed. H. McBride.... DSC- 1965

14. LONG'S LANDING- 9/2/1862, Wm. S. Cooper; 2/9/1864, D.G. Martin; Disc. 3/12/1864;

15. NEWRY (?)- 8/2/1866, Charles E. Becker; Disc. 1/7/1868;

16. ROBARD'S STATION- 6/2/1868, J.D. Robards; 7/6/1880, Francis M. Eakins; name changed to Robard, 11/29/1882, Thomas M. Eakins; 12/15/1882, Francis M. Eakins.... 9/11/1922, Charles E. Branson; name changed to Robards, effective 11/16/1924, ibid, (....)

17. SCUFFLETOWN- 9/3/1868, John W. Folden; 7/28/1881, Peter C. Allin... 6/12/1903, Abraham L. Hornback; Disc. 1/31/1914 (mail to Reed);
HENDERSON COUNTY, KY. POST OFFICES (3)

18. MCKINLEY'S LANDING- 5/20/1870, James C. McKinley; Disc. 5/31/1872;

19. BLUFF CITY- 7/10/1872, James R. Ronton; 10/17/1882, Samuel Crawley... 5/4/1909, Joe Priest; Disc. 12/31/1909 (mail to Hubbardsville);

20. KINGS MILLS- 11/27/1876, Peter F. Cohen; Disc. 2/13/1879; Re-est. as King Mills, 12/5/1891, Robert L. Cinnamond; 10/18/1892, Minnie Lee Brown... 7/27/1895, Randal J. Culver; Disc. 12/15/1904, effective 1/14/1905, (mail to Waverly, Union Co.)

21. RANGERS LANDING- 6/18/1877, Gustavious A. Ligon; Disc. 11/6/1877;

22. ALZEY- 5/21/1878, G.A. Chandler; 6/3/1878, Charles P. Klein... 4/18/1892, James T. Daniel; Disc. 6/23/1892 (mail to McDonalds Landing); Re-est. 6/6/1894, Thomas W. Harmon; 8/30/1901, Walter P. Kellen; 2/10/1908, Andrew Alexander; Disc. 12/15/1919 (mail to Smiths Mills);

23. DIXIE- 9/15/1879, George W. Dixon; 7/11/1891, Kay J. McToney... 10/19/1900, Sophronia C. Galloway; Disc. 11/5/1907, effective 11/30/1907 (mail to Corydon);

24. MICHAEL- 3/16/1880, Michael McDonnel; 7/6/1880, Anthony H. Sheafer; Disc. 7/28/1880; Re-est. 11/28/1881, James N. Cassadeay (sic); Disc. 3/6/1882 (papers to Corydon); Re-est. 11/30/1883, George R. Diamond; Disc. 4/8/1884 (papers to Waverly, Union Co.)

25. CASH- 6/15/1881, David B. Clay; Disc. 11/20-?/1882 (papers to Niagara);

26. NIAGARA- 9/27/1881, John W. Porter; 4/5/1888, James M. Willingham... 5/8/1905, Monroe King; Disc. 6/27/1906, effective 7/14/1906 (mail to Robard);

27. ANTHOSTON- 6/26/1884, Wm. P. Roll; 5/7/1885, Robt. L. Agnew; ... 8/22/1898, Samuel Epperson; Disc. 9/25/1902, effect. 10/15/1902 (papers to Henderson);
HENDERSON COUNTY, KY. POST OFFICES (4)

28. WILSONS STATION- 6/18/1886, George W. Anderson; 2/15/1887, W.J. Rowlett... 10/17/1893, James W. Street; name changed to Wilson, 5/1/1894, John W. Mincaster; 12/19/1895, Herbert F. Lancaster... 1/28/1901, James W. Shead; Disc. 1/26/1907, effect. 2/28/1907 (mail to Corydon);

29. CARLINBURGH- 6/22/1886, Bluford E. Carlin; 4/18/1888, Mrs. Belle Carlin; 1/28/1891, Wm. H. Carlin; 10/21/1891, James J. Walker; name changed to Carlinburg, 5/5/1894, Smith Rogers; 1/30/1897, John S. Vannada; Disc. 1/2/1907, effect. 1/31/1907 (mail to Stanley, Daviess Co.)

30. MCDONALD LANDING- 5/8/1888, Frank McDonald; 8/28/1889, James E. McDonald... 12/29/1905, Jerry C. McDonald; Disc. 4/30/1909 (mail to Geneva);

31. BASKETT- 5/14/1890, Wm. H. Baskett; 10/7/1893, James T. Long...

32. AUDUBON- 1/5/1891, Anthony W. Howard; 8/31/1893, Moses Wiener; Disc. 2/7/1895 (mail to Henderson);

33. BREITSCHIN- 9/29/1891, Otto Breitschin; Disc. (no papers sent), 12/5/1891;

34. REED- 10/3/1891, George Kerrick; 7/19/1895, Hannah C. Johnson...

35. UTLEY- 11/4/1898, Benjamin F. Utley; 4/17/1900, Wm. P. Culver; 9/23/1904, John W. Gaines; Disc. 9/2/1905, effect. 9/30/1905 (mail to Uniontown, Union Co.)

36. PYRUS- 4/2/1900, Henry G. Smith, Jr.; Disc. 9/25/1902, effect. 10/15/1902 (papers to Henderson);

37. UELAH- 1/29/1902, Henry H. Lilly; 3/6/1903, A.B. White; Disc. 7/24/1903, effect. 8/15/1903 (papers to Alzey);
HENDERSON COUNTY, KY. POST OFFICES (5)

38. EUTERPE - 6/20/1902, Paris M. Walker; Disc. 3/23/1906, effect. 4/14/1906 (mail to Hebbardsville);

39. BEALS - 7/3/1903, Gardner Porter; 2/17/1905, James H. Isbell, declined; Disc. 4/27/1905, effect. 5/31/1905 (mail to Spottsville); Re-est. 2/19/1924, Joseph E. Simons;

39c. 1956

40. WELLS STORE - 1/15/1930, Wm. F. Wells;

40c. 1937