

THE POST OFFICES OF TRIMBLE COUNTY

Trimble, Kentucky's eighty sixth county, was created by the legislature on February 9, 1837 from parts of Gallatin, Henry, and Oldham Counties. It was named for the Virginia native and longtime Bourbon County resident, Robert Trimble (1777-1828), who had distinguished himself as a justice of the Kentucky Court of Appeals, a U.S. district judge, and, until his untimely death, an associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. Only thirteen months after its establishment, Trimble County returned ten square miles to Henry County and lost sixty more in the creation of Carroll County. Ten square miles were returned to its territory in February 1843. Its present 149 square mile area was secured by March 1850 when it again returned some of its land to Henry.

Trimble is drained by the Ohio River, which forms its northern and western boundary for twenty one miles, and several of its tributaries. The latter include the Little Kentucky River, which Trimble shares with Henry and Carroll counties, and Canip, Spring, Corn, Barebone, Middle, and Patton Creeks on or near which most of its post offices were located. The 1990 Census counted some 6,100 county residents. Of Trimble's twenty two post offices, only six were established before the Civil War, and only half were created before 1890.

The county's somewhat centrally located seat of Bedford centers at the junction of US 421 and 42, forty four road miles northeast of downtown Louisville. Though this sixth class city has always been the county seat, it was only in the last twenty years that it became Trimble's largest town. Even so, with only 760 residents, it remains

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one of Kentucky's smallest county seats. It was chartered on February 6, 1816 and probably named for the Virginia home town of the Richard Bell family which had settled there some ten years before. Its post office, the first in the future county, was established on March 23, 1818 with William E. Young, postmaster. By road miles from that office's present location most of the offices described below will be located.

Until recently, Trimble's largest town, and its oldest, was Milton. It centers at the junction of US 421 and Ky 36, just across the Ohio River from Madison, Indiana, at which point it is 12½ miles north of Bedford. One of the oldest towns in Kentucky, it was established by the Virginia legislature in 1789 and was first situated between Canip and Tiber Creeks (the latter earlier called Town Branch). It soon developed into a busy river port. Sometime after 1802 the Moffatt store on the ridge overlooking the river bottom may have become the first mail distribution point for the settlement before its post office was officially established in 1819, with James McConathy, its first recognized postmaster.

For some reason the validity of the town's Virginia charter was questioned, and in February 1842 the town, with its original plat, was re-chartered by the Kentucky legislature. In March 1872 the legislature authorized the extension of the town's limits to include the smaller village of Kingston just below the Tiber. This explains the long held notion that Milton was first called Kingston. No one knows how Milton acquired its name. There is no evidence that it was corrupted from Milltown or that the town had ever been called that. And less likely was it derived from a combination of Milltown

and Kingston for it had its name long before the founding of the latter. -3-

Milton is still a sixth class city with an active post office and several businesses. Though it recently annexed a 3½ mile strip along US 421 toward Bedford, it managed to lose some 300 residents since 1970 to bring its 1990 population to only 560.

The odd association of Corn Creek and Wises Landing, which are several miles apart, still needs some explaining. The Burr (post office) map of 1839 shows the first Corn Creek post office in the vicinity of the Corn Creek Church on the creek for which it was named. This was on the old Milton to Bedford Road, about midway between these two towns. This office, established by Jesse Connell, operated between January 6, 1830 and mid November 1849.

On all later nineteenth and early twentieth century maps, however, a Corn Creek community is shown on the Ohio River at the mouth of its name source where mid century records located a mill and several other businesses. But on none of these maps or records is Wises Landing identified. Yet the next we hear of a Corn Creek post office was when it was re-established on June 21, 1878 in postmaster Richard Ogden's store at Wises Landing. This landing, just above the mouth of Barebone Creek (6½ miles west of Bedford) and two miles below (south of) the mouth of Corn Creek, is said to have been established in the 1840s or 50s by its owner Henry Philip Fix who also operated its first store. It may then have been called Fix's Landing. In 1876 the landing and store were acquired by Jesse Wise and the place was probably renamed for him, or for his family's area progenitor, William Wise, a Revolutionary War veteran. Two years later Jesse

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sold his store to Ogden. After several local site changes to the several other stores in the vicinity, the Corn Creek post office closed for good in late April 1913. The community it served was a rather busy river port for much of the nineteenth century but is now a sleepy little hamlet.

It has never been learned why that second post office was called Corn Creek rather than Wises Landing. Nor is the creek's name origin known. The creek, so called since the 1790s, could have taken the name of a pioneer family. In the act establishing Trimble County reference is made to Corn's Old Farm on Riddle's Mill Road. Furthermore, the several children of George Corn (who died in 1832) are known to have been born in the first decade of the nineteenth century in what was then Henry County.

The original Collins' History (1847) mentions Palmyra as a small Trimble County village with a store and post office. Yet there was never a Palmyra post office in Trimble County. The office serving this community was not established till January 21, 1851, with James H. Turner, postmaster, and was called Winona probably since Palmyra was already in use by a Simpson County post office. The community remained Palmyra while its post office continued as Winona till it closed in late July 1905. They were located on the present Rt. 1225, probably in the vicinity of the Union Grove Church, 6½ miles nne of Bedford.

This community with its post office has often been confused with the post office called Vail. The latter was nearly two miles east of Palmyra-Winona and close to the Carroll County line. It was not, as is commonly believed, a transfer of the Winona post office for

it was established (as Vail) on May 11, 1891 (with Mary Jane Holsclaw, postmaster) while Winona was still active. Vail operated through November 1892. Though an attempt to re-establish it the following year was unsuccessful, it was again in operation by June 23, 1903, but as Monitor. Ezra O. Vail, the local storekeeper and the first of its two postmasters, found Vail (actually Vale) already committed to a Rowan County office. Monitor closed in late April 1913. The names Palmyra, Winona, and Monitor have not yet been derived.

It is still not clear where the post office of Garriotts Landing was located. It is known that the family of State Senator (1865-1869) Evan M. Garriott had a store on or at the mouth of Middle Creek, and the Ohio River landing itself may have been just above it, about $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles southwest of Bedford. The post office was likely in the store, and was operated between December 16, 1851 and early September 1862 by Evan Garriott and several other family members.

The original Abbottsford and two later Abbotts were also post offices whose sites are not precisely known. Abbottsford's only postmaster, during its brief tenure from February 11, 1859 to mid May 1862, was James Abbott who ran the local store and hotel. The "ford" suggests a location on the Little Kentucky River or some other major stream.

The first Abbott post office, according to postmaster-designate Madison Dunn's Site Location Report of April 1880, was probably in Dunn's home just north of the Little Kentucky and $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Winona. His preferred names Menifee and King City were replaced by Abbott. It operated between August 2, 1880 and late June 1883.

The second Abbott post office served the small community then known as Abbotts Ford. The "Ford" was crossed out on postmaster William R. Morgan's Site Location Report, and the office opened as simply Abbott on April 16, 1886. According to Morgan's report, it was a mile northeast of Middle Creek, four miles east of the Ohio River, and five miles south of Bedford. This places it not too far from where Abbott is shown on current state highway maps, on US 42, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of the Little Kentucky River, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles ssw of Bedford. The office closed for good in mid August 1906.

A couple of stores and a sawmill at a ford on the Ewing family's land on the Little Kentucky River were served from April 9, 1873 through March 1904 by the Ewingford post office. William Spillman was the first postmaster. Some years ago the ford was replaced by a bridge, and the old road between New Castle and Bedford became US 421. Ewingford today is a small restaurant and a couple of dozen homes on 421, $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles southeast of Bedford.

On March 30, 1887 Lafayette Trout established the Trout post office to serve the area just below the mouth of Pryor's Fork of Corn Creek. The office at the junction of the present Ky 625 and 1488, on the north side of the creek, $7\frac{1}{4}$ miles northwest of Bedford, operated till mid June 1906.

What is shown on current maps as Providence, probably for the local Baptist church on Ky 316, some eight miles ese of Bedford, used to be the fairly goodsized village of Hammel's Store. At least that was the name first proposed for its post office by local storekeeper George M. Hammel. The office opened, though, as simply Hammel on April 28, 1890 and operated through February 1903. It is not

known when the community (but not the post office) was renamed Providence. Most likely this was after the First World War since published maps of that time still identified the place as Hammel's.

Near the junction of Rt. 1492 and US 421, $7\frac{1}{4}$ miles north of Bedford, is the site of the Carmel post office. This served several stores, a wagonworks, a school, and the Mt. Carmel Church between December 1890 and mid August 1906. John W. Eads was its first postmaster. Only the church survives, though the nearby Carmel Heights subdivision on the highway also preserves the name.

From March 9, 1891 through March 1912 the inexplicably named Leeport post office operated on the old Bedford to Milton Turnpike, about three fourths of a mile south of the Corn Creek Church, $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles west of the present US 421, and $6\frac{1}{4}$ miles north of Bedford. William Cull was its first postmaster.

The Mount Pleasant post office served a store, school, and church on the present Ky 625, $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles wnw of Bedford, from March 29, 1892 through January 1907. Flournoy G. Willis was its first postmaster. Only the church and some homes remain. It may have been aptly named but this too has not been confirmed.

Two relatively shortlived post offices, both maintained exclusively by Robert Edward Callis, served his stores and a school at what is still is called Callis Grove. This is just west of the junction of US 421 and the New Hope Road, four miles north of Bedford. The first of the two offices was Callis which operated between June 1, 1893 and September of the following year. Around 1900 Callis moved his store about a mile east, to the junction where, on June 4, 1909, he re-established the office. Instead of his preferred Callis

it was named Hisle for another Trimble family then living in the Hammel's Store-Providence area. The Hisle post office closed in late April 1913 though the store has survived till the present.

Shortly after the close of the Hisle post office a Methodist church built in a nearby grove a large open-air but roofed tabernacle and campgrounds and called it Callis Grove. For the rest of this century the grounds have attracted sizeable crowds for renewals and Fourth of July celebrations.

To serve his store where Spring Creek joins the Ohio, seven miles southwest of downtown Milton, Samuel C. Moreland applied for a post office he would call Mamie. However, it operated between March 21, 1896 and late March 1907, as Gum, the name of a Trimble County family.

Benjamin Franklin Welch undoubtedly gave his name to the post office he alone operated from April 18, 1900 through January 1904. This was about where US 42 crosses Millers Branch, just above its confluence with the Little Kentucky, and a little over four miles ene of Bedford. It may have been at (or near) the site of the first of the two Abbott post offices. Nothing remains of Welch. It has not been identified on published maps for many years.

The name given to the shortlived Revere post office has also not been explained. This office, which Perry P. Melvin and James W. Abbott maintained from January 27, 1902 through November 1905, was just above the forks of Middle Creek, less than two miles east of the Ohio River and five miles southwest of Bedford. It served a local store, school, and church, all since gone.

Ira Marshall Jennings (1864-1931) was the last of three generations of his family to run the country store across Patton Creek

from Oldham County. This site, two miles from the Ohio River and nearly 8½ miles southwest of Bedford (via US 42 and the Kidwell Road), may have been called Rhea around the turn of the twentieth century. At least that is the name Jennings first proposed for his new office. However, finding it already in use in Calloway County, he opened the office as Jennings. It operated from March 28, 1902 through November 1913. This vicinity is now identified on published maps as Wesley Chapel for the local church.

Cottagehill, Trimble's last post office, was operated only by Archabald E. King from April 27, 1904 through April 1909. Its precise location is not known, but, according to to King's Site Location Report, it would be a mile from the Ohio, one fourth of a mile east of Gilmore Creek, and five miles west of Milton. It thus might have been on Fisher Ridge, perhaps on the present Rt. 1256. It may have been aptly named but that is only a guess.

On a farm half a mile north of Bedford was one of Kentucky's few unofficial Civil War era post offices. It was called The Rock Post Office as Confederate soldiers traveling through the county would deposit mail and messages for their families in a honey-combed rock formation sitting on top of a larger boulder.¹

Only two of Trimble's twenty two post offices are active. Bedford and Milton still serve the county's only incorporated places. Only four of the offices ever served viable villages. The Corn Creek name was applied to two geographically distinct post offices; while Abbottsford and the two later Abbott offices may also have been at

separate locations.

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Eleven offices were named for local/area persons or families. One may have been named for a distant place, while to three were transferred the names of area features (a church and Corn Creek). Seven names have not been accounted for. One office (Abbottsford) has not even been approximately located.

The names of six post offices were not those originally intended for them. Three offices served communities with other names.

FOOTNOTES

1. Augusta Vance Owens, WPA manuscript (ca. late 1930s) and C.A. Hollowell's History of the Post Offices, Postal Services, and the Communities Involved of Trimble County, Kentucky, a manuscript shared with the writer on May 27 and June 5, 1980.

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INDIANA

OHIO RIVER

MILTON Ky 36

-US 421

-KY 625

COTTAGEHILL (?)

GUM

CARMEL

CORN CREEK (I)
(AT CORN CREEK CHU.)

LEEPORT

WINONA
(PALMYRA)
(?)

VAIL-MONITOR

CALHIS-ISLE

-US 421

TROUT

MT. PLEASANT

KY 625

WELCH
(ABBOTT I)

-US 42

BEDFORD

OHIO RIVER

CORN CREEK
(WISES LANDING)

HAMMEL
(PROVIDENCE)

EWINGFORD

-US 421

-US 42

REVERE

GARRIOTTS
LANDING (?)

ABBOTT (II) ?

HENRY CO.

TENNINGS

OLDHAM CO.

Trimble Co.

F-1

5/27/80.

Subject: History of the Post Offices, Postal Services, and the Communities involved, of Trimble County, Kentucky.

Note: Mr. Rennick, I certainly trust that the information given herewith will and does add too, and supplements ~~the above regarding same~~ the information you may have on hand at this time. This is a project of historical importance and must be very challenging.

Also; Concerning the list of Offices you furnished me, I have added four additional ones making sixteen in the County in 1930. And, for clarification, Monitor replaced Winona in the ~~Palmyra~~ Palmyra section of the County. (Collins History mentions Winona as one of the oldest). And, Old timers of the Wises Landing inform me that there was not a Post Office by that name; but that Wises Landing was the location of the Corn Creek office.

- I. Sixteen Post Offices were operating in the County in 1900, namely- Bedford, Milton, Monitor, Corn Creek, Ewingford, Providence, Carmel, Gum, Jennings, Abbott, Hisle, Mount Pleasant, Revere, Pleasant Retreat, Welch, Leeport. Their location followed the usual pattern. The availability of rich, fertile, and productive land; and, probably most important a good water supply.

Located along the many streams fingering out and entering into the Ohio River were the settlements that furnished Country stores. ~~with the of the~~ And, Trimble County was no exception. Of the above list family names are prominent, as- Ewingford (Little Kentucky River), Gum (Spring Creek), Jennings (Patton Creek), Revere (Middle Creek), Welsh (Miller's Branch), Corn Creek and Milton were on the Ohio River. Corn Creek entering into the Ohio at Wises Landing, and the town of Milton located 11 miles up the Ohio from Wises.

Settlements involving the remaining Post Office locations found suitable conditions for them and their animals on the ridges, upland, and hillsides; such as cool spring water, and pond water for the horses, and hunting.

- II. The first rural route service was from the Milton Office in 1902. And gradually, elimination and closing of Rural Post Offices occurred until only six were in operation in 1912. Mr. Enoch Curran, postmaster at Bedford at that time reported to the U. S. Post Office Dept. that the six were Milton, Hisle, Leeport, Monitor, Corn Creek and Bedford. Leeport and Monitor were the next to be closed followed by Corn Creek and Hisle in the early twenties, leaving Milton and Bedford. And, they remain the center of Postal activity to the present time, as, second Class Post Offices.

Rural Route services in the County reached a peak of four operating from Milton, and four from Bedford. Today, there are two such routes operating from Milton, and three out of Bedford. Trimble County was virtually isolated until 1927 when Federal Highway construction started ultimately crisscrossing thru the County. This along with the surfacing, graveling, etc., brought improved County roads, and allowed for a rapid change in transportation, as, well as, accessibility to formerly isolated or semi-isolated communities. The Providence and Jennings communities receive mail service from Post Offices in adjoining counties; Jennings from Pendleton in Oldham County, and Providence from Campbellsburg in Henry County.

- III. Collins states that the oldest Post Offices in the County were Milton, Bedford, and Winona, (~~Revere~~) Mt. Pleasant and Corn Creek. They appear to have been established in this order date wise as recorded, officially.

✓ IV. Milton is one of the oldest towns in Kentucky; and was established by Law by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1789, three years before Kentucky became a State. It is located 12 miles North of Bedford on the Ohio River.

The first Post Office in Trimble County was located at Milton, and for many years received the mail by river boats-known as "Mail Packets". Older citizens recall and give the names of some of them, as The John Hubbard, Gordon Green, The Hanover, and Hattie Brown. Mr. Moffett (John or Robert-not sure) did have a country or settlement store on the ridge overlooking the Milton Ohio River valley; and , is given credit for receiving and distributing the first mail to the settlement about 1802 or shortly thereafter. Bedford received its first mail from Milton in 1818.

Postmasters serving since 1900 have been John R. Ingles, M. J. Hampton, Butler Wise, Elbert Jones, and Milton R. Snyder. Mr. Snyder, who had thirty-eight years tenure and service, retired in 1972. He was replaced by Mrs. Harry (Madaline) Wood, the present Postmistress.

As to the name and origin of Milton, it came about when two very early pioneering settlements, namely Kingston and Milltown, separated by a small stream, merged to form a single unit of government.

✓ V. Bedford, the County Seat, was established (incorporated) in 1816, Feb. 6th.

It is located on a ridge near the center of the County. Early settlers camped and settled here finding water to supply their needs-a pond and a permanent flowing spring of pure water. These pioneers were mostly from Virginia, of English background, and native to the Bedford, Va. community. This accounting for the name selected and decided upon for the settlement according to Collins.

The Bedford Post Office was established March 23, 1818. The first postmaster was William E. Young. Thru the years there have been two postmistress, Mrs. Lois A. Morgan, and Mrs. Susie H. Curran; and twenty-two postmasters, including the present one, Mr. W. R. Abbott. Others having this responsibility since the year 1900 are Enoch Curran, Charles A. Bell, and George W. Abbott.

Mail until 1874 arrived at Bedford from Milton over the valleys and ridges by way of another Post Office recorded as Winona (later to become Monitor) according to Collins History. Winona (monitor) was in the Palmyra area of the county eight miles S. E. of Milton, and six miles N. E. of Bedford.

VI. Star Routes that had previously carried the mail from Milton (which had arrived by River Boats) were supplemented by others from Campbellsburg, Ky. and Sulphur, Ky., following the completion of the Louisville & Nashville short line R. R. from Louisville to Cincinnati in 1974. Trimble County has no railroad within its boundary.

The river "Mail Boat" service as supplier of mail was discontinued during the early nineteen-hundreds. In 1912, Mr. Enoch Curran, Bedford Postmaster, reported to the Postmaster General that his office was "supplied from Sulphur Ky, eight miles distance, and from Madison, Ind., 10 miles north in distance Milton across the river from Madison, Ind, received its mail from the same sources, too, at this time. Campbellsburg replaced Sulphur as a supplier for both offices in the early thirties according to Mr. Snyder, Milton; and Mr. Abbott, Bedford (Postmasters) continuing into the forties.

VII. Other Post Offices

✓ Monitor in the Palmyra Community near dry fork creek replaced the original Post Office known as Winona. Winona was one of the three operating in 1974 according to Collins History. It's location was near halfway between Milton and Bedford on a pioneer trail southward from the Ohio River; and, served as a supplying and distributing Office to the southern as well as sections of the eastern ~~part~~ area of the County. Bedford and Welch Offices are known to have been supplied from there ~~not~~ with mail to have the Monitor and Winona Post Mark.

With the advent of more direct routing from Milton to Bedford in the mid 1900s Monitor came into existence, and Bedford became the distributing Office. The Vail and Miles families had country stores at Monitor and distributed mail from there before the rural route took over. Mr. E. O. Vail, Jr., advertised in a local newspaper his store sales, his blacksmithing, farm machinery, etc., in 1904, giving his address as Monitor, Ky, R. R. #4, Bedford, Ky.

✓ Ewingford received its name from a prominent family in the community-the Ewings. Fulton and Rachel (Robbins) Ewing came from New Castle, Ky., and located ~~on~~ on Little Kentucky River. The fording of the country road (County) across this stream involved some of ~~the~~ their property going back to the 1840 according to their son, George D. Ewing. The Ewings gave much time and support to their community rural church known as "Bethel".

The owner of the Country Store at Ewingford for many years was Mr. Shirley Hunter. He is said to have been the last to operate a Post Office from their before its discontinuance.

✓ Hisle is another family name. This office operated into the early thirties, and was the last of the Country Post Offices to be discontinued. This office in the store of Mr. Robert Callis was located ~~on~~ three miles north of Bedford, and eight miles south of Milton, on a route more direct between the two towns, than the "Star Routes" of earlier days. The store closed-out many years ago.

Here in a nearby woodland the Callis Grove camp meetings began in the early 1900s, and have continued thru the years. Old time residents remember when "tremendous crowds" attended the Callis Grove Camp Meetings; and, "and equal throngs were there at four of July celebrations in the same Grove".

/ Corn Creek Post Office at Wises Landing came into existence on June 21, 1878. (Date established as recorded by the U. S. P. O. Dept.) It is located at the mouth of the Creek bearing this name, where its waters flow into the Ohio River, and ~~it~~ it supplied mail to the surrounding area into the 1900s. Postmasters during ~~the~~ these years recalled by older citizens are Richard Ogden, Frank Joyce, Ed Jackson Dr. Wm A. Wright, and Roy Barrickman. Bedford P. O. was its supplier.

Wises Landing furnished a river port accessible to the many trails and roads leading the creek beds to the river; and the early settlers took advantage of this "hub of roads", on the bank of the Ohio. The Wise family had extensive land ownership, and operated a general store in the community for years. Mr. Jesse Wise is known to have had the first store at this "Landing". Its patrons are supplied and served by rural Routes, today.

Wises Landing is today receiving much attention as a possible source of future ~~Energy~~ Energy Power and production, due to projects underway at this time. The Louisville Gas and Electric Co. construction project at Wises Landing; and the Public Service of Indiana Marble Hill Nuclear Plant project in Indiana across the ~~OHIO~~ OHIO, And a short distance west on the north bank from the "Landing"*

VIII. Landmarks of other P. Offices remaining thru the years, along the ridges, and settled also by Virginians, who seemed to choose the upland hills, etc.

✓ Mount Carmel

Located on ridge trail leading from Milton (the river) to Winona near halfway. The Taylor family during its life prevailed as postmasters. Jim Taylor was there many years and probably the last. One John Alexander Chandler was a remembered Star Route carrier; having done so many times on foot.

A country store and County Schools have been lost to the community. But, a beautiful and well maintained Church remains. Also, a large Carmel Heights Subdivision located along U. S. Highway 421 thrives and serves as a reminder of the Old Carmel. Mount Carmel Road exists and residents use it as their place of residence.

✓ Mount Pleasant

This P.O. established soon after the Corn Creek Office was located about halfway between Bedford and Corn Creek Post Offices. It served intermediary for mail, supplies, travel, etc. between Bedford and Wises Landing in its day. An older resident, Mr. S. H. Craig recalls that one mail carrier walked the Bedford route often, and one time when offered a ride, said he was in a hurry-he had a shortcut over the hills and thru the woodland.

Miss. Cora Rowlett, an out-standing resident of the community, carried the mail, sometimes by foot, but more often by horsedrawn vehicles. Miss. Rowlett taught in the local rural school; and gave music lessons on the piano. It is said that she wrote much of her own music.

This settlement, too, had the usual-a store, a school, a church, and the P.O. The church remains as its landmark, today.

Pleasant Retreat

It was located on a ridge two miles south of the Ohio River, and three miles (to four) S. E. of Milton; on some of the richest farm land in the County. Geologists indicate that this small ~~tip~~ northern tip of the county could have been covered by the Great Glazier of the Glazier Age before its melting and receding. Something very rare for Kentucky. No activity exists there today. The Mt. Byrd Christian Church located a short distance East founded in pioneer days is still a lighthouse to the Community. In its flourishing days of country store, Post Office, and school were prominent.

Pleasant Retreat School under the able guidance and direction of teachers, like Mr. A. F. Willis (an early teacher), and Miss. Lottie Mullikin in the last years of its existence for its participation and reputation for holding "Spelling Bees". All age groups would enter the contests. Participants were entered from the other County Schools, as well as, from adjoining counties. Adults competed among themselves on special occasions, too.

IX. Two Offices served from adjoining Ky. Counties.

✓ Providence

Originally it was a thriving settlement and small village, eventually, near East -ern border of Trimble County, and Carroll, and Henry Counties, bordering. Hammells was the name of the settlement. Do not know when the name Providence took over. Only the Providence Baptist Church survives today. It is active and serves the Community well, of it the people are very proud.

In the days when the Post Office operated, it was supplied from (by carriers) Campbellsburg in Henry County three miles distance located on a neighboring ridge and the L. & N. railroad. Its earliest mail in pioneer days probably came from New Castle. Today it is served intermediately by two Rural routes-one from Bedford and the other from Campbellsburg.

Jennings

Three generations of the Jennings family owned the ~~Stuntry~~ Store on Paton Creek. The last of these was Mr. Ira Jennings. He and his father operated the Post Office during the years of its existence.

It is located in the South Western part of the County near the Oldham County and Trimble County border. Mail Carriers and service to the community has ~~been~~ always been supplied from Oldham County Offices; and knowledgeable older citizens remember Pendleton, Ky., as the principal one, thru the years. Today, Rural Route #1, Pendleton, ky., serves the area.

X. Others plus related incidents as told by the oldtimers.

Abbotts was located near the point where roadways from the ^{three} directions merged, from three ridges. It was located 4 miles west of Bedford on the same broad ridge which extends entirely thru the county. The other ridges fingered off from there in opposite directions making its location very accessible to the communities served. George W. Abbott and his father are remembered as owners of the store and operators of the Post Office.

Middle Creek located on a road following the creek bed from Houston's Landing was once a thriving community—church, school, country store and post office, and prominent farming people. One person remembers that "the mail was handled in an old home which had a door cut out to permit mail to be dropped in like a post office"

Gum, too, is a family name. It was located near spring creek landing east of Wise's landing some 4 to 5 miles. The owner of the country store and operator of the post office was a Mr. Moreland; and when ^{many} ~~it~~opped Mr. Means, might have been owner. From two different sources the story goes that one customer of this store in those early days who lived a half to three-quarters of a mile from it never used or would accept the help of neighbors with team, wagon, horses, etc., to get his purchased groceries and supplies home. He always carried physically his barrels and large sacks of flour, sugar, etc., and always passed such assistance.

Leeport located on the Old Bedford Road survived longer than any of the fourteen Post Offices not functioning as suppliers (Bedford & Milton were suppliers) except the Hisle Post Office. They were both about the same distance from Bedford and within four miles of each other; but, a change in roads eventually to be a highway, made accessibility in the direction of Callis Grove where Hisle operated ~~and~~ prolonged the Hisle Post office's lifetime.

XI. Post Office not recorded officially by U. S. Postal Dept.

This involves a historic Post Office located in the County remembered by old timers and known as "The Rock Post Office." Individuals looking for historic reminders still visit it. It consisted of a large rock topped by overhanging boulders full of holes, on the Daniel Wright Farm. It was used by soldiers during the Civil War, and served to communicate, and as a means of communication between them and their families.

XII. A fascinating story involves the Mt. Pleasant Post Office, and Mrs. Prudie Johnson, the Postmistress, and store owner. This occurred in the early nineteen 1900's. A package without return address was delivered by the "Mail Hack" driver, Mr. McCoy. The addressee was not known to either of them—they became suspicious. The package was opened and found to contain Gold—value \$1200 to \$1500. The problem of protection became apparent while contacting Postal Officials & awaiting an answer, etc. Three men guarded the Post Office three days and nights until the proper officials came to take over and relieve a tense situation. The package had been improperly addressed. The address should have been Mt. Pleasant, West Virginia.

Trimble Co. communities

1. ~~Corn Creek (dpo) Ngr.~~ γ
- *2. Bedford (co. seat) \odot
- *3. Milton (com. & po) \odot
4. Winona (dpo) = Palmyra (com)
- *5. Garriott's Landing (dpo)
- *6. Abbott (dpo) \leftarrow may have been Abbottsford (com)
- *7. Ewingford (dpo) (com) \odot
- *8. Trout (dpo) (com)
- *9. Hammels (dpo) = Providence (com)
10. Leeport (dpo) (com)
11. *Vail (dpo) \rightarrow monitor
- *12. Mount Pleasant (dpo) (com) γ
- ~~13. Callis (dpo)~~
14. Gum (dpo) γ
- *15. Welch (dpo)
16. Revere (dpo)
- *17. Hisle (dpo) \odot (Callis Grove) \leftarrow Callis (dpo)
- *18. Jennings (dpo) (com) γ
11. 19. Monitor (dpo) (com) \odot \leftarrow Vail*
20. Cottagehill (dpo)
21. Burrows (com)
22. Houston (com) (landing = Garriott's lng po (?)
- 23. Barebone Ngr.
- 24. Buck Creek Ngr.
- 25. Camp Ngr.
- 26. Carmel Ngr. Carmel (dpo) (Mt. Carmel) (Carmel Hts. subdiv.)
- 27. Collis (sic) Grove Ngr.
- 28. Coopers Bottom Ngr.
- 29. East Bedford Ngr.
- 30. Fisher Ridge Ngr.
- 31. Gill Ridge Ngr.
- 32. Hickory Grove Ngr.
- 33. Hunters Bottom Ngr.
- 34. Joyce Ridge Ngr.
- 35. Liberty Ngr.
- 36. Lower Middle Creek Ngr.
- 37. Lower Pattons Creek Ngr.
- 38. Mahoney Ridge Ngr.
- 39. Mt. Byrd Ngr.
- 40. Mt. Tabor Ngr.
- 41. North Bedford Ngr.
- 42. N. Mt. Tabor Ngr.
- 43. N. Union Grove Ngr.
- 44. Pattons Creek Ngr.
45. Pleasant Retreat ~~xxxxx~~ (com) γ
- 46. Poplar Ridge Ngr.
- *7. 9. Providence (com) γ
- 48. Sligo Ngr.
- 49. S. Bedford Ngr.
- 50. S. Mt. Tabor Ngr.
- 51. S. Union Grove Ngr.
- 52. Sulphur Ngr.
- 53. ~~(xxxxx)~~ Union Grove Ngr.
- 54. Upper Middle Creek Ngr.
- 55. Upper Pattons Creek Ngr.
- 56. Wentmouth Ridge Ngr.
- 57. West Carmel Ngr.
- 58. Wilson Ngr.
- *59. Wisers Landing (com) \odot Corn Creek P.O.

60. Little Key Ngrbr.

4, 9. Palmyra (com) = Wihona PO (0Po)

ngbr = 35 (excl.)

NT = 26

⊙ = sample
x = reserve.