BACHELORS REST (Pendleton Co.): [Baech/əl/ərz Rehst] (Berlin). This name still identifies a settlement 1½ miles from the Bracken Co. line and 5 air miles ese of Falmouth. It was allegedly named for the bachelors who'd be seen sunning themselves on benches in front of the local store. The post office, established as Batchelors Rest (sic) on May 16, 1870, with Robert A. Stanly, postmaster, was renamed Mains in 1887 when Sarah Mains became postmaster. It closed in 1903. [Ethel Bell, interview, 10/17/1978]
BACKUSBURG (Calloway Co.): BACKUS/BER/SHORT (Kirksey). A graveyard and other signs of what may have been an old Chickasaw settlement are still visible on the bluff above the site of this now abandoned mill and trading town on Ky. 464, 1 1/4 miles from the Graves Co. line and 9 3/4 air miles nw of Murray. Among the earliest white settlers of the vicinity was Sam Watson, who, in 1818, settled just south of the present town site. Backusburgh. A post office serving that area at some undetermined location was established as CLARK'S RIVER, for the nearby stream, on April 27, 1846 with Jonathan W. Terrell, postmaster, and was discontinued on July 6, 1860. It was re-established as BACKUSBURGH, though not necessarily at the same site, on Nov. 7, 1873 with Wm. P. Bean, postmaster, and named for Asa Backus who, with Jac (sic) Thomas, had opened a saw and grist mill there some 4 years before. According to tradition, Asa and another contended for the honor of bestowing their names upon the new office; someone flipped a coin and Asa won. Sometime later, he moved to Texas where he became a successful businessman. Bean is also said to have run the local saw and grist mills while McNut and Ladd, Mayfield businessmen, ran the first store. The post office was discontinued on Oct 14, 1905. Mills and store are now gone and local farm families get their mail from Kirksey, 4 miles east. (1) Brown C. Tucker, interview, 8/4/1977; (2) Letter to MURRAY LEDGER & TIMES, c.1940 and repro. in Ibid., 4/28/1967.
BAGDAD (Shelby Co.): \[\text{Baegh/daeJ} \] (N. Pleasureville). A village with an active post office and some 250 residents centered at the junction of KY 12 and 395, 8\(\frac{1}{2}\) air miles ne of Shelbyville. The post office of Christiansburg, established Jan. 20, 1827 at a point 2 miles nw, was moved here in 1861 and renamed Bagdad with Richard Radford as postmaster. No one really knows why this name was applied to the post office and station on the old Louisville Cincinnati & Lexington (now L&N) Railroad, but nearly all of the traditional accounts have been challenged. According to one of these, the station was named for Radford, a favorite of the early railroadmen, who had been nicknamed "Daddy's Bag". For some inexplicable reason, the syllables of this name were reversed and shortened and the station and post office came to be called Bagdad. It is more frequently told that the name derived from the indistinct efforts of the local miller's son to communicate with a speech impediment; his attempts at saying "granddad" or anything else usually came out "Bagdad". A more plausible story is that, whenever a customer appeared at the mill with a sack of grain to be ground, the boy would call out to his father "bag, dad?" By the late 19th century the community had become an important farm trade center and rail shipping point for area livestock, tobacco, and locally-milled meal and flour.

[(1) Geo. L. Willis HIST. OF SHELBY CO. KY. P. 61; (2) Camille Jones in an article on Bagdad in the Cent. ed. of the SHELBY SENTINEL, c1940]
BAILEY CREEK (Harlan Co.): [Ba/lee Kreek] (Nolansburg, Evarts)

A hamlet with an extinct post office on the stream of that name, a n-bank branch of Clover Fork of the Cumberland River, 7 air miles e of Harlan. The creek is said to have been named for Carr Bailey, a Revolutionary War veteran, who had settled at its mouth and was one of the first settlers of Harlan Co. The local post office of Smithville, established July 28, 1857 with Hugh Smith, postmaster, was renamed Bayly's Creek (sic) in 1875 with Joseph S. Kelly, postmaster, and discontinued in May 1880. It was re-established as Bailey on Sept. 23, 1880 with John B. Kelly and discontinued in 1900. Residents have since gotten their mail from Evarts, 1 road miles s. CONTRIBUTED TO WPA, 5/11/1939
BAILEYS SWITCH (Knox Co.): [Ba/leez Swîch] (Heidrick). A supermarket and post office serve this community of some 400 persons at the mouth of Middle Fork of Richland Creek, just south of US25e and 2 air miles north of Barbourville. According to county historians, this is probably the second oldest settlement in the county, next to Flat Lick, having sprung up around Daniel Boone's camp which he had occupied in 1769, and again in 1775 when he was laying out his famed trace. The post office of Baileys Switch was established Sept. 15, 1890 with John R. Bailey, postmaster, shortly after the L&N Railroad erected a switch on Bailey's land. Bailey is also said to have been a local timber producer and shipper. Though the post office is still known as Baileys Switch, the community is now locally called merely Baileys since the switch is gone. [(1) K. Sol Warren, interview, 6/23/1978; (2) R.R. South, "Our Station Names" L&N EMPLOYEES' MAG. 3/1950, P. 34]
BAIZETOWN (Ohio Co.): [Baz/town] (Flener). Only the New Zion Church and several homes remain of this community at the junction of KY 505 and 1118, 2 miles from the Butler Co., and 11 air miles ese of Hartford. Around 1880 a small store was started on the John Henry Baize farm here and on May 23, 1893 the Baizetown post office was established by storekeeper-postmaster, John D. Oliver who named it for Baize or his family. [Musker L. Heavrin, P.N. of Ohio Co., ms, 3/20/1925]
BAKERTON (Cumberland Co.): [Bæk/ər/tən] (Burkesville). A crossroads settlement with an active post office on Clay Lick Bottom, \( \frac{1}{4} \) mile west of the Cumberland River and 3\( \frac{1}{2} \) air miles nne of Burkesville. The office was established May 29, 1848 on the river at a point 1\( \frac{1}{2} \) miles below the mouth of Crocus Creek to serve the Bakerton Landing, a major tobacco shipping point for the Nashville market. It has been said that more tobacco was shipped from here than any other place in the US. The Baker were a pioneer family of Virginians whose progenitor, James Baker with his 3 brothers pitched their first camp in what became known as First Night Hollow, on Big Renox Creek, 2 miles west.\(^{(1)}\) J.W. Wells, HIST. OF CUMB. CO. 1947, p. 348; \(^{(2)}\) R.N. Smith, interview, 9/22/1978; \(^{(3)}\) Lamar Hamilton, WPA ms
Baldwin (Madison Co.): Baldwin (Valley View). A crossroads hamlet with extinct post office on Ky. 1985, 1 1/2 miles west of Tate Creek and 7 air miles WNW of Richmond. The post office, in operation between 1890 and 1915, was named for a local landowning family. Wm. E. Baldwin was the first postmaster. It is now on a Richmond rural route.

[Right. N. Grise, interview, 4/28/1978]
BALKAN (Bell Co.): [Balkan]. This mining town, a mile up Toms Creek from Tejay on the Cumberland River and 8 air miles e of Pineville, was named for the fact that nearly all of the early miners were of Slavic descent. The post office, established Dec. 20, 1912 with Edwin R. Roberts, postmaster, still serves this active coal producing area.

COUNTY: BALLARD 259 sq. miles. Pop. 9,000. Seat: Wickliffe. Established in 1842 from Hickman and McCracken Co's. and named for Bland W. Ballard (1761-1853), Indian fighter and scout for George Rogers Clark's Ohio and Wabash campaigns, who later fought in the War of 1812 and served in the Kentucky Legislature.
BALLARD (Anderson Co.): Ballard (McBrayer). This virtually extinct crossroads hamlet, less than ½ mile north of the Blue Grass Parkway and 3/4 mile west of the Mercer County line, in the "Cut-Off" section of the county, so-called for its having been taken from Mercer and Washington Counties when Anderson Co. was formed. This vicinity was settled by a family of Caldwells, one of whom, Austin G., established the post office on Aug. 8, 1893. It was either named for Thomas Ballard who, as postmaster of Lawrenceburg at that time, had helped to secure the office for the community or for Wm. Ballard, the first of that name to be listed in a county census and whose farm was a short distance from the post office site. Caldwell's Store, an earlier post office in the area—which was established by and named for Benj. F. Caldwell, and in operation from 1866 to 1883—may also have been referred to as Ballard. Since the Ballard post office closed in 1904, the few local families shop at the nearby Bowen store and secure their mail from Lawrenceburg, 7½ air miles northeast.

(1) Wyatt Shely, col. 10/21/1971; (2) Mildred Roberts from J.B. Shely, WPA; (3) Philip Spencer, interview, 8/4/1978.
BALLARDSVILLE (Oldham Co.): (Ballardsville). A hamlet with an extinct post office centering at the junction of KY 22 and 53, 2½ air miles sse of LaGrange. The post office was established sometime before 1829 and named for a family of early settlers. It was discontinued in 1903 and papers were transferred to Crestwood, 7½ road miles wsw. Ballardsville was chartered as a town by the Kentucky Legislature in 1838.

[Theodore Klein, interview, 4/7/1978]
BALLTOWN (Nelson Co.) (New Haven). This hamlet on Ky. 46, just east of US 31E, 4 1/2 air miles ssw of Bardstown, was named for James Ball who settled there just before 1800 and came to own nearly all of the land in that vicinity. A post office was in operation from 1884 to 1904 and mail now comes from New Haven, 8 road miles sw.

[Sarah Smith, interview, 11/4/1978]
BANDANA (Ballard Co.): [Baen/daen/ə] (Bandana). On July 14, 1880, on land once owned by Oscar Turner, Wm. Clayton established the post office of Bandana. A community at that site was already known as Skillet. The true derivation of either name may never be known but two traditional accounts have been offered. According to local residents, the Bandana name was inspired by either the sight of a pack peddler who would regularly walk the five miles up from Ogden's Landing on the Ohio River with his wares wrapped in a "bandana handkerchief poke slung over his shoulder" or by such a handkerchief that had once been left behind by a party of hunters who had just completed a meal prepared on a skillet. (perhaps accounting for the other name as well) In either case, an incorporated farm trade center grew up at this site, at the present junction of Ky. 473,358, and 1105, 13½ miles nne of Wickliffe. Today a clinic, post office, and a dozen businesses serve some 250 residents and their rural neighbors.

BANNER (Floyd Co.): [Baen/er] (Harold). This active post office at the mouth of Prater Creek, a branch of the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River, and 5 air miles sse of Prestonsburg, was named for David Banner. He is said to have come here from Virginia to buy cattle, fell in love with a local girl and stayed to establish the post office on June 30, 1897. Malone Hall was the first postmaster. [Henry P. Scalf, interview, 4/21/1971]
BAPTIST (Wolfe Co.): Baptist Fork of Stillwater Creek, 1 mile s of the Mountain Parkway and 3 air miles e of Campton, was named for the Stillwater Old Baptist Church that was organized there in 1837 by the Rev's. William Lykins and Daniel Duff. The post office was established April 9, 1917 in Roscoe Wells' store with Mr. Wells as postmaster and closed in 1974. The church now "sits desolate" 100 yards from the vacant store building. [Golden Allen, Baptist, Ky., letter to me, 3/3/1980]
BARBOURMEADE (Jefferson Co.): [Bahr/bahr/meed] (Anchorage). A 6th class city of some 1040 residents between I 71 and the Brownsboro Rd. (KY 22), 9 air miles ene of the court house in downtown Louisville. Incorporated in 1962, it was probably named for Barbour Lane which forms its western boundary and which, in turn, was named for Thomas and Richard Barbour, pioneer settlers of the Harrods Creek area to the n. Thomas shipped flour to New Orleans from the mill he built on that creek in 1808. The community has always been served by the Louisville post office. [Ward Sinclair & Harold Browning, "Harrods Creek--A Stream, a Village, a Luxury Area" LOU. TIMES 11/17/1965] 719
BARBOURVILLE (Knox Co.): [Bahr/bahr/vihl] (Barbourville, Heidrick). A 4th class city of some 3700 residents and the more or less centrally located seat of Knox Co., at the confluence of Richland Creek and the Cumberland River, 130 air miles SE of downtown Louisville. It was named for James Barbour, a Virginia-born pioneer, who, in October 1800, offered to the first county court 38 acres for its seat from the 5000 acres he had acquired in that vicinity. The post office was established April 1, 1804 with Richard Henderson, postmaster. The area's gas fields and coal mines have formed the basis for the city's economy. ["Early Settler of County Furnished Necessary Land for Town of Barbourville" 75th anni. ed. of CORBIN TRIB. 2/23/1967, Barbourv.-Knox Co. Sect., P. 2] 398
BARCREEK (Clay Co.): [Bahr Kreek] (Barcreek). This extinct post office, ½ mile up Bear Creek from its confluence with Redbird River and 8 air miles ne of Manchester, was established March 7, 1900 with Elijah Herd, postmaster. The name was probably a vocalized corruption of Bear Creek though today most people tend to pronounce the latter "Bc/Kreek". The creek, according to tradition, was named by early hunters who had killed a bear on its banks. There is the possibility, of course, that the post office was named for a large sandbar formed at or near the site. Postal services for the vicinity are now provided from Oneida, 6½ road miles north. [(1) Jess Wilson, interview, 7/9/1977; (2) Marian Martin's ms. on Clay Co. place names]
BARDO (Harlan Co.): [Bahr/ doh] (Harlan). A mining town with an extinct post office on KY 72 and at the mouth of Jones Branch of Catron Creek, 5½ air miles s of Harlan. The name is said to have been corrupted from Bordeaux, that of the French city, and suggested by James Bowling, the superintendent of a nearby mine, who had served in France in the First World War. The post office was established March 12, 1928 with Peter H. Bean, postmaster. [Mabel Collins "Town Names Given by Railroads, Companies, Settlers",...]

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BARDSTOWN (Nelson Co.): Bardstown. A 4th class city of some 7200 persons and the more or less centrally located seat of Nelson Co., on US 31E, 150, and 62, just n of the Blue Grass Parkway and 32 air miles sse of downtown Louisville. According to tradition, the site had been settled by 1776 by Proctor Ballard, Benjamin Grayson, and others and first called Salem or Salem Town. In 1780 William Bard (1738-1802), a Pennsylvania-born surveyor, arrived to represent his brother, David who had been granted a 1000 acre tract here by Virginia's Gov. Patrick Henry. William soon laid off the town which, in 1784 as Bardstown, was made the seat of the newly created Nelson Co. In early records the name was variously spelled Bards Town, Bardstown, Bairdstown, and even Beardstown due, in part, to the confusion in the proper spelling of the Bard brothers' name. The Bards, who generally used this spelling, were the sons of Archibald Bard, an Irish immigrant, who was also known as Beard. In Scotland, years before, their family name had been spelled in characteristic as Baird. To complicate matters, unrelated families of Baird and Beard had also settled in the area before 1800. James Baird, also a Pennsylvanian, lived just e of the Bard brothers' tract and like William and, later, his sons, was involved in the town's early affairs. The post office was established as Bairdstown on Oct. 1, 1794 with Benjamin Grayson, postmaster, and retained this spelling until, it is said, by around 1820 William Bard's sons had taken the necessary steps to legitimize the spelling in its present form. 

(1) Sarah B. Smith, HIST'C. NELSON CO. 1971, Pp. 300-1; (2) David H. Hall, letter to me, 8/5/1980; (3) Ibid. in his col. "Old Nelson Notebook" in the (Bardstown) KY. STANDARD, 9/16/1976
BARDSTOWN JUNCTION (Bullitt Co.): [Bahr'dz/town Djuh'k/ʃaɪn] (Shepherdsville). When the people of the city Bardstown learned that the L&N Railroad wouldn't extend their line south through their city, they built their own 17 mile long Bardstown and Louisville RR, which was completed in 1860, to join the main Louisville to Nashville line at a point that came to be known as Bardstown Junction. In 1864 the B&L was purchased by the L&N to become its Bardstown Branch. A small community on the present KY 61, 2½ air miles south of Shepherdsville, grew up around the junction. The local post office was established Feb. 21, 1862 as Nelson Junction. In 1866 it became Bardstown Junction and briefly in the late 1880s was called Trunnelton [Truhn'/tən] for a local family. The Bardstown Junction name was restored in 1890. The office later closed and the place is now on a Shepherdsville rural route. [Burlyn Pike, interview, 10/2/1977]
BARDWELL. (Carlisle Co.): [Bahrd/wehl] (Arlington, Wickliffe). A 5th class city of around 1000 residents and the seat of Carlisle Co., at the junction of US 51 and 62, 190 air miles SW of downtown Louisville. The town was founded on land owned by A. W. Violett and Alonzo Shanklin at the time the Mississippi Central (now Illinois Central Gulf) Railroad was being built through around 1874. It may first have been called Crittenden; probably for John J. Crittenden, Kentucky governor and later U.S. senator, but other such named places in the state required the selection of another name. Depending on whose tradition is accepted, it was either renamed for the railroad's superintendent of construction whose name had already been applied to the station and commissary just N of the town site, or for an artesian or bored well just N of the present Illinois Central Gulf station that supplied water for the station and commissary, or for a "boarded well"—that is one with a wooden plank placed to keep the mud from rushing into the well as it was being dug. In any case, as Bardwell the post office was established on June 22, 1874 with local storekeeper Thomas S. Turk, postmaster, and the town was incorporated on April 10, 1879. In 1886, due to its its more central location, it became the seat of the new county. Today the Illinois Central Gulf RR owns the land on which the town's main street is located as well as the old depot. Merchants have long sought, and thus far unsuccessfully, to purchase the street and depot for the town so it would be eligible for federal grants which require land ownership by the town itself. (1) Ran Graves, 1958, Pp. 43-6; (2) W.S. Kaltenbacker, "Tourists Impressed by Pioneer Homes in State" LCJ, 6/23/1929, Sec. 5, P. 2:5-6; (3) Ralph E. Graves, ed. HIST. OF CARLISLE CO., KY. FOR THE YEARS 1820-1900, Vol. 1, c. 7/1976, Pp. 13, 46; (4) Johnny Miller "Bardwell Continues to Fight for Growth" ORC 6/29.56, 5/21, 5/2. 
BARK CAMP (Whitley Co.): [Bahrk Kaemp] (Sawyer). A hamlet with a recently discontinued post office on KY 1277, 12 air miles nw of Williamsburg, which grew up around a mid 19th century camp for tanbark gatherers who supplied area tanneries. A local sawmill accounts for Bark Camp Mills, the name by which the post office was known from its inception in 1858 to 1931 when it became just Bark Camp. (1) Eugene Siler, interview, 6/23/1978; (2) John L. Crawford, interview, 6/22/1978.
BARLOW (Ballard Co.): [Bahr/loh] (Barlow). This 6th class city of some 800 residents on US 60 and the Illinois Central Gulf Railroad, 5½ air miles nne of Wickliffe, is said to have been first settled in 1849 by Thomas Jefferson Barlow from Scott Co., Ky. It is most likely his name that was applied to the town that was incorporated as Barlow City on March 6, 1872 and the post office that was established as such on Aug. 23, 1875. The "City" was dropped from the post office name in 1903. [Bob Hill, "Bringing it All Home: Last Male Barlow Tells Some Tales Out-of-School" LCJ, 7/16/1978, P. B1:1-6]
BARNESLEY (Hopkins Co.): [Bahrenz/lee] (Madisonville East).
In 1886, unsuccessful in its efforts to organize the St. Bernard Mining Co., a Knights of Labor lodge established the Cooperative Mining and Manufacturing Company of Hopkins Co. and opened a mine of its own at this site on the present US 41A, 3 1/2 air miles s of Madisonville. The community that was founded to house and serve the miners was called BARNESLEY for reasons unknown, and by this name a post office was opened Aug. 17, 1888 by William Walton. For a time the community was also called Walton City but hopes for its prosperous future were never realized. The post office closed in 1928 and the community of some 100 residents is now strictly residential. It is on a Madisonville rural route. [ORIG. ATLAS & HIST. DATA OF HOP. CO., KY. 1974, P. 42]
BARRALLTON (Bullitt Co.): [Bærəl/tɔn] (Valley Station). An extinct post office in the Knob Creek Valley, on KY 1526, 1½ miles from the Jefferson Co. line and 5 air miles wnw of Shepherdsville. The office was established Feb. 13, 1885 and probably named for the first postmaster, Joseph Alden Barrall or his family. The area is now on a Shepherdsville rural route.
COUNTY: BARREN. 468 sq. miles. Pop. 33,713. Seat: Glasgow. Established in 1798 from parts of Green and Warren Co's. and named by early explorers to whom this large treeless area of sc Kentucky seemed singularly infertile and not attractive to farm settlement. Most historians believe that the Indians periodically burned away the tree growth to facilitate their buffalo hunts.
BARRIER (Wayne Co.): [Barrier] (Monticello). A hamlet with a recently discontinued post office, at the head of Elk Spring Valley, centering at the junction of KY 92 and 1479, 5½ air miles SE of Monticello. It was named for a prominent area family, the descendants of the Rev. Richard Barrier (1768-1854), a pioneer preacher from South Carolina. The post office was established June 25, 1902 with Ephraim Miller, postmaster. [Garnet Walker, interview, 8/9/1974]
BARTERVILLE (Nicholas Co.): [Bahr/vahr/vihl, Bahr/tarz/vihl] (Piqua). This hamlet, at the junction of 5 roads at the head of Crooked Creek, 4 air miles n of Carlisle, is said to have been first settled in 1820 by Jacob Meyers. Its early history as a trade or bartering center probably accounts for its name. The founders of the post office, in operation from 1879 to 1973, may have preferred to call it Helena but found another office, in Mason Co., with this name. Residents are now served by Price's Grocery and a Carlisle mail route. [HIST. OF NICH. CO. comp. & ed. by Joan W. Conley, 1976, Pp. 51, 54]
BARTHELL (McCrea/ary Co.): [Bahr/thehl] (Barthell). Nothing remains of this, the first coal mining community built by the Stearns Coal and Lumber Co. and the first station (completed May, 1903) on its Kentucky and Tennessee Railway, 3½ rail miles w of Stearns, Ky. (q.v.) Located a mile up Roaring Paunch Creek from the Big South Fork of the Cumberland River, 4 air miles sw of Whitley City, it was named for Edward Barthell, a Nashville and Chicago attorney who performed much of the legal work involved in the firm's acquisition of large tracts of Kentucky and Tennessee coal and timber land. The post office, also extinct, was established May 4, 1905 with Fred A. Cain, postmaster. [(1) Dr. Frank C. Thomas, letter to me, 1/29/1979; (2) Elmer G. Sulzer GHOST RR OF KY. 1967, P. 212]
BASKETT (Henderson Co.): [Bass/kat] (Spottsville). Only the post office, a store, and the Baptist church are left of a once thriving railroad station and coal mining community, one mile n. of the present US60 and 4 air miles e. of Henderson. A village was founded there in 1888 to house the employees of the Baskett Coal Company soon after the sinking of a mine shaft on land then owned by the sons of John Baskett (1798-1865). In that year also the first store was opened, and in 1889 the Lou. Henderson and St. Louis (now L&N) RR station was completed and named for John or Jesse from whom the land was acquired. The Baskett post office was established May 14, 1890 with Wm. H. Baskett, postmaster. Until relatively recently the community was known as Baskett Station, but is now simply Baskett.

(1) "Hist. of Baskett Sta., Ky." ms., 1926, in KHS Libr. (2) Maralea Arnett, interview, 10/19/1978; (3) Spalding Trafton, letter to Wm. G. Steel, 4/20/1922
COUNTY:


Established in 1811 from part of Montgomery Co. and named for its many medicinal springs.
BATTLETOWN (Meade Co.): [Baet/s1/town] (New Amsterdam). A crossroads hamlet on Ky. 228, 1 mile west of the Ohio River, and 7½ air miles nw of Brandenburg, that probably preceded the establishment of the Battletown post office on May 7, 1890. According to local tradition, Mack Bennett, the first postmaster, named it for an afternoon-long and inconclusive fist fight between Nathan Hubbard and Jimmy Bennett over either the location or the naming of the post office or possibly a woman. The office still serves about 100 residents, an elementary school, 2 stores, and several churches. (1) Marie Coleman, interview, 8/23/1978; (2) Fr. John A. Lyons in ms. hist. of St. Theresa's Chu. c.1950, P. 5295.
BAYS (Breathitt Co.): [Baz] (Seitz). A store and post office on KY 1094, 4½ miles up Hunting Creek from its confluence with Quicksand Creek, 1½ miles from the Magoffin Co. line and 9 air miles ne of Jackson. The post office was established March 30, 1898 and named for the landowning family of its first postmaster, Alley M. Bays. [Clara Jackson, interview, 6/30/1978]
BEARVILLE (Knott Co.): [BEAVIHL] (Carrie). A hamlet with office, an active post, and school on Big Branch of Balls Fork of Troublesome Creek, 4 air miles NW of Hindman. The post office was established in the early 1870's with Lucinda Combs, postmaster, and named for a local family of Combs. Over the years it was necessary to distinguish several Combs families in that section by giving them nicknames. One family was called the "Bear Combses", perhaps for some incident in the life of an ancestor. 

(1) Wilma Kent, interview, 11/25/79; (2) Tom Sutton, interview, 6/18/79
BEARWALLOW (Barren-Hart intercounty feature): BE/wahl/2 (Park).
Though the community is now limited to several homes centered on the junction of US 31E and KY 685 and 1141, 9 air miles n of Glasgow and 7 1/2 air miles s of Munfordville, the name has come to identify a fairly large area on both sides of the county line. It was allegedly applied by early hunters to a depression to which bears and other wild animals would come to wallow and drink at the local spring. This was the site of an ante-bellum stage stop and tavern on the Lexington-Nashville Trace and the point of departure for travelers to Mammoth Cave, 16 miles west. The Bear Wallow post office was in operation between 1850 and 1906 but the area is now on a rural route out of Horse Cave, 4 road miles nw. [1]
Roy A. Cann ms. hist. of Hart Co. 1971; (2) Ann Matera, interview, 7/21/1978}
BEAUTY (Martin Co.): [Byu/te] (Kermit). This coal mining town with an active post office and a 1970 population of some 500 extends for about 1 1/2 miles along KY 40 and Buck Creek from a point 5 air miles ese of Inez. It was established in 1918 as Himlerville by Martin Himler, a Hungarian-American journalist, for his cooperatively-run Himler Coal Co. and its employees, primarily Hungarian and other central European immigrants. By this name the post office was established on Jan. 17, 1921 with Himler, himself, as postmaster. The place soon came to be considered one of the cleanest and most attractive mining towns in Kentucky--a real beauty among coal camps. In 1929 the company's holdings were sold to Arch Hewitt of Huntington and in Oct. of that year the post office was renamed Beauty, it is said, for the attractiveness of the area. Some say, though, that the new name was derived from "Kentucky Beauty Coal", the name of the coal marketed by J.H. Mandt's Hysteam Coal Corp. which later took over production. (1) Mary Lucile Chapman THE INFLUENCE OF COAL IN THE BIG SANDY VAL. UK Diss. 1945, Pp. 225-37; (2) "Hysteam Corp. Mines Ky. Beauty Coal" MARTIN MERC. 7/1970, P. 12:1-5; (3) Robt. E. Deitz, "Martin Co., Ky.: A Portrait of Poverty" LCJMAG. 1/31/1965, Pp. 7-11. 1970, P. 12:1-5;
BEATTYVILLE (Lee Co.): [Be/aye/vi] (Beattyville). A 5th class city of some 1030 persons and the seat of Lee Co., at the junction of KY 11 and 52, and the forks of the Kentucky River, 111 air miles se of downtown Louisville. The first settler at the site is unknown but may have been John Stufflebean, a Hessian soldier who had deserted the British Army during the Revolution to fight for the Americans and was granted land in this area for his services. For reasons unknown it was called Taylors Landing before 1850 when the town of Beattyville was officially established by an act of the General Assembly. It was named for Samuel Beatty (1793-1880) who had arrived at the site in 1843 and is credited with having founded the town. By 1870, when Beatty donated the land for the new county’s seat, it had become a thriving trade center with great economic promise. However, the plans of land speculators to build a great industrial and commercial city based on the development of the area’s coal and timber resources failed to materialized. [1] Nevyle Shackelford, interview, 7/8/1978; (2) LEE CO. CENT. 1870-1970, Pp. 11-2, 31-2]
BEAVER DAM (Ohio Co.): Beaver Dam (Hartford, Horton). The largest community in the county, this 5th class city with an active post office and some 2900 residents is on US62 and 231, less than 1½ miles SSE of Hartford. The immediate vicinity was first settled around 1795 by the family of Martin Kohlmann (Coleman), a German immigrant, who is said to have named the local stream Beaver Dam Creek for the many beaver dams he had noted at various sites along it. Within a few years the settlement of Beaver Dam had grown up around the local Baptist church, founded in 1798, which was one of the first in the Green River valley. It was not until April 10, 1852, however, that the post office of Beaver Dam was established with James S. Coleman, postmaster. The completion of the Elizabethtown & Paducah (now Ill. Central Gulf) Railroad in 1871 and the ensuing development of the area's coal production led to the town's becoming the chief rail shipping points in that section of the state. It was incorporated in 1873. (1) FOGLE'S PAPERS: A HIST. OF OHIO CO., KY. by McDowell; A. Fogle, n.d., Pp. 335, 377, 380; (2) "Beaver Dam" OHIO CO NEWS, 7/19/1973, Sec. 1, P. 2:1-3.
BEAVERLICK (Boone Co.): [Beaver lick] (Union). A hamlet with/ at the junction of 2 roads (the present KY 1292/338 and Ryan or Mud Lick Rd) to which hunters and trappers brought their catches to sell to fur company agents in the Ohio Valley between 1780-1820. The post office, established as Beaver Lick Nov. 28, 1853 with John W. Tucker, postmaster, was probably named for its location at the head of what's now called Beaver Branch of Big Bone Creek on which beaver in profusion were likely early observed. The post office name resumed its one word spelling in 1895. The community, ¼ mile e of US 127/42 and 10 air miles s of Burlington, is now served by the Walton post office, some 5 road miles e.

[Wm. Fitzgerald "Origin of P.N. in Boone Co." unpub. ms., 1962]
BECKNERVILLE (Clark Co.) [Behk/när/vihl (Ford). A hamlet on Ky. 1923, 4½ air miles wsw of Winchester, that for much of the 19th century was called pioneer Haydens Corner since it was part of the 129 acres purchased by Samuel Hayden (or Haydon), Sr. from David McGee's 1400 acre pre-emption. The post office, established Sept. 22, 1884 with Joel H. Powell, postmaster, was named for Wm. Morgan Beckner (1841-1910), a Winchester attorney, educator, newspaperman, and sometime county judge. Since the office closed in 1904, postal services have been secured from Winchester. [Kathryn Owen interview, 6/1/1977]
BECKTON (Barren Co., [Beckton] (Lucas). A hamlet at the junction of KY 685 and 1297, 5 air miles w. of Glasgow, whose post office was established Dec. 18, 1883 and named for James B. Beck (1822-1890), U.S. Congressman (1867-75) and Senator (1877-90). Since the office closed in 1903, area residents have been on a Glasgow rural route. 

BEDFORD (Trimble Co.): A 6th class city of some 730 persons and the seat of Trimble Co., on US 42 and 421, 30 air miles NE of downtown Louisville. It is said to have been settled around 1808 by the family of Richard Bell who built his home on the hill above what was to become the famed ante-bellum resort of Bedford Springs. The town was chartered in 1816 and probably named for Bell's Virginia hometown. The post office was established March 23, 1818 with William E. Young, postmaster. In 1837, soon after the county was established, the town was made its seat.  

BEECH (Breathitt Co.): Beech (Canoe). An extinct post office on KY 1388 and Bowling Creek (a branch of the Middle Fork of the Kentucky River), 11 1/2 air miles s of Jackson, that was established Aug. 22, 1925 with Mrs. Mary T. Johnson, postmaster, and named for the abundance of beech trees in the area. (It served an extended community along Bowling called Beech Grove which now gets its mail from the Altro post office, some 4 1/4 road miles e ne.)
BEECH CREEK (Muhlenberg Co.): [Beech Kreek] (Drakesboro). A village with an active post office extending for over a mile in a nw direction along Ky. 246 from Beech Creek, for which it was named, to a point about 5½ air miles east of Greenville. The creek, a wet weather branch of Pond Creek, was named for the many beech trees along its banks. Paralleling the creek is an L&N Railroad spur to the site of an old coal mine at a station called Wright. The Beech Creek post office was established on July 12, 1906 with Anderson D. Kirkpatrick, postmaster. (q.v. Beechmont) [Alex'r. Cather, interview, 8/8/1977]
BEECH GROVE (McLean Co.): Beech Grove (Beach Grove).

A recently de-incorporated city of some 150 residents and an active post office at the junction of KY 56, 136, and 147, less than 2 miles n of the Green River and 8 1/2 air miles nw of Calhoun. According to tradition, the settlement was first located on the bank of Mason Creek, a Green River tributary, ½ mile n of the present site, and was called Buckhorn. It was served by the post office of Mason Creek from April 6, 1866 till 1878 when it was relocated at its present site and renamed Beech Grove for a local grove of beech trees. It soon became a thriving trade center with flour mill and tobacco factory.

BEECHMONT (Muhlenberg Co.): [Beech/mahnt] (Drakesboro).

A village with an active post office and a 1970 population of 370, extending n and w from the junction of US 432 and KY 246, 7½ air miles e of Greenville. The community was first called Beech Creek Junction for the local L&N Railroad station at the point where the Beech Creek Spur joins the Owensboro and Russellville line. The spur extends for 1½ miles w to the station, post office, and community of Beuch Creek (q.v.) and another 1½ miles to Wright, a station that served a local coal mine. The Beechmont name, applied first to the post office established at the Junction on Dec. 16, 1949, is said to have been suggested by Mrs. Bernice McLeomore. [Alex'r. Cather, interview, 8/8/1977]
BEECHY (Greenup Co.): [Beech/e] (Load). A rural settlement with extinct post office nearly 2 miles up Beechy Creek from its confluence with Tygarts Creek and 7 air miles wnw of Greenup. The post office was established March 27, 1903 in Mr. Jackson's store with William J. Smith, postmaster, and named for the stream on whose banks grew many large beech trees. The office closed in 1934 and local people now get their mail from South Shore, 7½ air miles n. [(1) M.M. Stevens, letter to Wm. G. Steel, 4/20/1922; (2) RUSSELL TIMES, 9/25/1942, Sect. 3, P. 7:3-4]
BEETHIDE (Pike-Letcher intercounty feature) [Beef/hahd] (Jenkins East and Jenkins West). A scattered community extending for nearly a mile along Beefhide Creek, for which it was named. Its citizens claim somewhat greater loyalty to Pike County since it's now served by the Lionill post office, (and the 4 miles to US 23 at Myra make easier access to Pikeville, 16 air miles to the ne than to Whitesburg, 13 miles in the other direction.) Though a Beefhide post office was established on April 17, 1901 with Merdelia Potter, postmaster, local traditions refer to a settlement on the site before the Civil War. According to one acct. of the name, some Civil War patrol had camped on the creek, killed some local livestock, consumed the beef, and left the hides. Others have suggested that the name marks a 19th cent. slaughterhouse in the vicinity or possibly one or more tanning operations maintained by local Mullins or Wright families. The most commonly heard accounts are of travelers who named the creek for the many slaughtered bees seen hanging in local barns and farmyards. Today the site is but a worked out mining community of some 50 persons. Some of its past departed population have been returning to jobs in revitalized area mines but a bad flood in 1975 and serious erosion have reduced the amount of land available for resettlement. 

BEELERTON (Hickman Co.): [Beel/ər/ton] (Crutchfield). This settlement with extinct post office on KY 1529, 7 air miles se of Clinton, grew up around James A. Dodson's store and was named for Dr. George Beeler, a Clinton physician. The post office, established July 31, 1886 with John J. Kennedy, postmaster, closed in 1904 and mail is now secured from Fulton, 6½ road miles s in Fulton Co. D. Johnson "Definition & Origin of Names in Hickman Co., Ky." ms. sent to Wm. G. Steel, 9/17/1929
BEE LICK (Pulaski Co.): [Bee Lihk] (Woodstock). This extinct post office on Ky. 39, at the junction of Pulaski, Lincoln, and Rockcastle Counties, 15½ air miles nne of Somerset, was established in Lincoln Co. Jan. 29, 1861 with John Bobbitt, postmaster, and named for the local creek. The creek had earlier been named for the large number of honey bees along its banks. The post office was moved to its Pulaski Co. site in 1887 and discontinued in 1910. It is now on a rural route out of Crab Orchard, 10 road miles north. [Mary Weaver, letter to me, 9/1/1979]
BEE SPRING (Edmonson Co.): (Bee Spring). A village with an active post office at the junction of KY 259 and 238, 6 1/2 air miles north of Brownsville. This very early settlement was located by a large spring which attracted numerous bees. The Bee Spring post office was established Aug 22, 1854 with Frederick Meredith, postmaster. [Lancie Meredith, ms. on Edmonson Co. P.N., 1972]
BELCHER (Pike Co.): [Behl/cher] (Elkhorn City, Hellier). A hamlet with an active post office centering at the junction of US 460 and KY 80, at the mouth of Ferrell Creek, an e bank tributary of Russell Fork (of the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River), and 11 1/2 air miles se of Pikeville. The post office was established Jan. 3, 1908 and named by the first postmaster, Elbert Belcher, for his father, George W. Belcher (c1852-1924), the first storekeeper. [Dorcas N. Hobbs (from Erna Belcher Damron and Bethel Belcher Beane) in a letter to me, 1/7/1981]
BELFRY (Pike Co.): [Behl/free] (Belfry, Williamson). A village extending for about a mile along US 119 and Pond Creek, 5 miles s of the Tug Fork of the Big Sandy River at Williamson, W.Va., and 14 air miles ne of Pikeville. In 1913 the Williamson and Pond Creek (now N&W) Railway opened a station at this point in its just completed line up the creek to McVeigh and called it Belfry for reasons now unknown. Shortly thereafter the Semet-Solvay Co., a Belgian firm, opened a coal mine nearby, and a tract of land across the creek from the station was laid off for a town and given the Belfry name. A post office, established there Feb. 26, 1921, was called Ep for James Epperson ("Ep") Runyon, a local sawmill operator (and later Pike Co. Court Clerk) and friend of some of the Semet-Solvay officials. In 1926 the post office assumed the Belfry name, which it still bears. [This has long been the trade center for a major coal producing area of n Pike Co.] Clyde Runyon, letters to me, 12/3/1979 and 12/13/1979

Established in 1867 as Josh Bell Co. and named for Joshua Fry Bell (1811-1870), a Danville lawyer and one term US Congressman. While in the Kentucky Legislature (1864-7), he suggested the formation of a new county from parts of Harlan and Knox Co's, which he felt were too large. The name was shortened by Legislative act in 1872.
BELLCRAFT (Letcher Co.): [Behl/kraeft] (Mayking). A now defunct coal camp on Sandlick Creek, 3/4 mile n of Whitesburg's nw city limits, that was built around World War I by a Mr. Craft who named it for his wife Belle. The SE Coal Co. recently acquired mineral rights in the area and it may enjoy an economic comeback. (1) Harry Caudill, NIGHT COMES TO THE CUMBERLAND, P. 105; (2) Wm. T. Cornett, interview, 12/24/1977
BELLEFONTE (Greenup Co.): \textit{Bell/fohnt} (Ashland). A residential suburb for Ashland's business and professional elite on the Boyd County line, bordering the cities of Russell on the north and Flatwoods on the northwest, and 8 air miles southeast of Greenup. It was laid out in 1918 from the Wheatley farm and named for the charcoal-fueled Bellefonte (iron) Furnace which had occupied the site of the present Community Presbyterian Church for most of the 19th century. The furnace, whose name appropriately means "beautiful iron", was built in 1826 by Archibald Paull, George Poage, and others, and operated until 1893. A post office called Belfonte was established by Henry A. Pennington on Nov. 11, 1904 at an undetermined site in Boyd County but was discontinued after only 5 months and its papers transferred to Ashland. Incorporated as a 6th class city in 1951, it has some 900 residents.\footnote{Wallace J. Williamson, letter, 3/8/1971; (2) The Savages, interview, 8/18/1977; (3) Chas. Mead Russell, "The Story of John Russell" in Souv. Ed. of RUSSELL TIMES, 9/15/1974, P. B6}
BELLEVIEW (Grant P.O.) (Boone Co.): [Ḇelv̱y̱u̱, Ghraent] (Rising Sun). Though this Ohio River hamlet on KY 18, less than 1/2 mile below the mouth of Willoughby Creek and 6 air miles wsw of Burlington, has since pioneer days been known as Belleview, its recently closed post office had always been Grant. The Belleview name—if this can be considered its original spelling—was probably applied for the attractive view of the river from this point. Yet at least one county historian has suggested a derivation from the warning bells said to have been used by lookouts on the hill to signal approaching Indians. The post office was established July 15, 1869 with Jesse Hewitt, postmaster, and named for John Grant, then local landowner, to avoid confusion with other Belleviews (variously spelled) in Kentucky. (On an 1880 map, the name of this place was given as Bell Vue.)

BELLEVUE (Campbell Co.): Bel/vey (Newport). A 4th class city with some 7800 residents across the Ohio River from Cincinnati and between the cities of Newport (on the w and s), Woodlawn (on the s), and Dayton (on the e and n). It was laid off into town lots in 1866 and named by A.S. Berry for its location on the site of the hilltop estate of Gen'l. James Taylor, large landowner, businessman, and co-founder of the city of Newport. From the estate, which may originally have been called Belleview, one could get a fine view of the Ohio and Licking Rivers and points beyond. The town was incorporated by the Kentucky Legislature in 1870. It never had its own post office but has long been served by a branch of the Newport post office. [(1) Margaret S. Hartman, interview, 5/22/1979; (2) CINCI. DAILY ENQ. 4/28/1866, P. 4]
BELL FARM (McCreary Co.): [Buhl Farm] (Barthell). A hamlet with a recently closed post office on Rock Creek, a w bank branch of the South Fork of the Cumberland River, 2½ miles from the Wayne Co. line and 11½ air miles wsw of Whitley City. This was one of the coal mining communities established by the Stearns Coal and Lumber Co. and the w terminus of its Kentucky and Tennessee Ry. which had been built to ship coal to the Southern Railway's shipping facility at Stearns, Ky. (q.v.), 20 rail miles e. The Bell Farm post office was established Feb. 17, 1925 with James C. Anderson, postmaster, and named for the large farm there long owned by the Bell family whose progenitor is said to have received a patent for a considerable amount of land on Rock Creek. ① Frank C. Thomas, letter to me, 1/29/1979; (2) Elmer G. Sulzer GHOST RR OF KY. 1967, P. 213, 208, 116r.
BELMONT (Bullitt Co.): [beh-mahn] (Shepherdsville).
A hamlet with an extinct L&N Railroad station and post office on KY 251, 3/4 mile w of I 65 and 5 1/2 air miles s of Shepherdsville. It was named for the Belmont Furnace, a steam-powered furnace that had been built for the Belmont family in 1844 at a site 1 1/2 miles e for the smelting of low grade iron ore mined in the county. The post office, which was established at the furnace site on March 8, 1847 as Crooked Creek Furnace for the local stream, became Belmont in 1854 and may then have been moved to the present site of the hamlet where a station on the L&N's main line was soon established. The furnace later closed when it could no longer compete with iron producers elsewhere. The community now depends on Lebanon Junction, 5 road miles s., for mail service. (1) "Our Station Names" L&N MAG. 12/1949, P. 17; (2) GUIDE TO KY. HIGHWAY MARKERS, No. 1136, P. 237
BELTON (Muhlenberg Co.): [Bēl'tən] (Drakesboro). This hamlet with an active post office on US431, just west of the L&N Railroad and 8 air miles ese of Greenville, was named for Tom Belî, a local landowner. It is not known how long this name has been applied to the place but, along with Yost Post Office, it identifies it on a 1917 topographic map. That post office, established March 6, 1883, with Thomas J. Leigh postmaster, is said to have been named for the Cincinnati postal official who had approved it. In 1926 it was renamed Belton presumably to conform to the name of the community. [Alex' r. Cather, "Origins of Muhl. Co. P.N." CENTRAL CITY TIMES-ARGUS, 8/2/1972, P. 3]
BENGE (Clay Co.): [Bihndj] (Portersburg). This hamlet on Ky. 472, at the mouth of Alderson Branch of Mill Creek, 1 mile from the Laurel Co. line, and 9½ air miles wnw of Manchester, was probably named by and for its first postmaster, Elmira Jane Benge, when/she established the post office (on Aug. 1, 1881) in her store. She was a descendant of "King" David Benge (1760-1854), a Revolutionary War veteran from Albemarle Co., Va. who first settled in Madison Co., Ky. in 1790 and then moved to Clay Co. to seek a better range for his cattle. Since the close of the post office, the community has been on a Manchester rural route. (1) Marian Martin, interview, 6/29/1977, 3/24/1979; (2) Jess Wilson, interview, 7/9/1977; (3) Kelly Morgan, PIONEER FAMILIES, P. 103
BENHAM (Harlan Co.): [Bæn/əm] (Benham). A 5th class city with an active post office and some 1000 residents extending for 2 miles along KY 160, in the narrow Looney Creek Valley, from a point 20 ½ air miles east of Harlan. It was founded in 1911 to house the workers of the newly developed coal operations of the Wisconsin Steel Corp., a subsidiary of International Harvester, and was named for the Benham Spur, a long ridge bordering Looney Creek to the south. According to tradition, the spur bore the name of a hunter or, perhaps, a Civil War deserter whose body had been torn to pieces by some wild animal. The post office established as Yowell in 1900 with Henry M. Blair, postmaster, became Benham on July 23, 1911. In 1960 International Harvester, still owner of the community, sold the homes and local services to the residents who succeeded in getting the town incorporated in March, 1961. (1) B.W. Whitfield, Jr., in letter to me, 5/11/1979; (2) Lizzie Farmer, contributed to WPA, 1/27/1938; (3) Palmer Wells "Harlan County's Newest Town Will Begin Operation with No Bonded Indebtedness" LEX. HER-LEAD. 8/13/1961, P. 15:6-8; (4) PM, Benham, Ky., in letter to me, 5/15/1980.
BENNETTSTOWN (Christian Co.): Bennettstown (Herndon). A rural settlement by the junction of KY 107 and 287, 11 air miles ssw of Hopkinsville, (first-settled-around-1850-by-Stephen-Bennett) whose post office, established Feb. 15, 1867, was named for Stephen Bennett, local merchant and extensive landowner who had settled there about 1850. Its potential as a trade center failed to develop when bypassed by a railroad, and its post office closed in 1916. All that remains are two churches and several homes whose residents secure basic services from Herndon, 3.8 road miles ne

BENSON (Franklin Co.): [Bensen/son] (Frankfort West). A Benson (Flag) Station or Benson Depot and a Benson Post Office were once located just below the confluence of North Benson and Main (or Big) Benson Creeks, 4 air miles w of Frankfort. The post office was established June 6, 1854 with Aaron B. Dooley, postmaster, and discontinued in 1920. The station and post office were named for the creeks which were first explored by Richard Benson, a scout for James Harrod's party on its initial trip up the Kentucky River (of which Main Benson Creek is a w bank tributary) in 1774 en route to its founding of the settlement that was to become Harrodsburg. In the early spring of 1775, Benson returned to this area from Harrodsburg and built a cabin on Little (or South) Benson Creek and in 1780 received a 1400 acre tract for pre-emption and settlement. His name identified the streams on all early land grants, deeds, and maps. The depot has since been torn down and all that's left at that site are some homes.

(1) Jillson, "Old Bridgeport and its Environs" REG. OF THE KHS, Vol. 54, Jan. 1956, Pp. 5-6; (2) Kenneth Goin, interview, 7/14/78
BENTON (Marshall Co.): [Bent‘n] (Hardin, Oak Level). A 4th class city of some 3650 persons and the seat of Marshall Co., on US 641, just east of the Purchase Parkway, a mile west of Clarks River, and 160 air miles sw of downtown Louisville. It was founded as the new county's seat in 1842 on land owned by Francis Clayton and named for then US Senator Thomas Hart Benton (1782-1858) from Missouri. The post office was established July 8, 1842 with John H. Beardin, postmaster, and the town was incorporated on Jan. 11, 1845. The Paducah Tennessee & Alabama (now L & N) Railroad, built through in 1890, contributed to the town's commercial prosperity as trade center for the county. [James R. Lemon, LEMON'S HAND BOOK OF MARSHALL CO. 1894, Pp. 79-80]
Berea (Madison Co.): [Bə/ˈreeə/ə](Berea). A 4th class city, some 7900 residents mostly on a two mile long rocky ridge, just east of I-75 and 9 air miles south of Richmond. A community by this name has been established at least by 1854 on land then owned by Cassius M. Clay, the anti-slavery politician, who envisioned here a place where people could live and produce without slaves. On July 20, 1854 Wm. B. Wright, one of those to whom Clay had sold some land on the ridge, established the post office he or Clay named Berea for the Biblical city in Macedonia whose Jewish citizens Paul once compared favorably to those of Thessalonica (Acts 17:11). In 1855 John G. Fee, an anti-slavery preacher who had earlier organized a church on Clay's invitation just north of the ridge, built a school on land donated by Wright and this was the beginning of the famed Berea College. Wright's post office closed in 1860 but in 1867 a second Berea office was opened by Wm. N. Embree as a transfer of the office that had, in 1850, been established several miles north as Manelos and later renamed Johnson's Shop. Berea was incorporated in 1890. [Elis. S. Peck BERE'A'S FIRST CENTURY 1855-1955 UK Press, 1955, Chap. 1]
BERLIN (Bracken Co.): [Bəri/lan] (Berlin). Only some homes on Rt. 10, 4 1/2 miles west of Brooksville, remain of this once busy rural trade center named for the capital of the country of origin of many of its early residents. The post office has had a curious history. Established as Pleasant Ridge on Feb. 23, 1844 with Owen T. McClenahan (sic), postmaster, it was either moved or renamed Berlin on Feb. 11, 1859 by Samuel B. Lennex (Lennix or Lenox). In Oct. of that year, Lennex changed it to Hagensville for a local family of Hagens. In two months it had returned to Berlin; less than 2 years later the Hagensville name was reapplied; in 1865, it was Berlin once again; in 6 months it was Hagensville; then back to Berlin in Sept. 1868 and by that name it remained until it closed in 1913. On March 15, 1869 it was incorporated by the Ky. Legislature. The Berlin name is used exclusively today; many county residents do not recall the Hagensville name at all and Pleasant Ridge solely identifies a Methodist church 1 1/2 miles north. The last store closed in 1977 and residents secure/mail from Foster, 10 1/2 road miles nww. [1] BROOKSVILLE CENTENNIAL, 1839-1939, P. 37; (2) Edith Brumley interview, 4/15/1978.
BERNICE (Clay Co.): [Bernice/ees] (Manchester). Extinct post office on Jacks Branch of Goose Creek which was established Nov. 15, 1907 by Elisha B. Treadway and named for his 8 year old daughter, Bernice (now Mrs. Denton Campbell of Fall Rock, Ky.) Mrs. Campbell recalls that her father had submitted several names to the Post Office Department including those of her older sister, Ethel, and her aunt Myrtle. Bernice's name was chosen. Her mother, Sophia Jones Treadway became the first postmaster. The office, some 3½ miles n of Manchester, closed in 1955 and local residents now secure their mail from nearby Fall Rock, on US 421, just n of the head of Jacks Branch. [Bernice Treadway Campbell, letter to me, 5/3/1969]
BERNSTADT (Laurel Co.): Bän/städt, Bän/stehd, Bän/städ (Bernstadt). A farm trade center with stores, school, and homes along Ky. 80, at the edge of the Dan'l. Boone Nat'l. Forest, 4 air miles west of London. This vicinity was settled by German-speaking Swiss immigrants in what has been described as Kentucky's first mass migration from a foreign country, the largest of several foreign "colonies" encouraged by the Kentucky Bureau of Immigration established by the Legislature to settle Europeans in sparsely occupied rural areas. A company run by Paul Schenck had bought 39,000 acres of Laurel Co. farmland around 1880 and resold it, over a period from 1881 to 1886, to 336 families. Since most or all of them came from Canton Bern they named their new home Die Kolonym Bernstadt or, popularly, the Swiss Colony. While most permanently settled here, others established themselves in nearby Helvetia, Langnau, Strassberg, and East Bernstadt. Most were farmers though many went to work in area coal mines and many eventually moved to London, Louisville, and other cities. The Bernstadt post office was in operation from 1881 to 1964 and now a rural branch of the London office maintains mail service for some 400 residents. Four air miles north and 2½ air miles north of London is the village of East Bernstadt, a coal community with its own L&N station and active post office. The latter was established June 15, 1881 as Mullins, with David R. Dishon, postmaster, and changed to East Bernstadt, for its proximity to Bernstadt on June 21, 1882. (1) Flossie J. Baker, "The Swiss who Migrated to Laurel Became Highly Productive Citizens" CORBIN DAILY TRIB. 75th anni. ed. Laurel Co. section, 2/23/1967, P. 15:3-6; (2) "State's First Mass Immigration" in reprint of items of hist. interest from Diamond Jubilee Ed. of SENTINEL ECHO, 1954, Pp. 182-4; (3) "Little Bit of Switzerland Came to Southeastern Ky. in Late 1800's" TRI-STATE TRADER, 5/1969
BERRY (Harrison Co.): [Berr/ey] (Berry). A 6th class city of some 2,700 persons at the junction of KY 1032 and the South Fork of the Licking River, 9½ air miles nw of Cynthiana. First called Berry's Station, it was laid out as a village on land donated to the Covington and Lexington (later Kentucky Central and now L&N) Railroad by George W. Berry in the mid 1850s. Berry, a Virginian, built his home there in 1836 and later opened a store and established the post office as Berry's Station on April 10, 1856. It was incorporated in 1867 and became, as it still is, an important trade center for the northern section of the county. In 1880 the post office name was shortened to Berry. It is still in operation. (1) Perrin, 1882, Pp. 318-9; (2) "Harrison Heritage Hist'l. Houses Ed. of CYNTH. DEM. 8/21/1975, P. 23" 167, y72
BERRYS LICK (Butler Co.): [Behr/ez Lihk] (Quality). A hamlet often called Turnertown [Tm/er/town] with an active post office that has been known as Berrys Lick since it was established Jan. 01, 1810 with John McReynolds, postmaster. It is located on KY 626 and Flatrock Branch of Muddy Creek, a south bank tributary of the Green River, 11½ air miles ssw of Morgantown. Both names came from pioneer families. Berrys Lick (name, in use at least by 1820 to identify the community) referred to a local salt lick owned by the Berrys from which salt was later mined. The Turner family's progenitor is said to have been Thomas Turner, a Virginian, who arrived there in the early 19th century.

(1) HIST. OF BUTLER CO. by Bennett F. Bratcher, c1960, n.p.;
BETHEL (Bath Co.): [Bethel] (Owingsville). A village whose 250 or so residents live along a 1 mile stretch of KY 11, 8 air miles nw of Owingsville. According to tradition, the village, first laid out in 1817, was named for an early log church located in the present Longview Cemetery just n of town. The cemetery is said to date back to 1780. The still active post office was established by George North on Dec. 2, 1843. The ubiquitous Bethel Churches in the US refer to the place in the Holy Land which Jacob dedicated as the "House of God." It is the second (after Jerusalem) most frequently mentioned place in the Bible. (1) BATH CO. MEMORIES 1974, P. 24; (2) Richards, 1961, P. 434; 15; 186.
BETHEL RIDGE (Casey Co.): [Bethel/Ridge] (Mintonville). A hamlet with an active post office on KY 70, 1 mile from the Pulaski Co. line and 10 air miles se of Liberty. The office was established May 14, 1890 with storekeeper, Silas Wesley as postmaster and named for the local Bethel Church and its location on the w end of Bethel Ridge. It has always been spelled one word. [Miss Inez Ashley in W.M. Watkins THE MEN, WOMEN, EVENTS...OF CASEY CO., 1939, Pp. 63-522-0]
BETHLEHEM (Henry Co.): [Beth/lee/heim] (Franklinton).
A hamlet with an active post office and some 200 residents at the junction of KY 22 and 573, 5 1/2 air miles ese of New Castle. No one knows why the name was applied though until it was, in 1854, the place was known as Mobley Stand probably for a pioneer family. The post office, established as Henrico on Aug. 20, 1851 with John Kephart, postmaster, assumed the Bethlehem name the following February. Every year the postmaster, Anna L. Peyton, handstamps thousands of Christmas letters and cards mailed to her from all over the world for her post office's distinctive postmark. Since 1961 the local churches have co-sponsored the annual "Living Nativity" in an old barn across the road from the post office. Local persons and animals represent all the characters in the nativity scene except the infant Jesus which is a doll. (1) Drane HIST. OF HENRY CO. 1948, Pp. 41-2; (2) Rich'd. Nugent "'o Little Town of Bethlehem" CJ&TM. 12/19/1976, Pp. 6-8; (3) release from the Ky. Dept. of Public Info. 11/28/1967.
BETSEY (Wayne Co.): [Bet/see] (Frazer). This hamlet with an active post office on KY 1619, 6½ air miles ne of Monticello, was once called the Meadow Creek Community for the nearby stream which joins Lake Cumberland at Mill Springs, some 3 miles nw. The community and its post office, established Nov. 21, 1907 with Willie T. Correll, postmaster, are said to have been named for either Betsey Copenhaver or Betsey Dodson (Mrs. Matthew) Denney, highly respected local residents.\(^2\) [\(^3\) (1) Mrs. Wendell Hardwick, Betsey, Ky., interview, 7/24/1973; (2) Eliz. Simpson, interview, 8/11/1976; (3) Nell Marsh, interview, 8/5/1974\(^4\)]
BETSY LAYNE (Floyd Co.): [Beht/see Lān] (Harold). A village with an active post office and a 1970 population of some 800 on both sides of the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River, 9 air miles se of Prestonsburg. The community is said to have been founded around 1875 on the Betsy Layne Branch (a w bank tributary) of Levisa at the site of that part of the present community known as Justell [Djuhst/əl]. It was named for Betsy Layne (nee Elizabeth Johns), the wife of Tandy Middleton Layne. The Betsy Layne post office was not established, however, until May 1, 1908 with Clayton L. Hitchins, postmaster. Justell was founded in the early 1920s as a separate community by Clyde Layne and named for Messrs. Justice and Elliott, the owners of a local coal company. The Justell post office (since closed) was established Oct. 27, 1922 with Clyde's wife, Ella, as postmaster, (1) Henry P. Scalf, interview, 4/21/1971; (2) Floyd Benj. Layne LAYNE-LAIN-LANE GEN.AL. 1962, P. 30; (3) John I. Sturgill, "WPA ms". "3/1, 7/14, 1270"
BETTY (Knott Co.): [Beht/ee] (Wayland). An extinct post office on KY 80, at the mouth of Triplette Branch of Jones Fork (of Right: Beaver Creek, 3/4 mile w of the Floyd Co. line and 10 air miles ne of Hindman. This post office, in operation from Feb. 1, 1950 to May 5, 1956, was named for the granddaughter of Hattie (Mrs. George) Cox, the first postmaster, and served the community of Porter. Porter was named for the owner of the Porter Mining Co. who, in the 1920s, had established a way station at the end of a spur line he had built from the main C&O Railroad line at what became known as Porter Junction, just n of Lackey. The local school, since closed, was called Porter School. Area residents now get their mail from the Lackey post office, 1½ road miles n. [(1) Gladys Boling, pm, Lackey, Ky., in letters to me, 5/21/1969 and 6/12/1969; (2) Hiram Bradley, interview, 6/18/1979]
BEULAH (Hopkins Co.): [Beuluh] (Gbiltown). This hamlet of some 150 persons at the junction of Ky. 70 and 109, 9 air miles wsw of Madisonville, was first called Pulltite [Poltay] for the first church established on the other side of the present Beulah Church building. When the latter was erected, the name was changed to Beulah. The community never had a post office of its own and has for years been on a rural route out of Dawson Springs, 5½ road miles south. [HOP. CO. TIMES, 10/2/1949] 498
BEVERLY (Bell Co.): [Behv/er/lee] (Beverly). This active post office at the mouth of Cow Fork of Red Bird River and KY 2011, 3/4 mile from the Clay Co. line and 14 air miles ne of Pineville, serves the famed Red Bird Settlement School and Hospital. The office was established Oct. 24, 1876 as Red Bird with Wilkerson Asher, postmaster. In 1887 his daughter, Amanda Jane (Mrs. William R.) Knuckles, who succeeded him, had the name changed to Knuckles (though this was spelled Nuckles in the postal records). To avoid confusion with the post office of Nuckols in McLean Co., the Post Office Department requested another name and John Beverly Knuckles, who had succeeded his father, William R. as postmaster, suggested his own name by which the office has been known since 1911. In 1921 John Beverly and his brothers offered their land and resources to the Women's Missionary Society of the Evangelical Church of Pennsylvania to build a school and hospital. This became the Red Bird Settlement School. (Jas. Taylor Adams "Red Bird Settlement School Serves Pupils Drawn from All Parts of Mt. Area"

BEVERLY (Christian Co.): [Behv/er/lee] (Church Hill). Extinct post office on Ky. 345 (the Palmyra Rd.), 5 air miles south of Hopkinsville. On Mar 1, 1854 John J. Caldwell moved the Genoa [Djan/oh/uh] post office, that has been established in 1846 on Winston Davie's farm, to a point 3 miles north and renamed it for Beverly Caldwell, the local storekeeper. After some discontinuity the office closed for good in 1902. [Wm. T. Turner, interview, 8/7/1977]
BEVIER (Muhlenberg Co.): [Ba/veer] (Drakesboro). A hamlet with an extinct post office on the L&N Railroad, just east of US431 (Ky. 70), about 4½ air miles east of Greenville. The post office was established March 29, 1882, with Robert Wickliffe, postmaster, about the time that the Owensboro & Nashville Branch of the L&N was extended to this site. The post office and station were named for R.S. Bevier of Russellville, the first president of the Owensboro & Nashville which had been acquired by the L&N in 1880. The community is now on a Drakesboro rural route.

Bewleyville (Breckinridge Co.): [Bewley/vihij] (Big Spring). A rural hamlet at the junction of Ky. 333 and 1238, 2 miles from the Meade County line and 11½ air miles'ene of Hardinsburg. The post office was established on July 14, 1846 with Wm. H. Seaton, postmaster, and named for the Bewley family who had settled in the vicinity before 1800. The first Methodist church in the county was established here in 1804. Elbert Bandy's is the only store left in the community, and since the post office was discontinued in 1907 mail has been secured from Irvington, 2½ air miles north. [1] Bill Thompson, interview, 9/28/1977; (2) Jay Lawrence, "Breckinridge Town will be Spared Plant for Recycling Chemical Waste" LCJ, 8/30/1978, P. B4:1-3.
BIG BONE (Boone Co.): [Big Bone Lick (Union, Rising Sun)].
A hamlet with extinct post office across KY 338 from Big Bone Lick State Park, 1½ miles from the Ohio River and 9½ air miles s of Burlington. It was named for the nearby salt lick discovered by the French explorer Charles Lemoyne de Longueuil in 1729 and described by later visitors as a spring-fed plantless bog of some 10 acres in which for centuries countless large mammals had become mired, leaving their bones scattered over the area. From 1815 to 1845 the medicinal value of the saline sulphur springs made this one of the most popular health resorts west of the Alleghenies.
A short lived post office called Big Bone Lick was established here on June 7, 1820 with Thomas Edmonson, postmaster. Another post office, called Bigbone, was opened on Jan. 21, 1890, but has since closed, and the area is now served by the office at Union, 8 road miles n.e. of the 248 acre state park, opened at the site of the lick in 1960, is a museum housing some of the collected bones and Indian artifacts found in the area. [1] A.M. Yealey HIST. OF BOONE CO. KY. 1960, Pp. 26-9; [2] Gregg Swem, "Big Bone Lick Park is Steeped in Hist." LCJ, 5/21/1978, P. D8:1-2
BIG CLIFTY (Grayson Co.): (Big Clifty). A village of some 400 persons on US 62, 1 mile s of the Hardin Co. line and 7 air miles ne of Leitchfield. The post office was established June 7, 1843 with James M. Caldwell, postmaster, and named for the stream 1½ miles sw. In Dec. 1850 the Southland post office, that had been established on April 6, 1846 just over the Hardin Co. line and named for its first postmaster, William South, was renamed Big Clifty and moved to the Grayson Co. site. Little more than a farming community until the railroad came through in 1871. Big Clifty was incorporated in 1890 and is now a trade center for the ne section of the county with an active post office, bank, and a number of stores and shops. (1) Wm. Hughes, interview, 9/28/1977; (2) Robt. W. O'Brien, Dir. of Corp. Rel'ns., ICGRR, letter to me, 11/29/1979
BIGHILL (Madison Co.): [Bigh/hihl] (Bighill). This hamlet with an active post office at the junction of US421 and Ky. 21, 2 miles from the Jackson Co. line and 1 2/3 air miles sse of Richmond, was named for the Bighill Mountain, a mile or so to the south. The hill was an obstacle for pioneers and a landmark to aim for as they traveled over the old pioneer road into the Bluegrass area (now US21). In this vicinity was Merritt Jones' tavern, built before the Civil War and later known as the U.S. Grant House for, in Feb., 1864, Grant and some fellow Union officers spent the night there. The Bighill post office was established on the Rockcastle Co. line some 3 miles south (that is, on the other side of the mountain from its present site). It was discontinued in 4 months and re-established at its present (seeatien-in) Madison Co. location on June 8, 1846 with Wm. W. Smith, postmaster. (1) Robt. N. Grise, interview, 4/28/1978; (2) Ibid. "Big Hill and Mallory Springs" RICH. REG. 4/14/1971
BIG LAUREL (Harlan Co.): [Bigg Laurel] (Nolanburg). A hamlet with an active post office that was named for its location at the mouth of Big Laurel Creek, a branch of Greasy Creek, 1½ miles from the Leslie Co. line and 9½ air miles ne of Harlan. The post office was established on May 25, 1925 with Alice E. Boggs, postmaster.
BIG ROCK (Leslie Co.): [Bighorn Ranch] (Leatherwood). This active post office established in 1931 on Cutshin Creek, opposite the mouth of Low Gap Branch, 11 1/2 air miles SE of Hyden, was named for a huge bald rock within 100 yards of it. [R.B. Campbell, interview, 5/27/1978]"
BIG SPRING (Breckinridge Co.): [Bigh Spring] (Big Spring). A small village at the junction of Breckinridge, Hardin, and Meade Counties, 15 1/2 air miles east of Hardinsburg, 15. air miles wnw of Elizabethtown, and 13 air miles south of Brandenburg. It aptly identifies a single all-weather spring which comes up from the ground in Hardin County, flows for about 50 feet until it passes the point where the counties come together. Then it alternately sinks and reappears several times until it finally flows underground for 3 more miles to emerge in the Sinking Creek, a Breckinridge County tributary of the Ohio River. In the early 19th century, a trading post here served a large area of the three counties. Its later economic insignificance due to its having been bypassed by the railroads and main highways. A post office established in 1826 still operates in Breckinridge County and with two stores and a church community's serves the/estimated 100 residents. [(1) Bill Thompson, interview, 9/28/1977; (2) Martin K. Pedigo, "Big Spring's Attraction: Just That" LCJ, 4/26/1965] 652,298
BIMBLE (Knox Co.): [Bilm/bal] (Artemus, Fount). An active post office and several supermarkets serve this community of almost 1000 residents centering at the junction of old US 25e and KY 1304. On Jan. 24, 1898 Will Payne established the post office a mile from this site and, according to local tradition, named it for a pair of his prize oxen, Bim and Bill. Around 1940 the post office was moved to Loss R. Yeager's store at the present site. From some years this location was also called Yeager [Yæ/ɡeər] until confusion with a Yeager Station near Pikeville, Ky. led to a 1966 BGN decision in favor of the exclusive use of Bimble. [Beckham Garland, letter to me, 10/18/1979]
BIRDSVILLE (Livington Co.): On a high rocky hill overlooking the Ohio River, 5½ air miles nnnw of Smithland, are abandoned store buildings, the Blooming Grove Baptist Church, and the homes of some 70 residents, all that is left of a once thriving village hard by the county's leading 19th century shipping port. Its post office was established April 17, 1860 with Richard M. Nelson, postmaster, and named for Byrd Jameson, local storekeeper and ferryman. The difference in spelling is not accounted for. Local people shop and get their mail from Smithland, dreaming of a possible revitalization with the completion of the nearby Smithland Lock and Dam. [1] HIST., LEGEND AND LORE OF LIV. CO. Mrs. Lois Mahan's J. Class, Liv. HS, 1974, Pp. 37-8; (2) Mary Singleton, interview, 8/28/1978; (3) Kathy S. Wood, letter to me, 9/5/1978.
BIRK CITY (Daviess Co.): [Birk Siht/ee] (Reed). Little remains of this once thriving Green River port but the modest cottages and trailers of weekend vacationers. The community, some 22 miles above the Green's confluence with the Ohio River and 7 air miles W of Owensboro, was named by and for its enterprising founder, Jonas Adam Birk (1814-1877), a German immigrant who settled there in 1857 and laid out the town the following year. On April 20, 1864 he established the Birk's City post office which closed in 1903. Birk's ambitious plans for a western metropolis obviously never materialized. The vicinity is now on an Owensboro mail route. [(1) Parker Sams, "Daviess County's Almost Forgotten Green River Towns" OWENSBORO MESS-INV. 8/22/71, Sec. 3, P. 1:1-6; (2) The Orrhoods, interview, 9/30/1977]
BIRMINGHAM (Marshall Co.): [ˈbɛrmɪŋəm] (Birmingham Point). One of the two towns completely inundated by the flooding of Kentucky Lake in the early 1940s, it was on the Tennessee River at the mouth of Bear Creek, about 9 air miles ene of Benton. John Stone may have been the first settler of the vicinity in the early 1820s but its known history does not begin until 1849 when Thomas Love, a Scotsman, arrived from Eddyville. Apparently attracted by the economic potential of the virgin forested area, he established a store and, on Oct. 3, 1851, a post office, with Laben S. Locker, postmaster, which he named for Birmingham, England. He laid out the town in 1853 and it was incorporated in 1860. By the 1870s it had become a flourishing mill and trade center and the main shipping port for tobacco and timber products on the lower Tennessee River. Its economic decline was assured when it was bypassed by the railroads later in the century. Yet some 300 persons still called it home by the time evacuation for the impoundment began in 1940. [1] Freeman & Olds, HIST. OF MARSHALL CO. KY. 1933, Pp 81-3; [2] James R. Lemon, LEMON'S HANDBOOK OF MARSHALL CO. 1894, Pp. 92-3; [3] Judith A. Maupin, "Birmingham" MURRAY LEDGER & TIMES, 6/11/7
BLACKEY (Letcher Co.): [Blackeye] (Blackey). Some 50-60 years ago, this once-incorporated 6th class town at the confluence of Rockhouse Fork and the North Fork of Kentucky River was an important railroad shipping point for area coal mines. With a number of stores and shops, a small bank, a theater, and the other institutions of a small city, it bid fair to compete with the county seat of Whitesburg some 7½ miles to the east. Then, in the late 1920s, it was nearly wiped out by a flood and a series of devastating fires and never recovered. It is no longer incorporated and a post office, C.D. Caudill's Gen'l. Store, 2 churches, and several other businesses now serve its 300 residents and travelers on Ky. 7. It's believed that this is the site of one of the county's earliest settlements called Indian Bottom for the many Indian relics once found in the long bottom strip along the river.

On Sept. 10, 1908, the Blackey post office was established with James H. Brown, postmaster, and presumably named for Blackey Brown, respected local citizen whose nickname denoted his dark complexion. However, some 63 years before, Stephen Hogg had established the post office of Indian Bottom a half mile above the mouth of Rockhouse. This had a noncontinuous existence until, on Nov. 12, 1919, it moved to the Blackey site whose own post office had closed in 1913. There is nothing left of a community called Indian Bottom though the name has been preserved in two churches, one a mile a half below Blackey and the other just below the neighboring community of Letcher.

BLACKFORD (Webster Co.): [Blackfawrd] (Blackford). First called Blacksford for a river crossing on the farm owned by Rich Black, this hamlet on KY 413, across the Tradewater River from Crittenden Co., and 13½ air miles wsw of Dixon, was once a thriving farm trade center and rail shipping point. In 1887 a station on the just completed Ohio Valley (now Illinois Central Gulf) Railroad was established here as Blackford as was the post office opened Aug. 29, 1887 with James N. Clement, postmaster. The village that grew up around them failed to survive 2 major floods, the great depression, and a disastrous fire and only the active post office and 2 stores remain to serve some 20 families. [(1) Robt. W. O'Brien, ICGRR, Chi., Ill., in letter to me, 1/31/1980; (2) Elvis Holt, letter to me, 2/26/1980].
BLACK GNAT (Taylor Co.): [Black Natz] (Greensburg). A hamlet on US 68 (KY 70), on the Green Co. line, 4½ air miles WSW of Campbellsville. According to tradition, the local schoolhouse was being painted white, but by the time the job was done, it was covered with black gnats and someone remarked "there sure are a lot of black gnats here." This was at some undetermined time in the late 19th century and the school and, later, the community were called Black Gnat. It never had its own post office and is still on a Campbellsville rural route. [Sam Moore, interview, 7/20/1978]
BLACK GOLD (Edmonson Co.): [BLAeK GhOHLd] (Bee Spring). Five air miles nw of Brownsville, in the Sycamore Neighborhood, is this rural settlement named for the rock asphalt or "black gold" long mined in that area. No record exists of its ever having a post office by that name. [Lancie Meredith, ms on P.N. of Edmonson Co., 1972]
BLACKJACK (Simpson Co.): [Black/djack] (Woodburn). This hamlet with extinct post office on KY 1171, 3½ air miles ne of Franklin, was named for the black jack or scrubby oak saplings allegedly used to erect the local schoolhouse. The post office was established Aug. 4, 1902 and Perry T. Stamps, the storekeeper, was the only postmaster. It closed in 1906 and the place is now on a Franklin rural route. The name has been spelled as both one word and two. (Mrs. James Beach & Jas. Henry Snider, FRANKLIN & SIMPSON CO...1976, Pp. 24-6)
BLACK ROCK (Grayson Co.): Black Rock (Leitchfield). A stop on the Ill. Central RR and US62, 2½ air miles sw of Leitchfield, that was named for the tar-filled rock nearby. The post office, established June 30, 1891 by Charles F. Heyser, is closed, as is the local store, and residents (she) now get their mail from Millwood, 2.3 miles southwest. [Wm. Hughes, interview, 9/28/1977]
BLACKS FERRY (Cumberland Co.): [Blaex Fehr/s] (Blacks Ferry). A hamlet with an extinct post office on KY 953 and these bottom of the Cumberland River, just below the mouth of Judio Creek, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the Monroe Co. line and $8\frac{1}{2}$ air miles sw of Burkesville. The post office, transferred from nearby Judio on March 18, 1884, was renamed for a pioneer Cumberland River family. Since the closing of this office in 1960, the Kettle post office, $9\frac{1}{2}$ road miles e, has provided mail service. [R.N. Smith, interview, 9/22/1978]
BLACKWATER (Laurel Co.): [Blaek/wâht/ər] (Blackwater). A recently discontinued post office on Blackwater Creek, 3/4 mile from the Knox Co. line, 1 1/2 miles from the Clay Co. line and 10 air miles se of London. The creek was named either for the fallen leaves in the creek that gave its water a darkish appearance or for a place in Virginia, or both. Perhaps, as Barbara Ewell once suggested, "the darkened water reminded some early settler of a like condition he had known in Virginia." The post office, established Nov. 1, 1893, with John S. Gilbert, postmaster, was named for the stream. ["The Logan Ewell Stories" col. in the SENTINEL: ECHO, 5/19/1966]
BLAINE (Lawrence Co.): Blain(Blaine). A 6th class city with an active post office and some 630 residents centering at the junction of KY 32 and 201, on Hood Creek, just above its confluence with Blaine Creek for which it was named, and 13 air miles sw of Louisa. The creek, one of the major w bank branches on the Big Sandy River, was named for Ephraim Blaine, a Pennsylvania-born Marylander who arrived in the area in 1783 to survey lands he had been granted for Revolutionary War service. The community site may have been settled before 1800 and a trade center for area farm families had already been established there by 1822. The Blaine post office has been in operation at least since May 10, 1828 and Neri Swetnam may have been the first postmaster. Though incorporated as Blaine in 1886, the community was also known for much of the 19th century as Blainetown and Mouth of Hood. [1) Cratis Williams, letter to me, 1/24/72; (2) Ibid., "Hist. of the Blaine Community" BIG SANDY NEWS, 7/6/1972, P. 4:1-4; (3) Geo. Wolfford, LAWRENCE CO. A PICTORIAL HIST. 1972, Pp. 146-47] 234; 815; 1175
BLAIRS MILLS (Morgan Co.): [BIEZ MIHLE] (Wrigley). This active post office was established on Elam Branch of Devils Fork (of the North Fork of the Licking River) on Aug. 18, 1876 with Cyrus Perry, Jr.; postmaster, and named for the Blair family's waterpowered grist mill on Devils Fork. In 1949 the office was moved ½ mile w to its present location in Perry's Grocery on KY 711, 3/4 mile sw of the Rowan Co. line and 10½ air miles n of West Liberty. [Postmaster, Blairs Mills, Ky., letter to me, 8/28/1980]
BLAIR TOWN (Pike Co.), [Big Town] (Broadbottom). This hamlet on US 23/460 and the e bank of the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River, less than 3 1/2 air miles nw of Pikeville, was named for the Rev. Whetzel Blair who owned the site in the early 20th century. It never had its own post office but has been on a Pikeville rural route. Mullins High School, one of the 9 in the Pike Co. system, is located here. [Henry P. Scalf, interview, 5/28/1971] 1371
BLANDVILLE (Ballard Co.): (Blandville). This recently de-incorporated town with an active post office at the junction of KY 802 and 1837, less than a mile n of the Carlisle Co. line and 6½ air miles e of Wickliffe, was established in 1842 as the first seat of Ballard Co. Like the county it was named for Capt. Bland Ballard (1761-1853), famed Indian fighter and state legislator, John H. Stovall, on whose land the town was laid out, became the first postmaster on Nov. 11, 1842. The town was incorporated on Jan. 14, 1845. After a court house fire in 1880 in which all records were destroyed, an election was held to decide if the seat should be removed to a new town on the Mississippi River. This town, Wickliffe, became the county's new seat in 1882 and Blandville's economic significance and population steadily declined to its present hamlet status. (1) Chas. R. Geveden, "Mound-Building Indians Were First in Ballard Co. Section" Purch. Ed. of MAXF. MESS. 12/27/1969, P. D4:1-6; (2) Perrin, 1885, P. 20
BLEVINS (Lawrence Co.): [Blevins] [Mazie]. An extinct post office had been established in Elliott Co. on March 14, 1899 and named by and for its first postmaster, Thomas W. Blevins. In 1929 Lonnie E. Boggs moved it to the Right Fork of Cains Creek, at the mouth of Coalbank Branch, 1½ miles from the Elliott Co. line and 15½ air miles W of Louisa where it remained until it closed in 1956. [Louise Kingsmore, letter to me, 4/6/1979]
BLISS (Adair Co.): [Blihs] (Columbia). An extinct post office on KY 80, ½ mile n of the Cumberland Parkway and 3 air miles w of Columbia, that was established March 9, 1900 and named for a respected local school teacher who had come from Louisville a couple of years before. This vicinity has also been referred to as the Turk community for a local landowning family and, indeed, a Turk post office was in operation for about 6 weeks in the winter of 1891/2. [(1) Mrs. Horace Cundiff "Adair Co. P:N." DAR ms; 1/1941; (2) Nancy Berley, interview by Henry Giles, 7/1979]
BLOOMFIELD (Nelson Co.): (Bloomfield). A 5th class city with an active post office and close to 1000 residents on US 62 and KY 55 and 48, 9 air miles. ne of Bardstown. At or near this site, on the e fork of Simpson Creek, the post office of Middleburg was established on July 1, 1803, with Hadin (?) Edwards, postmaster. In 1807 Edwards was succeeded by Dr. John Bemiss, M.D., who had arrived in Kentucky from New York State a few years before. In 1817 Bemis is said to have founded the town and named it Bloomfield for his wife, the former Miss Bloomer, and a Mr. Merrifield, his son-in-law. The post office was renamed Bloomfield in 1818 and the town was incorporated in 1819. (1) ms. hist. of "Early Bloomfield" author & date unknown but it appeared in the BARDSTOWN STANDARD, a typescript copy of which was submitted by Allan M. Trout to the KHS in 1964; (2) Sarah B. Smith, HIST'C. NELSON CO., 1971, P. 154
BLUE DIAMOND (Perry Co.): [Blue Diamond] (Hazard North). Almost nothing remains but several private homes and an active post office of this once important coal company town on First Creek and KY 267, 2½ air miles nnnw of Hazard. It was named for the Blue Diamond Coal Co. which established mines in that area around the First World War. The local post office has been in operation since June 28, 1916 when Hiram H. Braden was appointed its first postmaster.

[Estill McIntyre, interview, 7/7/1977]
BLUE HERON (McCreary Co.): [Blu Heron] (Barthell).

This abandoned coal town on the e bank of the Big South Fork of the Cumberland River, 5½ air miles sw of Whitley City, was built in 1937 by the Stearns Coal and Lumber Co. of Stearns, Ky. for the employees of its No. 18 mine. It was customary for the firm to identify its brands of coal by the names of birds, e.g. "Golden Eagle" and "Scarlet Tanager", and the coal from this mine was "Blue Heron". Yet, according to a local tradition, the place was also named for the "raucous long necked, long legged birds the miners saw when they first came to the Big South Fork...to dig the riversides for coal." In either case while this name officially designated the community, most of its residents referred to it simply as Mine 18. Production peaked in World War II when some 300 miners worked No. 18 but by 1962 production had ceased; the mines and post office, established in 1937, closed and the town died. Plans are now to restore the community to its original condition as part of a large recreational complex.

BLUE HOLE (Clay Co.): [Blu Hohl] (Hima). A hamlet with an active post office on KY 11, 2 miles up Collins Fork from its confluence with Goose Creek, and 3 air miles s of Manchester. The post office, established Aug. 4, 1916 by Charles S. Townsley, was named for a large and deep pocket of unusually clear water that, as local people are wont to describe it, "always looked so blue." About this time the Cumberland & Manchester (now L&N) Railroad named its local station Rodonnel [Roh/dahn/ə] for reasons now unknown. Area produced coal and timber are still shipped from this station but the Blue Hole name is used almost exclusively by local people to identify their community. [Marion Martin, interview, 6/29/1977]
BLUE LICKS (SPRINGS) (Nicholas Co.): [Blue Licks (Springs)] (Cowan).
Extinct post office and settlement on the north bank of the Licking River, just west of US 68, and 7 air miles n. of Carlisle. In 1773 Major John Finley and a party of Pennsylvania surveyors discovered the licks at what has since been called the Upper Blue Licks near the present community of Milltown. They called it simply The Licks for here the buffalo would come to drink and lick the salt. Several days later the party went down the river and discovered what they then called the Lower Blue Licks for the salt springs and licks noted on the low fossiliferous beds of the blue-gray limestone along the river at that point. It was in this vicinity that the last battle of the American Revolution was fought on Aug. 19, 1782 as the Battle of Blue Licks. And it was here that the first settlement in what became Nicholas Co. was made by David Tanner who arrived before 1784 to develop the salt works there that attracted pioneer settlers started for miles around. Shortly thereafter Maj. George M. Bedinger opened a sawmill, ferry, and other operations on the river. Adjacent to Bedinger's land Wm. Bartlett, in 1817, founded a town he called Bartlettsburg though his death in 1820 precluded any development of it. The county's first post office was established here before 1805 as Lower Blue Licks though it bore the name Blue Lick Springs (sic) from 1850 until it closed in 1919. Sometime before 1850 the medicinal properties of the water were discovered and by the start of the Civil War it had become an important health resort. The springs failed around the turn of the century. The Blue Licks Battlefield in 1926 State Park, created by Legislative act on 32 acres (in 1926) is located just north of the site of the post office, in Robertson Co. Local people have variously referred to this vicinity as Down at the Licks, Blue Lick Springs, Blue Licks, the Spring, the Salt Works, the Lower Blue Lick Springs, and Lower Blue Licks. The Carlisle post office supplies mail service. (1) Roy L. Shannon, interview, 1/18/1979; (2) Anna Welsch (rightly).
BLUE MOON (Floyd Co.) [Blu Moon] (Harold). Extinct post office on KY 2030, at the head of Trace Fork of Little Mud Creek, 11 air miles SSE of Prestonsburg. The office was established in Dec. 1936 by Alex L. Meade, a local school teacher, and named by his daughter, Alice, for a brand of perfume, a bottle of which she had just received as a Christmas present. Alice, who later became Mrs. Miller of Hite, Ky., served as postmaster from 1945 to Oct. 1957 when the post office closed. The vicinity is now served by the Printer post office, 4½ road miles NW. [Alice Meade Miller, Kite, Ky. in a letter to me, 4/8/1971]
BLUE SPRING (Trigg Co.): [Blu SprinJz, Blu SprinJg] (Canton). A settlement on the ridge across Blue Spring Creek from Lake Barkley State Park and 5½ air miles wsw of Cadiz. Both stream and settlement were named for the spring with the bluish appearing water that feeds into the creek some 3/4 mile above the settlement. It never had its own post office and is now on a Cadiz rural route. Some local people still verbally refer to both spring and settlement in the plural. About 1½ miles nw, on the peninsula between Lake Barkley and its Blue Spring Creek embayment, is the recently developed community of Blue Spring Estates. (1) Dom. Geog. Name prop. submitted to BGN by Frank Hughes, 6/22/1967; (2) Roy McDonald, interview, 8/29/78
BLUESTONE (Rowan Co.): [Blu/stohn] (Farmers). Now a residential settlement with an extinct post office just n of the C&O Railroad tracks, 3 1/4 mile n of US 60, and 3 air miles wsw of Morehead. The post office was established as Freestone, about a mile w of the present site, on April 16, 1883 with Henry F. Martin, postmaster. It was moved to and renamed Bluestone in 1920. Both places were named for a fine grained and even textured sandstone of medium hardness, gray to bluish in color and comparatively easy to cut in all directions without splitting. Popular as a building material in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, it was quarried and milled at both locations by a group of New Yorkers and used in the construction of the county's schools and some other public buildings. The increased use of limestone and concrete for building purposes led to the end of production here in the early 1930s. The vicinity is now on a Morehead rural route. (1) Ed Sargent, "White Settlers First Visited Rowan Co. in Year 1773" ROWAN CO. NEWS, cent. ed. 5/10/1956, P. 621; (2) Nancy Baird, ms. hist. of the Hummel Co., c1978; (3) J.H. Powers, ms. Hist. of Rowan Co., n.d. P. 6 (in the MSU Ky. & App. Coll'n); (4) Lloyd Dean, interview, 10/3/1978 697, 84/1, 95-2, 127.
BLUFF BOOM (Green Co.): [Bluuf Bum] (Greensburg). Around 1885 the Whitney Brothers built a large sawmill on some bottom land between a bluff and the north bank of the Green River, 2 air miles eue of the present Greensburg city limits. It was supplied by timber rafted down the river and stopped and diverted by a chain of logs erected across the river to a man-made island. This was the boom at the base of the bluff or, simply, the "bluff boom": The mill processed millions of board feet of lumber which were shipped out on the L&N whose tracks were laid right along the bluff. Little remains of the sawmill community but some homes. The mill burned; J.R. Jones' general store and the post office, established Jan. 8, 1908 by Isaac Henson, have since closed. [(1) Sam Moore, interview, 7/20/1978; (2) Clifton Jones, "Bluff Boom--Where Did the Boom Originate?" GREENSBURG RECORD-HERALD, 10/9/1975, P. 2]
BLUFF CITY (Henderson Co.): [Bluf Heights] (Spottsville). Settled sometime before its post office was established July 10, 1872, this hamlet of some 100 residents, 9 air miles east of Henderson, was named for its location on a high bluff overlooking the Green River. This one time coal mining town with sawmill and ferry is now but a residential community on a Henderson mail route. (1) Spalding Trafton, letter to Wm. G. Steel, 4/20/1922; (2) Maralea Arnett, ANNALS AND SCANDALS OF HENDERSON CO., KY. 1775-1975, 1976, P. 210. /2/12/6
ELYTHE (Monroe Co.) [Bleyeth] (Vernon). An extinct Cumberland River shipping port and post office across from Turkey Neck Bend and 7 air miles ese of Tompkinsville. The post office was established Oct. 22, 1910 and named for its first postmaster, Leslie C. Blythe or his family. For years it was better known as Dogtown [Daugh/town]. According to Stanton Taylor, this name was applied by his father, Charley Taylor, the owner of a local ax handle factory, for the many wild dogs in 2 to 3 mile section around the post office.

Lenneth Jones, in a WPA manuscript, recalled that the community had first been called Little Skillet and that the Dog Town (sic) name had been suggested by Dr. W.K. Richardson, a physician, for "the unusual number of dogs in the town and great number of fights had by the natives." Also according to Jones, sufferers of rheumatism and other disorders were early attracted to the community by the healing waters of 3 local sulphur springs. (1) Stanton Taylor, interview, 6/29/1972; (2) Lenneth Jones, WPA ms 9-2-3, 1976
BOAZ (Graves Co.): [Boh] (Melber). A hamlet with an active post office until recently at the junction of KY 849 and the Illinois Central Gulf Railroad tracks, just yards e of Mayfield Creek and 9 air miles n of Mayfield. The post office, established Sept. 20, 1869 with William J. Adams, postmaster, was named for Joshua Boaz, one of the largest property owners in the county who, in 1854, gave the New Orleans and Ohio (now Illinois Central Gulf) Railroad passage through his plantation. The station became an important shipping point on the railroad and the community that developed around it was incorporated in 1888. In the past few years, the community has begun to shift to the Viola-Boaz Rd., over 1/4 mile to the east, where the post office was relocated. [1] Lon Carter Barton, interview, 8/5/1977; [2] Ben P. Boyd, letter to me, 9/6/1977.
BOBTOWN (Madison Co.): (Bath/town) (Bighill). This hamlet at the jct. of US 421 and Ky. 1016, 8 air miles sse of Richmond, is said to have been named, sometime before 1872, by Whitfield Moody, apparently the community's most influential citizen. When he was asked what he was going to name the place, Bob Fitch, a longtime Negro resident, happened to walk by with a sack on his back, which prompted Moody to reply "I'm going to name it after Uncle Bob--Bobtown." The local post office may have been called Motte, for reasons unknown, and was in operation from 1899 to 1911. Since then residents have received their mail from Berea, 3 1/2 road miles sw. (1) A.B. Davis, "Attorney at Richmond Relates Interesting Hist. of SE Mad. Co." LEX. LEADER, 2/8/1954; (2) Oscar Rucker, A GEOG. STUDY OF RURAL SETTLEMENT CLUSTERS IN MAD. CO. KY. UK thesis, 1967, p. 19.
BOHON (Mercer Co.): [Bo/hahn, Boh/hahn] (Cornishville).
This hamlet with its extinct post office on KY 390, 4 air miles nw of Harrodsburg, was founded about 1851 around Jimmy Wilson's crossroads store. That and the post office, which was established there on April 25, 1854 with Wilson as postmaster, were named for the largest family of local landowners, descendants of Walter Bohon (1762-1825), a Virginian who had arrived sometime after 1791. Though officially known as Bohon, the community was locally referred to for much of the 19th century as Bohontown. It is now on a Harrodsburg rural route.

[Rebecca Conover, article in HARRODSBURG HERALD, 2/3/1973] /264
Interview, 4/21/1978
BOLTSFORK (Boyd Co.) (Buhlts/Fawrk) (Boltsfork). A hamlet with extinct post office at the junction of KY 3 and 773 and the confluence of Bolts Fork and the East Fork of the Little Sandy River, just n of the Lawrence Co. line and 10 1/2 air miles ssw of Campton. The stream and community are said to have been named for pioneer settler Isaac Bolt, an English immigrant who arrived in the second decade of the 19th century. A son, Montraville Bolt (1816-1899) was the first postmaster when the post office was established as Bolts Fork on Jan. 11, 1867. In the 1890s it became Boltsfork and closed in 1914. Montraville's brother, Greenville Bolt established the post office of Bolton, somewhere in the vicinity, in 1858. Greenville's son, William D. Bolt operated grist and saw mills at Bolts Fork and owned the local store and blacksmith shop for years. The area is now on a rural route out of Rush, 10.3 road miles nw.

BONANZA (Floyd Co.): [ˈbɔnænza] (Prestonsburg). A hamlet with an extinct post office at the forks of Abbott Creek (a west bank tributary of the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River) and the junction of KY 1427 and 1750, 4½ air miles w of Prestonsburg. The name is alleged to have originated with the local remark that it would be a bonanza if they ever got a post office. They did, on Jan. 31, 1881, named it Bonanza, and chose James Hill as the first postmaster. The community grew up around a logging operation and prospered for a time with the Prestonsburg Coal Co. digs on Abbott Creek. The post office closed in 1969. According to George R. Stewart, the name, which in Spanish means "prosperity", described rich ore strikes in a number of western mining areas and thus had a commendatory significance, suggesting the wealth or potential wealth of a place. [(1) Henry P. Scalf, interview, 5/16/1971; (2) John I. Sturgill, WPA ms; (3) Geo. R. Stewart, AM. P.N., P. 53] 204, 176, 1270
BOND (Jackson Co.): [Bahnd] (Tyner). Village with an active post office and some 400 residents on Ky. 30, 5½ road miles west of its junction with US421 at Tyner, and 7½ air miles south of McKee. The post office was established as Isaacs on May 5, 1899 and named for its first postmaster, Andrew Isaacs, or his family. In 1914 it was changed to Bond soon after the incorporation of the Bond-Foley Lumber Co. by N.U. Bond, a New Jersey native, who arrived at that place two years before and opened a large lumber mill. The mill closed in May, 1930 with the depletion of area timber. The town is now a trade center for that section of the county. [P] Jess Wilson, interview, 7/9/1977; (2) Delbert York, interview, 7/9/1977
Some 2 miles below Owensboro is the site of a projected manufacturing city and Ohio River shipping port that never really materialized and is now devoid of any sign that it was once even a village. The plans for this community and landing were initiated by Robert Triplett, a Virginian who arrived in the 1820s to open several coal mines in what later became the Bon Harbor Hills about a mile sw of his projected site. In 1826 from his mines he built the first railroad w. of the Alleghenies to the landing to transfer his coal to steamboats for shipment to New Orleans. At the landing in 1842 he laid out a town he called Bon Harbor for the natural harbor there and built several woolen and cotton plants and homes for some 300 workers and their families. A post office called Bonharbor (sic) was established April 17, 1848 but lasted only 2 years. By the start of the Civil War, Triplett's efforts to promote the development of a great industrial metropolis had clearly failed and in a short while nothing remained of his factories or the time landing. Some/in the 1890s, however, coal mining was re-established in the Bon Harbor Hills and a little community of miners' homes, also called Bon Harbor Hills, was founded between the Hills and Owensboro. (1) HIST. OF DAVIESS CO., 1883, Pp. 631-2; (2) Potter, HIST. OF OWENSB. & DAVIESS Co., 1974, P. 241; (3) AN ACCT. OF BON HARBOR; a Tract Designed to Promote the Site for Industry and Commerce, London, 1849; (4) The Orrhoods, interview, 9/23/1977 & 9/9, 10/4, 13/48.
BON JELLICO (Whitley Co.): [Bahn Dje/lə/koh, Bahn Djehl/ə/koh] (Williamsburg). A virtually extinct coal community on Brier Creek and KY 92, 1 air mile wsw of Williamsburg, is identified simply as Bon on current maps. It was established by and named for the Bon Jellico Coal Co. which perhaps had high aspirations for the quality of the coal it would find in the vicinity. The nearby Bon Hollow Picnic Area, a 50 acre park, and several homes remain. The vicinity has always been dependent on Williamsburg for mail services. (See Jellico). (1) Postmaster, Williamsburg Post Office, in letter to Wm. G. Steel, 5/16/1922; (2) Eugene Siler, interview, 6/23/1978.
BONNIEVILLE (Hart Co.): (Bahn/ee/vihn) (Upton, Munfordville). A farm trade and processing center and 6th class city with an active post office and some 340 residents, at the junction of US 31w and Bacon Creek, ½ mile w of I 65 and 5½ air miles n of Munfordville. The community was first called Bacon Creek, at least with the establishment of this post office on March 16, 1843. According to tradition, "a man stole some bacon and was about to be caught...when he threw it in the stream" which thus acquired its name. County Judge Kendrick Jameson gave the right of way through his farm to the L&N Railroad in the 1850s and became the first agent of their Bacon Creek station. Jameson or his son, William Kendrick Jameson, who had become Bacon Creek's postmaster in 1864, having ambitious plans for the community, did not regard Bacon Creek as a suitable name and had it changed to Bonnieville in 1880. This was ostensibly for the Scottish folk heroine "Bonnie Annie Laurie". As Bonnieville it was also incorporated in that year. [Judge Roy A. Cann's ms. hist. of Hart Co., 1971, P. 23]
BONNYMAN (Perry Co.): [Bahn/man] (Hazard North). A former coal town and now a residential community with an active post office, at the junction of the present KY 15 and 267, 2½ air miles nw of Hazard. It was named for Alex Bonnyman of Knoxville, Tenn., the president of the Blue Diamond Coal Co. which established mines in that area around the First World War. The Bonnyman post office has been in operation since July 12, 1918 when Leonard J. Hammel was appointed its first postmaster. [Estill McIntyre, interview, 7/7/1977]
BOOKER STATION (Washington Co.): [Booker Station] (Maud).
An extinct post office and station on the L&N Railroad's
Bardstown Branch, 1 mile from the Beech Fork which forms the
Nelson Co. line and 6½ air miles nw of Springfield. A settle-
ment may have existed there prior to the establishment of the
Booker post office on May 21, 1890 with Charles T. Berry,
postmaster. It was named for a local landowning family. The
post office closed in 1914. [Mary D. Kelly, interview, 8/10/??]
Established in 1798 from part of Campbell Co. and named for
Daniel Boone, the famed frontiersman and pioneer settler (1735-1820).
BOONE (Rockcastle Co.): [Bun] (Berea). Boone Gap in the hills less than a mile north probably accounts for the name of this community on US 25, 11 air miles n' of Mount Vernon, its recently discontinued post office (established Feb. 27, 1901), and its Central Kentucky (now L&N) Railroad station called Gap.
BOONE FURNACE (Carter Co.): 

At a point on Grassy Creek, some 4 miles w of its confluence with Tygarts Creek, and 12 1/2 air miles nw of Grayson, a stone blast iron furnace was built in 1856 by Sebastian Eifort and others and presumably named for Daniel Boone whom Eifort is said to have much admired. Here, on Sept. 29, 1857, Oliver P. Kibbee established a post office which he had expected to call Crossing but instead named it Mt. Pleasant. In 1860 Eifort renamed it for the furnace and the community that he had developed around it. This office closed in 1884, some 13 years after the last blast. On July 27, 1922, the Hike post office was established by the site of the furnace, then as now in ruins, and named for George Hike, a Syrian pack peddler who had opened a store in this vicinity. This office closed in 1942 and the community, though still officially called Boone Furnace, is locally referred to only as "on Grassy."
BOONEVILLE (Owsley Co.): [Bën/viħl, Bën/vol] (Booneville). The smallest county seat in the state, this 6th class city of some 120 persons and the seat of Owsley Co., is on Ky. 11 and 30 and the South Fork of the Kentucky River, 116 air miles SE of downtown Louisville. The first permanent settlers were James Moore and his family in the 1790s and for years, the settlement was called Moore’s Station. Elias Moore donated an acre to locate the new county’s seat there in 1843 and his brother, James, Jr. established the Owsley Court House post office on May 20, 1844. This was officially renamed Booneville on Dec. 8, 1846 because Daniel Boone, while on a surveying trip for some land companies, is said to have camped by a spring near the site of the present court house. It was incorporated as Booneville on March 1, 1847. Some local persons feel that the Census population estimate is too small, that it should be closer to 1500 to include more of the territory that is considered an integral part of the town.

As former School Superintendent Fred Gabbard has pointed out “the original articles of incorporation just included the 1 acre donated from the Moore farm and these boundaries have never changed. But the town is mostly on the other side of the river and not technically within its limits. Some 1500 persons call this town their home.”

(1) Fred Gabbard, interview, 7/8/1977; (2) Joyce Wilson, THIS WAS YESTERDAY, 1977, Pp. 4, 23
BOONESBOROUGH (Madison Co.): [Bünz/buhr/ə] (Ford). Nothing remains of the first chartered town in Kentucky—established and laid out as a town in Oct. 1779 on 640 acres which included all the land along the south bank of the Kentucky River from the site of Lock 10 down to the Memorial Bridge and US 27, south to the top of the hill where Boone's fort was later located. It centered, of course, on Daniel Boone's original settlement (April, 1775). Though by 1790 it had nearly 120 homes and had become an important river shipping port and was even nominated for the state's capital in 1792, it never really materialized as a town. With other nearby communities more accessible and more attractive, it ceased to develop, and by the 1820s there was little there to mark it as a town. Yet from 1828 to 1866 it had a post office, Boonesboro (sic), later spelled Boonesborough, which was in operation again in 1914 for less than a year. Today the site is occupied by the Boonesborough State Park, 9½ air miles n of Richmond. Note the locally preferred spelling, above; state highway maps have long (incorrectly) spelled this name Boonesboro and, incorrectly located the place on KY 388, 3 road miles s of its true site on the river. (1) Jonathan T. Dorris and Maud W. Dorris, GLIMPSES OF HIST'C. MADISON CO., KY. 1955, P. 17; (2) Robt. N. Grise, interview, 4/28/1978; (3) James Shannon, interview, 12/27/1977
BOONS CAMP (Johnson Co.): Boons Kaemp (Offutt). A hamlet with an active post office on the site of a camp on Greasy Creek and KY 40, 5 1/2 air miles east of Paintsville, which is said to have been used by Daniel Boone on one or more occasions in the 1790s while hunting with the settlers of Blockhouse Bottom. According to tradition, Boone was returning from a hunt with a large amount of game when he carelessly "left marks of fat upon the trailside trees" bordering the creek. And that is the derivation of Greasy Creek (Grease Creek) which extends roughly west for 6 1/2 miles from near the Martin Co. line to the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River below Offutt. The Boons Camp post office was established May 16, 1876 with James Mollett, postmaster. One can only assume, from the traditional spelling, that local residents or postal officials could not spell. [Henry P. Scalf, "Dan'l. Boone in Eastern Kentucky" in 150 YEARS OF PIKE CO., KY. 1822-1972, 1972, Pp. 9-14]
BORDLEY (Union Co.): [Bawrd/lee] (Bordley). A vacant store building, church, and several homes are all that remain of a thriving 19th century trade center at the junction of KY 758 and the Boxville Rd., 1 1/2 miles from the Webster Co. line and 8 1/2 air miles s of Morganfield. The post office was established on Feb. 21, 1828 about a mile away by William J. Ross, the first postmaster, who named it for a friend in England. In 1858 James P. Woodring and Jacob Strouse built then a store at the present Bordley site to which they moved the post office. When the Morganfield & Atlanta Railroad went through nearby Pride in 1905 (q.v.), much of the local business moved to the new station site and Bordley never recovered. The post office closed in 1911 and mail is now secured from Clay, 9 1/2 road miles s in Webster Co. [(1) HIST. OF UNION CO., KY. 1886, P. 721; (2) UNION CO. PAST & PRESENT WPA Ky. Writers Proj., 1941, P. 193]
BOREING (Laurel Co.: [Bawr/ihr] (Lily). This hamlet with a recently discontinued post office on KY 229, 6 air miles se of London, was first called Camp Ground for the religious meeting place there years ago. The post office was established April 8, 1884 with Daniel Vinsant, postmaster, and named for Vincent Boreing, a Laurel Co. newspaperman, school superintendent (1868-72), and, later, county judge (1886) and U.S. Congressman from district of Kentucky (1899-1903). The Camp Ground name still applies to the local elementary school. [Logan Ewell, interview, 4/29/1972]
BOSTON (Pendleton Co.): /bəʊtsən/ (Butler). Just below the mouth of Harris Creek, a west bank branch of the Licking River, the Licking River Lumber and Mining Company built a sawmill to process the logs floated down from its holdings near the headwaters of the river. The area was first served by the Meridian post office, established Feb. 14, 1855 a mile north of the mill. It was moved to the mill on the Covington and Lexington (now L&N) Railroad in 1860 and renamed Boston Station for the Massachusetts hometown of most of company's stockholders. The town was incorporated as Boston Station in 1872, while the station later became known as Lynn or Lynn Station. What remains of the Boston community is mostly in the vicinity of US27, nearly ½ mile w. of the railroad and 5½ air miles n. of Falmouth. With the closing of its post office in 1922, it has been on a Butler rural route. E.E. Barton, "R.R. Hist. of Pendleton Co." 1968 ms. in KHS Libr.
COUNTY:


Kentucky's 5th county, it was established in 1786 from part of Fayette Co. and was thus one of the 9 counties formed while Kentucky was still a part of Virginia. It was named to honor the French royal family for their help in America's war for independence. From its original territory all of 24 and part of 10 other counties were created.
BOURNE (Garrard Co.): [Bowen] (Buckeye). Little remains but the Mt. Hebron Church to mark a once prosperous village called Mt. Hebron on KY 1355, 6 air miles N of Lancaster. Today the place is known by the name applied to its post office when it was established April 1, 1891 in John E. Bourne's store. The office closed in 1949. [Taped interview with Mrs. Helen Clark by Pat Ballard for the Garrard Co. Oral History files]
BOW (Cumberland Co.): [Boh] (Burkesville). This community, locally known as Cedar Creek for its local school and church, is strung out along the lower ends of Bear and Cedar Creeks, branches of the Cumberland River. It is still served by the Bow post office on old KY-90, 1 1/2 air miles southeast of Burkesville. The office was established June 7, 1901 with William Glidewell, postmaster, and named for the large and prominent Bow family whose progenitor, Nathaniel Bow, had arrived in the county from Pittsylvania Co., Va. before 1810. [R.N. Smith, interview, 9/22/1978]
BOWLING GREEN (Warren Co.): Bowling Green North, Bowling Green South. A 2nd class city, Kentucky's 5th largest with some 38,700 persons, and the seat of Warren Co. and Western Kentucky University, on US 31w, 68, and 231, just w of I 65 and 88 air miles ssw of downtown Louisville. The town was established in 1798 as Bolin Green (sic) on 2 acres which, the year before, had been donated by Robert Moore for the seat of the newly created county. The post office of Bowling Green was established April 1, 1802 with Robert's brother, George as postmaster, and the town was incorporated in this name in 1810.

At the Russellville Convention of 1861, Bowling Green became the Confederate Capital of Kentucky. It was most likely named for Bowling Green, the seat of Caroline Co., Va. which, in turn, had been named for the nearby estate of Col. John Hoopes as a condition for his donation of the site for the public buildings. The estate, since called simply "The Old Mansion" boasted a large lawn where the game of bowls was played by country gentlemen. Though this derivation seems feasible in view of the fact that many pioneer Warren Co. families had come from this section of Virginia, some local historians think the name originated from Robert Moore's "ball alley" near his home which is mentioned in old records as a source of local recreation. For years this industrial, commercial, and cultural capital of south central Kentucky has been called "The Park City" for its downtown Fountain Square Park in which a fountain was erected in 1881. 

BOXVILLE (Union Co.): Bahx/vihl (Waverly). Only a store and a half dozen homes mark the site of a once thriving tobacco processing and farm trade center at the junction of KY 56 and 141, 5½ air miles SE of Morganfield. In 1941 most of the site was incorporated into Camp Breckinridge, a World War II training ground. In 1851 Lincoln Agin, a shoemaker, moved to this site and opened a shop in a little box-shaped house and the area about it soon came to be called, derisively, Boxville. By 1865 Agin and David Springer, a blacksmith, had acquired the site, attracting other businesses around which the town was established as Boxville. On July 14, 1868 the post office, since discontinued, was established and Agin became the first postmaster.

[HIST. OF UNION CO., KY. 1886, PP. 665-6]
COUNTY: Boyd. 159 sq. miles. Pop. 55,451. Seat: Catlettsburg. It was established in 1860 from parts of Greenup, Carter, and Lawrence Co's. and named for Linn Boyd (1800-1859), for 18 years a US Congressman from Kentucky. From 1855 to 1859 he served as Speaker of the US House of Representatives and died before assuming office as Lt. Gov. of Kentucky. Ashland, Kentucky's 7th largest city, is located here.
BOYD (Harrison Co.): [Boid] (Berry). A settlement on Ky. 1054 and the South Fork of Licking River, ½ mile from the Pendleton Co. line and 11½ air miles nwnw of Cynthiana. On Dec. 8, 1854, on the site of a watermill built by Whitehead Coleman in 1810, Thomas Boyd established a post office which he named Boyd's Station for Andrew Boyd, Sr., an early settler. Within a short time it was to become a coal and water supply station on the Covington and Lexington (later Kentucky Central and now L&N) Railroad and the village grew up around the station. In 1880 the post office became simply Boyd which name it bore until it closed. Mail is now delivered from Berry, 4 road miles south.

[Ferrin, 1882, P. 319]
BOYDSVILLE (Graves Co.): [Boïdz/val] (Lynnville). A crossroads hamlet on the Tennessee state line, 16 air miles sse of Mayfield. The post office was established as Boyds Store on Aug. 31, 1831 which probably explains its name. It was discontinued in 1834 and re-established as Boydsville on July 17, 1866 with John W. Maxwell, postmaster. When this was discontinued, the residents of the Kentucky side of the line began to receive their mail from Lynnville, 5 1/2 road miles nw. The community may also have been known, in ante-bellum times, as Boyds Crossing, and was described by Perrin as the home base of "a set of hard characters who gave the place an unenviable reputation." [1] Lon Carter Barton, interview, 8/5/1977; (2) Perrin, 1885, P. 60
COUNTY: Boyle (Boil, Baw/é, Bawl). 183 sq. miles. Pop. 24,977.

Seat: Danville. Established in 1842 from parts of Mercer and Lincoln Co's. and named for John Boyle (1774-1834), Congressman, Chief Justice of the Kentucky Court of Appeals (1810-1826), and US District Judge for Kentucky (1826-1834).
COUNTY:
BRACKEN. 204 sq. miles. Pop. 7,743. Seat: Brooksville. Established in 1796 from parts of Campbell and Mason Co's. and said to be named for 2 creeks, Big and Little Bracken, which had been named for William Bracken, a pioneer hunter and Indian fighter who had settled on one of them and may have been killed there by Indians.
BRACKTOWN (Fayette Co.): [Braek/town] (Lex. West). A predominantly black community of some 200 residents extending for about a mile between US 421 and the Old Leestown Pike, just s and w of the Federal Correctional Institute and 2 miles nw of Lexington's New Circle Road. In 1887 Robert Stone subdivided 21 acres of the northern section of the present Bracktown into lots which he sold to blacks who were able to afford the $100 an acre asking price. He called this section Stonetown for himself. At that time part of the land s of Stonetown was owned by the Rev. Frederick Braxton, a black preacher of Lexington, whose efforts on behalf of the establishment of a viable black settlement led to the residents naming the entire community Bracktown for him. [Donald Burrell and Michael Putnam, Part 2 "Rural Settlements Housing Study of 1971, Housing Rept. of City-County Planning Comm." 5/1971, P. 37]
BRADFORD (Bracken Co.): [Bradford] (Moscow). Now the site of Lenox Lumber Co. and little else at the junction of Ky. 8 and 1109, 8 air miles nnnw of Brooksville, this former Ohio River landing was first called Metcalfe's Landing for a local family. By this name a post office was established on April 22, 1863 with John T. Sullivan postmaster. It was renamed Bradford on April 2, 1866, with Silas W. Norton, postmaster, and the landing became known as Bradford's Landing for Laban J. Bradford who, with his brother, owned the land and most of the businesses. Today Lenox Company and the few residents of this vicinity just below the mouth of Little Snag Creek secure their mail from Foster, 3.7 road miles west. [RECOLLECTIONS, 1969, n.p.] 27
BRADFORDSVILLE (Marion Co.): [Bradfordsville]. A 6th class city with an active post office and some 320 residents, just east of the forks of the Rolling Fork of Salt River, 6 1/2 air miles se of Lebanon. Peter Bradford, for whom it was named, is known to have hunted in this vicinity around 1780 and later to have established and operated a large grist and saw mill near the ford on the river, at the west end of the present town. An early settlement at that site was called Centerville for its alleged location at the center of the state. It soon went by the name of Bradford's Mill, and the post office, established on March 10, 1834 (with John Scanland, postmaster) was called Bradfordsville by which name the town was formally established in 1836. By the turn of this century it had become a fairly prosperous industrial town. [O.W. Baylor, WPA ms]
BRADLEY (Magoffin Co.): [Braed lee] (Salyersville South). A hamlet with a recently discontinued post office on KY 1888 and Burning Fork of Licking River, 3 air miles SE of Salyersville. The post office was established Sept. 13, 1895 with Elliott Howard, postmaster, and named for Kentucky's Governor William O. Bradley (1895-1899). [Connie Wireman, letter to me, 6/3/1979]
BRAMLETT (Green Co.): [Braem/let] (Gresham). Hamlet with extinct post office on KY 487 and Snake Branch of Russell Creek, 6 air miles sse of Greensburg. According to local tradition, the name for the post office established July 16, 1925 in Les Pickett's store, was drawn from a hat. The winning entry was that of Bramlett Squires, local landowner. Pickett's, under new management, has been the only store the community ever had. It is now on a Greensburg mail route. [Claudia Hancock, student at Campbellsv. Coll. collected from, for Folklore Arch. WKU]
BRANDENBURG (Meade Co.): [Braendenberg] (Mauckport, Guston). A 5th class city of some 1,350 residents and the seat of Meade Co. on the Ohio River, 27 air miles sw of downtown Louisville. In 1825 the Kentucky Legislature authorized the transfer of the county's seat from Claysville (aka Brownsville), near the junction of the present Ky. 1638 and Doe Run, to a site offered by Solomon Brandenburg by his landing and ferry. The town was laid out and the post office was established in 1826 and named for him. It became an important 19th century river port. Main Street sloping down to the river lost its commercial dominance when, after the devastating tornado of April 3, 1974, many businesses and the court house were relocated in the surrounding hills. 

BRANDY KEG (Floyd Co.): [Brandy Keg] (Lancer). A residential community extending along and named for the 4 mile long Brandykeg Creek (sic) which joins the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River just above the Lancer section of Prestonsburg. A Brandy Keg post office was in operation there from 1905 to 1915 but the Prestonsburg post office now serves the area. According to tradition, some early traveler lost a keg of brandy somewhere in that vicinity. The name was recorded on old maps as "Cag" suggesting of the old pronunciation. The Brandy Keg name also applies to the boat dock a mile n on Dewey Lake in the Jenny Wiley State Resort Park. [Henry P. Scalf, interview, 5/16/1971]
BRASSFIELD (Madison Co.): [Braes/feeld] (Moberly). An extinct post office and station on the long defunct Richmond Nicholasville Irvine & Beattyville (later L&N) Railroad and KY 499, 8 air miles ese of Richmond. The post office was established Aug. 31, 1893 by David G. Martin, first postmaster and station agent, who named it for his grandfather, James Eli Brasfield (sic) (1782-1864), a Virginia-born pioneer settler. The vicinity is now served by the Bybee post office, 5 road miles n.

BRECKINRIDGE [Brek'ən ri'dj]. 554 sq. miles. Pop. 16,000.

Seat: Hardinsburg. Established in 1799 from part of Hardin Co. and named for John Breckinridge (1760-1806), Kentucky Attorney General (1793-97) and Legislator (1797-1801) who later served in the US Senate (1801-05) and as US Attorney General (1805 till his death).
BREEDING (Adair Co.): [Breed/ihn] (Breeding). A village with an active post office at the head of Casey Fork (of Harrods Fork of Crocus Creek) and KY 61, ¼ mile from the Metcalfe Co. line and 11 air miles sw of Columbia. The vicinity was first settled around 1802 by George Breeding (1772-1857), a Virginian, whose son, James, later a noted preacher, was born there in 1803. The post office was established as Breeding's March 30, 1830 and probably named for George. It was discontinued in 1892. Another post office called Elroy, established near by in 1885, was moved to and renamed Breeding in 1894 and is still in operation. [Vista Royse Allison, METH. HIST. OF ADAIR CO., KY. 1782-1969, n.d., P. 345] 


BREMEM (Muhlenberg Co.): [Breem/man] (Central City West). A mining community with an active post office and some 300 residents extending for about a mile along KY 81, 1 mile from the McLean Co. line and 9 air miles n.-w. of Greenville. For years referred to as "the Dutch Settlement", this area was settled by German immigrants and when the post office was established Feb. 9, 1832 by Peter Shaver, it was named for the birthplace of his father, Andrew Shaver (or Schaber). The post office moved several times between Muhlenberg and McLean Counties before returning to the former to stay in 1866. For some time in the late 19th century the community was also called Bennettsville for the post office was then located in Andrew Bennett's store and blacksmith shop. It was incorporated as a town in 1869. [Otto A. Rothert, A HIST. OF MUHL. CO. 1913, Pp. 27, 419]
BREWERS (Marshall Co.): [Bru/ørz] (Oak Level). A hamlet with extinct post office at the junction of KY 80 and 1836, over a mile e of the West Fork of Clarks River and 6 air miles sw of Benton. It was named for Peter Brewer who had built a water-powered grist mill and store on the West Fork sometime before 1840. The post office of Barksdale, established in Graves Co. on Feb. 22, 1859 by Rolly Sutherland, was presumably moved to the mill site in 1861 and renamed Brewers Mills (sic). In 1896 the office was renamed Brewers. Sometime after the mill ceased operation, the river shifted its course drying up the mill pond, and the site is "now on a high and dry bottom" with no signs of ever having been in a river bed. The vicinity is now on a Benton rural route. [Freeman & Olds, 1933, P. 96]
BRIDGEPORT (Franklin Co.): The first home within the present limits of this village just south of US60, ¾ mi. north of I64, and 2 air miles wsw of Frankfort, was built in 1797 by Sherman Nunnery. By 1826 the site had come into the possession of Frederick Robb who established the town and named it in 1835 for the local covered bridge that had been built over South Benson Creek in 1811 on the original route between Lexington and Louisville. (According to Jillson, however, it may have been named for two such bridges, the second having been erected in 1824 over Armstrong's Branch.) A post office was in operation from 1837 to 1904 and the town was incorporated in 1848. It was a bustling town for much of the 19th century until a disastrous fire wiped out its chances for continued prosperity. Some of the town's old buildings still stand on the Old Bridgeport Road, along with several stores, 2 churches, a consolidated school, and a number of new homes. 

BRIENSBURG (Marshall Co.): [Breɪənz/ˈbɛrəŋ] (Briensburg). A hamlet with extinct post office extending along US68 and KY 58 from their junction at a point 2½ air miles nne of Benton. It was named for its founder, James Brien, a blacksmith, who arrived in the vicinity in 1819/20. A state legislator, he secured passage of a bill for the creation of Marshall Co. in 1842 and the town he founded was a candidate for the county's seat. Its post office was established May 1, 1856 with William M. Yancey, postmaster, and after an intermittent existence, it closed for good in 1905. Incorporated in 1861, Briensburg became a prosperous commercial town but declined when the improvement of US68 drew trade away to other towns in the county. It has enjoyed recent growth to a peak population of some 400 due to its proximity to Kentucky Lake and other area tourist attractions.

(1) Freeman & Olds, HIST. OF MARSHALL CO. KY. 1933, Pp. 47-8; (2) Jas. R. Lemon, LEMON'S HAND BOOK OF MARSHALL CO. 1894, P. 96.
BRIGHTSHADE (Clay Co.): [Br/ht/shad] (Ogle). A southern Clay Co. pioneer named Bright Short is said to have built his home and store at the mouth of Otter Creek (a-left-bank-tributary-of-Goose-Creek). In his front yard stood three large hemlock trees which, for their shade, served as a natural stopping place for travelers up and down Goose Creek. After a while they came to refer to it as Bright's Shade and it was suggested that this name be applied to the post office that was established there in 1883. Postal officials apparently accepted this but dropped the 's and combined the two words to Bright—was some 4 miles south; shade. Some time later, the post office moved to the present site of the hamlet, at the confluence of Mill and Goose Creeks and 10 air miles se of Manchester, where it is now a rural branch of the Manchester post office. \(^{(1)}\) Ethel Smith in MANCH. ENTERPRISE, 10/5/1972, P.5B:5-8; \(^{(2)}\) Marian Martin, interview, 6/29/1977
BRISTOW (Warren Co.): (Bristow). L&N Railroad station and extinct post office 3/4 mile n of I 65 and 2 1/2 air miles ne of Bowling Green. John Ewing, who donated 2 acres for the depot, is said to have named the station probably for Francis M. Bristow who then represented that district in the U.S. Congress. The post office, established as Bristow Station on June 22, 1860 with Zachariah G. Taylor, postmaster, became simply Bristow in 1880. The local church, school, businesses, and some homes that are now considered part of this community are located on US 31w/68, less than 1/4 mile n of the tracks. They are on a Bowling Green rural route. [PARK CITY DAILY NEWS 12/3/1944]
BROAD BOTTOM (Pike Co.): [Broad Bottom]. This hamlet with an active post office slightly over a mile e of the Floyd Co. line and 3½ air miles nw of Pikeville, was named for its location in a low lying area across the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River from US 23/460. The post office was established as Broadbottom (sic) on Jan. 26, 1924 with Henry H. Funk, postmaster.
BRODHEAD (Rockcastle Co.): [Brahd/hehd] (Brodhead). A 6th class city with an active post office and some 770 residents on US 150, at the head of Dicks River, and 4 air miles nw of Mount Vernon. Until the Lebanon Branch of the L&N Railroad reached this point in Feb. 1868, it was the site of a drovers stable and stagecoach stop called Stigall's Station [Stihgh/awlz Sta/shan]. The station and post office, established May 14, 1868 with Elsworth O. Farris, postmaster, were renamed for the contractor responsible for building the line up to this point or, perhaps, for Richard Brodhead (1811-1863), a U.S. Senator from Pennsylvania (1851-57). The post office name was at first inadvertently spelled Broadhead but corrected by 1890 and a BGN decision in 1897 guaranteed that it would henceforth be Brodhead. The town, incorporated in 1880, had become an important rail shipping center by the turn of the century. [Ralph Griffin "Brief Hist. of Rock. Co." MT. VERNON SIGNAL, 11/30/1939]"
BROMLEY (Owen Co.): [Brahm/lee] (Glencoe). A hamlet on KY 35, just n of its junction with US 127, and 6½ air miles n of Owenton. The community and its post office, in operation from 1881 to 1906, are said to have been named for the brothers Al and Robert Bromley, residents. It is now on a rural route out of Sparta, in Gallatin Co., 3½ road miles n. [Article on Owen Co's. smaller communities in the bicent. ed. of the OWEN. NEWS-HER. 7/4/1974, Pp. 10-11]
BROMLEY (Kenton Co.): [Brahm/lee] (Covington). A 5th class city of about 1000 residents and a westside suburb of Covington from the downtown of which it is 2½ air miles. Laid out in 1848 by a local pharmacist, Charles Collins, and named for his birthplace, the city of Bromley in England, it was incorporated in 1890. Its postal needs have always been served by the office in neighboring Ludlow, now a branch of the Covington post office.

[Connie Remlinger "'I Wrote the Mayor...We Arranged to Meet" KY POST, 10/5/1970]
BRONSTON (Pulaski Co.): [Brahm/sten] (Frazer, Burnside). A residential community with an active post office and some 350 residents extending along KY 790 e to Lake Cumberland, across the lake from Burnside, and 5 air miles s of Somerset. It was named for Nicholas "Nix" Brown in whose store the post office was established on Feb. 6, 1882 with Thomas C. Brown, postmaster. It was an obvious contraction of "Brown's Town."
[Alma Owens Tibbals, A HIST. OF PULASKI CO., KY., 1952, P. 67]
BROOKLYN (Mercer Co.): [Brook/lan] (Wilmore). All that remains to mark the existence of a once prosperous Kentucky River port and industrial town is the Brooklyn Bridge that takes US 68 traffic between Mercer and Jessamine Counties. Fire and flood destroyed the town before 1900. To this site, ½ mile e of the junction of Woodford, Jessamine, and Mercer Counties and 9 air miles ne of Harrodsburg, a Virginian named Brook and his 2 nephews are said to have paddled down the Kentucky River in a canoe hewed out of a linden tree. Fellow citizens would often borrow their canoe, which came to be known as "Brook's Lin", and the place where it was docked, then known as Todd's Ferry, was soon called Brook's Lin Landing. Later it was shortened to simply Brooklin and Brooklyn, the latter form undoubtedly influenced by the name of the city near New York. No evidence has been found to support this legendary account of the name. The three span iron bridge, 546 feet long, was completed in 1871 and called the Brooklyn Bridge for the town, but probably also suggestive of the bridge then being constructed between Brooklyn and New York City whose completion it predated by some 13 years. Kentucky's Brooklyn Bridge collapsed in 1953 and the present highway bridge was completed and opened in 1954. [1] Rebecca Conover, interview 4/21/1978; [2] THRU 200 YEARS, [3] a bank letter issued by the 1st Nat'l Bank of Wilmore, undated and unsigned.
BROOKS (Bullitt Co.): [Brooks]. A hamlet with an active post office at the junction of KY 1020 and 1526, ½ mile w of I 65, 1.8 miles s of the Jefferson Co. line and 3 air miles n of Shepherdsville. The community grew up around Brooks Station established on the L&N Railroad's main line between Louisville and Nashville in 1857 and probably named for the local family of Joseph Brooks. (An L&N historian, however, claimed that it was named for Joshua W. Brooks who built the line between 1853 and 1859). The post office, established as Brooks Station on Jan. 26, 1858, with Thomas S. Hougland, postmaster, became Mt. Vitio (sic) in 1867 and Brooks in 1885. [(1) Bullitt Co. Hist'1. Comm'n. A HIST. OF BULLITT CO. 1974, P. 23; (2) "Our Place Names are Personalized" by Ole Reliable, L&N MAG. 2/1956, P. 20ff)
BROOKSVILLE (Bracken Co.): A fifth class city of 620 residents and the seat of Bracken County, centrally located at the junction of K 10 and 19, about 87 miles ene of downtown Louisville. This site was known as Woodwards Crossroads when the county government was moved from Augusta in 1833. William and Joel Woodward were the first settlers, having arrived from Germantown before 1800. They were soon joined by others and the little village named for them appealed to many persons seeking a more central location for the county's seat. On Feb. 16, 1839 the Kentucky Gen'l. Assembly authorized the relocation by a bill submitted by Rep. David Brooks and on this day the crossroads was renamed for him. The first post office to serve this vicinity was established as Brooksville Court House (sic) on Oct. 15, 1842 with Jos. C. Linn, postmaster. It was only after the turn of the present century that the spelling was officially changed to its present form.

RECOLLECTIONS, 1969, n.p. 27
BROWDER (Muhlenberg Co.): [Brow/der] (Drakesboro), a former coal company town, L&N Railroad station, and now village with an active post office and some 300 residents at the junction of US 431 and KY 70, 7 air miles east of Greenville, that was named for W.F. Browder, a Russellville lawyer and official of the Owensboro & Nashville (now L&N) Railroad. The post office was established June 15, 1905 with James E. Raynolds, postmaster. [Alex' r. Cather, interview, 8/8/1977]
BROWNING (Warren Co.) [Brown/ih/ŋ] (Rockfield). A hamlet with an extinct post office on KY 1083, 7 air miles west of Bowling Green, was named for Quinton and Daniel B. Browning, the sons of George Strother Browning of Logan Co., Ky., who settled early on adjoining farms in this vicinity. The post office, in operation from 1902 to 1906, had only one postmaster, Melvin E. Porter. The post office at Rockfield, 4^{2\over 7} road miles southeast, now serves the area's farm families. [Irene Sumpter AN ALBUM OF EARLY WARREN COUNTY LANDMARKS, Pp. 18–2]
BROWNING CORNER (Pendleton Co.): [Brown/ihnez Kahr/ner](sic), (Claysv.)

This crossroads settlement, ½ mile from the Bracken Co. line and 6½
air miles se of Falmouth, was once a thriving community named for a
local family. There is no record of its ever having a post office
and it is now on a Falmouth rural route. [Genevieve Shonert, 10/17/1978]
BROWNINGTOWN (Bullitt Co.): Brown/ihy/town (Samuels). This settlement on KY 1604, 6 air miles ese of Shepherdsville, was named for the Browning family which had settled there before the Civil War. Its identification as Brownington on current maps is in error. [Lorraine Funk Braun, term paper hist. of Bullitt Co., 1960, in the Bullitt Co. Vert. Files, KHS Libr.]
BROWNSBORO (Oldham Co.): [Browns/buhr/ɔː] (Crestwood, Anchorage).

Now but a crossroads hamlet ½ mile n of I 71 and 6 air miles sw of LaGrange, this was the county's principal industrial and commercial town before its economic hopes were dashed when bypassed by the Louisville and Frankfort (now L&N) Railroad in the late 1840s. It developed around a trading post and Callahan's Tavern, a stage stop, at the junction of 2 pioneer roads. The name, possibly honoring Kentucky's first senator, John Brown (1757-1837) was first applied to the post office established on March 26, 1827 with Jacob Oglesby, postmaster, and was bestowed on the town when it was chartered by the Kentucky Legislature in 1830. In 1838 the town was an unsuccessful contender with LaGrange for the transfer of the county seat from Westport. The post office was discontinued in 1908 and mail has since been secured from Crestwood, 2½ road miles se. [(1) Souvenir Program--Brownsboro Day, 10/13/1962, Sponsored by the Oldham Co. Hist'l. Soc; (2) LOU. TIMES, 3/3/1922]
BROWNSBORO VILLAGE (Jefferson Co.): [Browns/buhr/a Vihl/adj] (Jeffersonville). A 6th class city of some 4/10 residents between the Louisville city limits (on the w), the cities of Bellewood (on the s) and Druid Hills (on the e) and the Brownsboro Rd. (on the n). It was probably named when established in 1955 for the thoroughfare which refers to the town of Brownsboro (q.v.), 11 air miles ne, in Oldham Co. Brownsboro Village is about 5 air miles e of the court house in downtown Louisville and is dependent on Louisville for postal services. [Blaine Guthrie, interview, 4/4/1978]
BROWNS CROSSROADS (Clinton Co.) [Brownz Kraws/rohdz] (Albany). On July 15, 1869 Francis M. Brown established the Browns Crossroads post office in his store at the junction of the old Burksville Rd. and the present Ky: 639, 2 air miles wnw of Albany. Sometime later the store and post office were moved up the Burksville Rd., a mile nw, to the site they were to occupy until they were recently closed. Only homes and farms presently mark both locations, clearly in the Albany trade and service area. [Eva Conner, interview, 3/22/1979]
BROWNS GROVE (Calloway Co.): [Brownz Ghrohy] (Lynn Grove). Virtually on the Graves-Calloway Co. line, on the present KY 893, and near the head of Mayfield Creek, James A. Brown started a store sometime before 1893, and the little settlement that grew up around it was called Browns Grove. By this name he established a post office in his store on July 21, 1893. The store and post office and other local business places are gone and local farm families are dependent on Lynn Grove, 4 miles s.e., for their mail and groceries. Murray, the county seat, is 8 miles east. [Brown C. Tucker, interview, 8/4/1977]
BROWNS VALLEY (Daviess Co.): [Browns Vael\lee] (Sutherland). A store, railroad spur, and extinct post office named for the broad valley through which US 431 and the L&N Railroad make their way between Owensboro, 6 air miles n., and the McLean Co. line. Before the establishment of the Browns Valley post office on June 9, 1887 by its name source, Orville O. Brown, this place was identified as Crow Hickman Station on the old Owensboro & Russellville (now L&N) Railroad. The post office closed in 1933 and the vicinity is now on a Utica mail route.

[Cecilia M. Laswell, "Towns and Villages of Daviess Co." WPA ms, 6/19/1936]
BROWNSVILLE (Edmonson Co.): (Brownsvi/vi) (Brownsville). This fifth clas
city of some 720 residents on KY 70/259, 73 air miles ssw of downtown
Louisville, is the seat of Edmonson County. The post office, establishe
May 23, 1826 with Jesse Crump, postmaster, and the town, created by an Ac
of the Kentucky Legislature on Jan. 30, 1828, were probably named for
Jacob Brown (1775-1828), the commanding general of the US Army from 1821
1828. [Collins HIST. Vol. 2, P. 156]
BROWNSVILLE (Fulton Co.): [Brownz/vih] (Hickman). This hamlet on KY 925, 2 air miles sw of Hickman, was named for Shadrack Brown who had settled there around 1845 and donated the land for the local cemetery. No post office of this name ever existed in the county and it is not known what early post office may have served this vicinity. It is now on a Hickman rural route. [FULTON CO. 74-76 BICENT. SOUVENIR BOOK, 1974, P. 18]
BRUIN (Elliott Co.): [Bruin]. An active post office at Dickerson's garage and store at the junction of KY 7 and 409, 7 air miles ne of Sandy Hook. Samuel Mobley established the post office Dec. 28, 1869 on Bruin Creek which joins the Little Sandy River, at the Carter Co. line, 2½ miles n. The creek is said to have been named either for a bear killed there by an early settler or for Johnny Mullins' dog, Bruin, who had treed the bear, the only one the early settlers had ever seen on that creek. [(1) Ruth Keck, late p.m. of Sandy Hook, Ky., in term paper for Leonard Roberts, MSU, 1960; (2) The Whites, interview, 7/28/1978]
BRYANTS STORE (Knox Co.): (Bryants Stowe) (Barbourville). This hamlet with an active post office on KY 1809 and Little Poplar Creek, 5½ air mi. ssw of Barbourville, was named for a pioneer family who maintained an early store there and still does. Though in operation intermittently, the post office is traced back to its establishment by Minor Bryant on Sept. 6, 1873. [Sherman Oxendine, interview, 6/23/1978]
BRYANTSVILLE (Garrard Co.): [Braents/vihl] (Bryantsville). Village with an active post office just off US27, 7 air miles nw of Lancaster, that is said to have been on the site of Smiths Station, established by Rev. James Smith in 1779. This later became Smithtown and was, by an act of the General Assembly in 1836, renamed Bryantsville for the local family of John Bryant, a Revolutionary War veteran. On March 17, 1818, Smith's son, Edmund established the local post office as Burnt Tavern at the famed travelers rest between Lexington and Nashville opened by Edmund around 1800 and named for its having been burned and rebuilt twice. In 1845 the office was renamed Bryantsville for the village. All but one wing of the tavern, at the south end of the village, was raised in 1956. [1] PATCHES OF GARRARD CO. 1974, Pp. 249-59; (2) Pat Ballard, interview, 4/21/1978; (3) J. Winston Coleman, photo. story on B.T. in his "Hist'c. Ky." col. in LEX. LEAD. 10/8/1961]
BUCHANAN (Lawrence Co.): [buhk /eau /eau] (Prichard). A hamlet just s of the Boyd Co. line, centering at the junction of old US 23 and KY 707, at the mouth of Bear Creek, a w bank tributary of the Big Sandy River, and 8' air miles n of Louisa. The community was first called Canterbury for the family of Reuben Canterbury who established the local post office on Jan. 14, 1830 and named it for himself. In 1838, when Benjamin Turman, a ferryman, became postmaster, the office was renamed Turman's Ferry. The office was moved to a site in the vicinity of the present Prichard, W.Va. in 1853 and until 1861, when it was returned to Lawrence Co., it was known as Round Bottom. On its return to the Kentucky side of the river it assumed the name Buchanan presumably for George Buchanan who had been appointed postmaster. In 1880 when the Chatteroi (now C&O) Railroad reached this section, the local station was established as Rockville for some big rocks just below the depot. Around 1900 the station and the community itself assumed the name of the post office. The post office closed in 1963 and the area is now served by a rural branch of the Catlettsburg post office. 

(1) Marie Carey, interview, 10/14/1977; (2) Geo. Wolfford LAW. CO. A PCITORIAL HIST. 1972, Pp. 151, 160}
BUCKEYE (Garrard Co.): Buckeye. On KY 39, 7 air miles N of Lancaster, only a school and 2 churches remain of a once flourishing farm trade center. It was named for the large buckeye tree, an early landmark in the area, that stood near the present Liberty Baptist Church upon which the village was centered. The Buckeye post office, established July 11, 1844 by James H. Letcher, Jr., closed in 1915. [Forrest Calico, letter to me, 5/21/1969]
BUCKHORN (Perry Co.): [Buhk/hawrn] (Buckhorn). A hamlet with an active post office and a 1970 population of 400, on KY 28 and Squabble Creek, ½ mile above its confluence with Middle Fork of the Kentucky River, 1 mile from the Breathitt Co. line and 16 air miles NW of Hazard. The post office was established June 12, 1902 with Laura York, postmaster. According to tradition, the first settler of that vicinity was Jerry Smith, allegedly from Tennessee. He is said to have named the local Buckhorn Spring for a foursnag buck he had killed there and whose antlers he had hung over the spring. He is also supposed to have named the creek for a fight between his brother and others over the division of game. Buckhorn is the site of the Old Witherspoon or "Log" College which was founded in 1903 and operated by the Rev. Henry S. Murdock and his wife, Louise. This has long been a fairly thriving community with a well appointed hospital and childrens home sponsored by the Presbyterian Synod of Kentucky. Nearby is Buckhorn Dam, which regulates a 1230 acre Buckhorn Lake, and Buckhorn Lake State Resort Park. [Eunice Tolbert Johnson, ed. HIST. OF PERRY CO. DAR, 1953, Pp. 68-77]
BUCKNER (Oldham Co.): [Buhk/nør] (LaGrange). A village with an active post office extending for over a mile along the L&N Railroad and KY 146 w from a point about 1½ air miles wsw of LaGrange. Now the site of the county's consolidated high and middle schools and 2 recently established lumber companies, it was founded as Buckner's Station on the old Louisville and Frankfort (Cincinnati & Lexington or Short Line) (now L&N) Railroad sometime before Jan. 1867 when the post office of Buckner's Station was established with William A. Campbell, postmaster. This became Buckner in 1880. The Buckners were a family of early settlers. [Theodore Klein, interview, 4/7/1978]
BUECHEL (Jefferson Co.): [ˌbjuːˈʃɛl] (Louisville East).

An unincorporated residential suburb of Louisville with an estimated 900 residents, centering at the intersection of the Southern Railway and the Bardstown Rd., 7 air miles se of the court house in downtown Louisville. About 1½ miles nw of this point, but within the community's unofficial limits, was the county's first pioneer settlement, Sullivan's Old Station established in 1799 in the vicinity of the present Goldsmith Lane-Bardstown Rd. junction. George Hikes, who brought his family from Pa. in 1791, developed the area along the present Hikes Lane between Bardstown and Taylorsville Roads as a prosperous commercial and milling town. The area along Bardstown Rd. may first have been called Two Mile Town for its location in Two Mile Precinct. On April 25, 1883 John Buechel, a Swiss immigrant, established a post office in his name at the White Cottage, a tavern he had acquired in 1880 which soon became known throughout the county as Buechel Tavern. In 1907 the Southern Railway built a depot just below the tavern (ona-2 acres-donated-by-Charles-Seggar) that was first called Stine's Station and then Buechel. In the early 1950s Buechel successfully avoided annexation by Louisville. A section of it actually incorporated in 1951 as West Buechel and is now a fifth class city with a population of some 1900. The entire area is now served by a branch of the Louisville post office.

BUFFALO (LaRue Co.): [Buffalo/lo] (Hodgenville). Until it was recently de-incorporated, this 19th century mill town and trade center at the junction of KY 61 and 470, 3½ air miles sse of Hodgenville, was one of the smallest of Kentucky's 6th class cities, its 1970 population of 142 a sizeable decline from its 1970 peak of 500. According to one tradition, the community was settled around 1850 by the Creal family and named to commemorate the discovery of a buffalo's rib lying along the bank of a local stream. It is more probably that the name merely recalls that buffaloes had wallowed in the vicinity in early pioneer times. The post office, established Sept. 16, 1956 by William L. Creal, local storekeeper, is still in operation. [HIST. OF LARUE CO., KY. compiled by Bessie Miller Elliott, c.1969 or '70, n. p. 6 &]
BUGTUSSLE (Monroe Co.): [Buhg/tuh/səl] (Fountain Run, Gamaliel). This hamlet on KY 87, just yards from the Tennessee state line and 10½ air miles sw of Tompkinsville, was named in jest for the profusion of local doodlebugs. Ralph B. Marshall gave this account in his report to the BGN: "According to the oldest residents in this community, the name was acquired during the time the wheat thrashers toured the county thrashing the farmers' wheat. The thrashers slept in beds of hay in the barns and stayed so long that it was said the bugs got so large they would tussle in the hay, thereby giving the name of Bugtussle to the community." It never had its own post office but residents have gotten their mail from Gamaliel, 5½ road miles ene. [(1) Mae Carter Taylor, interview, 6/29/1972; (2) Dom. Geog. Name Report, 1/23/1969]
COUNTY: BULLITT. 300 sq. miles. Pop. 43,150. Seat: Shepherdsville. Kentucky's fastest growing county since 1960, it was established in 1796 from parts of Jefferson and Nelson Co's and named for Alexander Scott Bullitt (1762-1816), who helped draft Kentucky's first Constitution in 1791, was the first president of the Kentucky Senate (1792-1799) and the first Lt. Gov. of Kentucky (1800-04).
BULLITTS LICK (Bullitt Co.): [Bloomfield Lick] (Valley Station). The site of Kentucky's first industry and the first commercial salt works west of the Alleghenies, in the vicinity of the present Bullitts Lick Church on KY 44, just w of Shepherdsville. The lick was discovered by and named for Virginia surveyor, Capt. Thomas Bullitt in 1773. At one time over 500 men were involved in the operation of the salt works which began in 1779, and the community which grew up around it to house and support them was known as Saltsburg. Production ended in 1830 when the steamboat made it cheaper to import salt from great distances than to mine it here. Today all evidences of the works are gone and only the church, a store, and a nearby subdivision of mobile homes called Kings Forest mark the area. 

BULLITTSVILLE (Boone Co.): [Bool/its/vihl] (Burlington).
This hamlet with extinct post office on KY 20 and Woolper Creek, 3 air miles n of Burlington, may have been named for Capt. Thomas Bullitt who, in 1773, led a surveying party for Virginia's Gov. Dunmore down the Ohio River as far as the present day Louisville. He is said to have surveyed a section of the south shore of the nearby Ohio River that came to be known as Bullitts Bottom and now North Bend, and may even have visited the Bullittsville site. The latter, however, is not to be confused with Bullittsburg, a community some 3 miles w which centers on a Baptist church organized in 1794. The Bullittsville post office was established as Corneliusville on Jan. 22, 1827 and probably named for Robert Cornelius, the first postmaster. In 1848 it was moved to and renamed Mitchellsville for then postmaster Benjamin Mitchell, and was given the name Bullittsville when, in 1853, it was moved to that site where it remained until it closed in 1918. The precise locations of these earlier offices are not known. Residents of this area now get their mail from Hebron, 2.2 road miles e, or Burlington. [Anna Fitzgerald, interview, 5/21/1979]
BURDINE (Letcher Co.): [B3/dahr] (Jenkins East). Though always a part of Jenkins, Ky., local people have considered this a separate town and, indeed, it still has its own post office, established Jan. 25, 1898, 13 years before Jenkins' was organized. Like Jenkins to the west, it has been a coal town on Elkhorn Creek and US 23/119 and is 1 1/2 miles sw of the Pike Co. line and only 3/4 mile from the Virginia state line. General consensus is that it was named for Burdine Webb who carried the mail from Whitesburg, the county seat some 12 1/2 air miles wsw. [(1) Harry Caudill, interview, 7/26/1971; (2) N.M. Webb in letter to Wm. G. Steel, 4/22/1922; (3) Wm. T. Cornett, interview, 12/24/1977]
BURGIN (Mercer Co.): Harrodsburg, Danville. A 5th class commercial and manufacturing city with active post office and some 950 residents at the head of Cane Run (a branch of Dicks River), 2½ miles east of Harrodsburg. In pioneering days a crossroads community about the site of the junction of the present Ky. 33 and 152, at the east end of town, was called the Cane Run Settlement while somewhere east of this, on the road to Dicks River (now Herrington Lake) was a community called Curdsville. In 1874 Temple Burgin, landowner and stockdealer deeded the right of way to the Cincinnati Southern (now Southern) Railway and a station was established which the railroad company named Burgin Station. Around this the town of Burgin was laid out in 1877 and incorporated in 1878. Its post office was established as Bergen (sic) on July 24, 1877, with B. Frank Taylor, postmaster, but the obvious error was not corrected until 1886. The town grew rapidly and soon became one of the largest livestock shipping points on the railroad. [(1) "Hist. of the Southern Ry. in Burgin Cent." ed. of HARRODSBURG HER. 8/1978, p. A6:1-6; (2) Rebecca Conover, interview, 4/21/1978]
BURKESVILLE (Cumberland Co.): [B1x/v3l] (Burkesville). A 5th class city of 1,540 persons and the centrally located seat of Cumberland County, 95 air miles south of downtown Louisville. According to early records, the location site was first called Cumberland Crossing, aptly denoting its situation on the river on which it would eventually become an important wholesale center trade and shipping port for area timber and farm products. A town was laid out in 1798 on land owned by Samuel Burks, a Virginia settler, and undoubtedly named for him at that time. Shortly thereafter he died and his land came into the possession of Francis Emmerson who, as sole proprietor by 1810, succeeded in having the city of Burksville incorporated by the General Assembly. Contemporary historians largely discount the popular tradition that the town was named by a 10 to 7 vote in a special election to decide between Burksville and Thurmantown, the latter for an early ferryman. Though the post office was established Jan. 1, 1807 as Burkesville or Cumberland Court House, with Christopher Brooks, postmaster, the town's name continued to be spelled Burksville until the 1870s when the "e" that the Post Office Department had always seen fit to retain was officially inserted.

BURKHART (Wolfe Co.): [Burk-hahrt] (Lee City). An active post office on KY 1094, at the mouth of Poor Branch of Red River, 3/4 mile sw of the junction of Morgan, Magoffin, and Wolfe Co’s. and 14 1/2 air miles e of Campton. It was established July 16, 1909 and named for the family of John L. Burkhart, its first postmaster. [Hazel Booth, letter to me, 1/6/1979] 12-26
BURLINGTON (Boone Co.): The seat of Boone Co.--one of the Kentucky county seats that are not incorporated (the other is Whitley City)--is on KY 18 and 338, 71 air miles NE of downtown Louisville. One of the smallest seats in the state, with a 1970 population of only 350, it is said that John Boswell's pioneer station first occupied the site. Then, in 1799, as Craig's Camp, 74 acres of this land was donated for the seat of the new county by John H. Craig and Robert Johnson and it was officially called Wilmington. The post office was established as Boon(e) Court House on July 1, 1807 with John Love, postmaster. In 1816 the town was renamed Burlington and the post office assumed this name in 1821. The town was incorporated in 1824 and reincorporated in 1910 but this status has been allowed to lapse. No one knows why the Wilmington or Burlington names were applied. (1) BOONE CO. 175th ANN. HIST. BOOK, 1798-1973, P. 6; (2) Jillson, PION. KY, P. 74
BURNA (Livingston Co.): [Burna]. A hamlet of homes and businesses strung out for less than a mile along US60 but focused on its junction with KY. 135, 7 air miles nne of Smithland. The community is said to have been founded around 1890 by John Steele and may first have been called Tail Holt (sic). According to tradition, residents seeking a more respectable name for their new post office arranged a contest in which the names of local girls were nominated and the winning entries submitted to the postal authorities. Chosen was that of Miss Burna Phillips, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Grant Phillips, who later became Mrs. Vernon Massey. In variant of this account, a number of names were placed in a hat and Miss Phillips' was drawn. Anyhow, the post office was established as Burna on Dec. 13, 1906 with Wm. G. Fort, postmaster. Tail Holt, says Prof. Kathy Wood, an area folklorist, referred in a humorous way to the hardships of early settlers in earning a living from the soil there; they felt they had only a tail holt on earning a living." (See my discussion of some Indiana Tailhols in "The Folklore of Place-Naming in Indiana" INDIANA FOLKLORE, Vol. III, 1970, Pp. 35-94, 77-8, 93) Some 175 residents still enjoy local mail service as does the county's only high school, on US60, less than a mile sw.  

BURNAUGH (Boyd Co.): [burn/aw] (Burnaugh). A hamlet on US 23 and the C&O Railroad, in the w bank bottom of the Big Sandy River, 1 ½ miles from the Lawrence Co. line, and 9 air miles s of Catlettsburg. The name was probably a combination of the nearby Burgess Station on the old Chatteroi (now C&O) Railroad—named for landowner and Justice of the Peace, George R. Burgess (1813-1900)—and the Kavanaugh post office, in operation between 1901 and 1910—which may have been named for the old Kavanaugh Chapel. The community is now on a Catlettsburg rural route. (1) Mrs. Marie Carey, interview, 10/14/1977; (2) Evelyn Jackson, interview, 5/6/1977; (3) Ibid., letter to me, 9/19/1972.
BURNING FORK (Magoffin Co.: [B2n/ihy Pawrk] (Salyersville South). An active post office at the junction of KY 114 (the Prestonsburg extension of the Mountain Parkway) and 1888, 2 air miles east of Salyersville, and the center of a community comprising the area drained by the Burning Fork Creek. The creek, which heads just south of Ivyton, extends in a generally northwest direction to join the Licking River just above the Salyersville business district. It was named for the nearby Burning Spring from which natural gas is said to have been ignited by the Indians, burning continuously for years until about 1900 when a gas well about 40 feet away was drilled and the gas was drained off to serve the needs of nearby Salyersville. The Burning Fork post office was established Jan. 4, 1928 with Roy M. Cain, the local storekeeper, as the first postmaster. Earlier post offices called Burning Spring were in operation in the vicinity from 1829 to 1839 and 1854 to 1859. 

(1) From the papers of Dr. Lenore Patrick Chipman in the possession of Connie Wireman and to me by letter, 5/9/1979; (2) Henry P. Scalf, interview, 5/16/1973.
BURNING SPRINGS (Clay Co.): [Bün/ën Sprîüns] (Maulden, Manchester). A village of some 150 persons on US 421 and the Burning Springs Fork of Bray Creek (a s bank tributary of Sextons Creek), 6½ air miles nw of Manchester. A very early settlement, it was named for the ignitable springs of natural gas discovered before 1800 in seemingly inexhaustible supply at several sites in the area. The springs are no longer burning, having been captured some years ago by the Peoples Gas Co. and piped to other communities in the area. One local spring is said to have furnished gas for 75 years. On Jan. 17, 1888, Lafayette M. Rawlings moved the old Napier post office (established Sept. 25, 1884 by John C. Napier) a few miles to the Burning Springs site and renamed it for the community. The office closed in 1965 and local service is now provided by a rural branch of the Manchester post office. (1) Marian Martin, interview, 6/29/1977; (2) Glada Cobb, interview, 6/29/1977; (3) Collins HIST. Vol. 2, P. 141
BURNSIDE (Pulaski Co.): [Burn/sahd] (Burnside, Somerset). A 5th class city with an active post office and some 700 residents on US 27 (KY 90) and the Cumberland River, 3.5 air miles south of Somerset. On a high point of land, 3/4 mile above the mouth of the South Fork of the Cumberland, was first called Point Isabel or The Point referring to the local legend of the maiden who, disappointed in love, jumped off a bluff to her death. Or else to a man named Isobel who allegedly ran a ferry at this site in pioneer days. During the Civil War a detachment of General Ambrose E. Burnside's Union Army was stationed here and the place was called Camp Burnside. The post office, established as Point Isabel on June 5, 1877, with Henry Beaty (sic), postmaster, was discontinued the following year and re-established as Burnside in 1880, by which name the town was incorporated in 1890. By the late 19th century, Burnside had become a major river and rail shipping port as well as a principal producer of timber products. Prior to the impounding of Lake Cumberland in 1950, the Federal Government relocated almost the entire town on the adjacent highlands and the present town now caters to the area's tourist trade. The General Burnside Island State Park, a 400 acre hilltop encircled by the lake and opened to the public in 1958, was once a hill called Bunker Hill just below the mouth of the South Fork. (1) Mary Weaver, interview, 3/23/1979; (2) "Burnside Native Remembers Legends" in col. by Jack Norton, COMMONWEALTH JOURNAL, 3/7/1978, Pp. 1, 12; (3) "Gen. Burnside--State Park on an Island" CALL OF KY. Spring, summer, 1973, Pp. 43-4
BURTONVILLE (Lewis Co.): [Burtonville]. This hamlet with extinct post office at the junction of KY 989 and 1237, a little over a mile from the Fleming Co. line and 14 air miles sw of Vanceburg, is said to have been called Equalization before the Civil War. According to the late J.S. Mavity, this name was applied "because four citizens built their homes exactly alike along the roadside. They claimed that the Declaration said that all men were born free and equal, and it was their endeavor to keep the citizens of their town in that condition. Not many years after this building of the original houses, their owners moved away and the other oldest inhabitant, Mr. Burton, added 'ville' to his name and christened the town anew." Others claim, though with admittedly no foundation, that it was named for a Mr. Burton Price. The Burtonville post office was established Feb. 18, 1878 with William B. Burriss, postmaster, and closed in 1958. A Burton post office, perhaps at the same site, had been in operation in 1873-4. The place is now on a Vanceburg rural route. [(1) Mavity in letter to Wm. G. Steel, 5/19/1922; (2) Letter from Mrs. Helen R. Pryor to Thos. Field, 1/27/1970]
BUSH (Laurel Co.): [Boosh] (Hima). This active post office on Ky. 80, 1 mile from the Clay Co. line and 10 1/2 air miles east of London, was established as Bush's Store on Feb. 18, 1840 and named for George A. Bush, the first postmaster and storekeeper. It was renamed Bush in 1894. Curiously the Bush Schools are 3 miles west, just off Ky. 80 and a mile east of their post office address at Lida. [Logan Ewell, interview, 4/29/1972] 1282.
BUSKIRK (aka SALEM) (Morgan Co.): [Buhs/kirk, Sa/lém] (Cannel City). A hamlet with an active post office at the junction of KY 205 and 844 and the forks of Salem Fork of Grassy Creek, 8 air miles ssw of West Liberty. While the post office, established March 9, 1925, has always been called Buskirk for the first postmaster, Thomas J. Buskirk, both this name and Salem have long been used interchangeably to identify the community. Salem refers to the creek and to the local Christian church established around 1884. Richard Phipps is said to have founded the community and given it the Salem name. [Arthur C. Johnson, EARLY MORGAN CO. 1974, P. 79] 1/2
COUNTY: BUTLER (Burt/ler). 443 sq. miles. Pop. Seat: Morgantown. Established in 1810 from parts of Logan and Ohio Co's. and named for General Richard Butler (1743-1791), Revolutionary War officer and later Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Northern District who, with George Rogers Clark, arranged the treaty of 1786 with the Shawnee and Delaware Indians. He was killed in Gen'l. St. Clair's military campaign against the Ohio Indians.
BUTLER (Pendleton Co.): [Buht/1er] (Butler, DeMossville). A 5th class city with an active post office and some 600 residents on KY. 177 and the w bank of the Licking River, about a mile w of US 27, and 7 air miles n of Falmouth. The community was first called Fourth Lock for the lock and dam whose construction had begun in 1837 in an unsuccessful effort to make the Licking River navigable. It was later called Clayton, for reasons unknown, though a name more fitted than Fourth Lock to a town destined to grow. The town was established about 1852/3 when the Covington and Lexington (now L&N) Railroad was built through and may early have been called Butler Station, possibly at the suggestion of Joel Ham, a local contractor on the earlier dam project, for William O. Butler, U.S. Congressman from that district (1839-1843). The post office, established March 10, 1857 as Clayton with Richard M.J. Wheeler, postmaster, was renamed Butler in 1860. The town was incorporated in 1868 and soon became an important industrial and trade center. [(1) Typescript of "Early Hist. of Butler, Pendleton Co., Ky." undated and unsigned feat. article in BUTLER ENTERPRISE, in Spec. Coll., UK Libr., (2) Ethel Bell, interview, 10/17/1978]
BUTTERFLY (Perry Co.): [Buht/ər/fliː] (Krypton). A hamlet with an active post office on the North Fork of the Kentucky River, just below the mouth of Lower Second Creek, and 4 air miles nw of Hazard. The post office was established March 4, 1920 with Mose C. Feltner, postmaster, and allegedly named for the large number of butterflies observed there. The local L&N Railroad station, since closed, was called Sonia, as was one of the 2 local schools, but it is not known why.

[(1) Roscoe Davis, interview, 7/29/1978; (2) Allen Moore, Asst. Postmaster, Butterfly, Ky., in letter to me, 5/30/69]
BUTTONSBERRY (McLean Co.): [Buht/ænz/behr/ee] (Livermore). Now a hamlet on KY. 85, 1 road mile west of the town of Island (from which it has always received its mail) and 7½ air miles SE of Calhoun. Sometime before 1900 Alva Karnes opened a slope coal mine in that vicinity from which he built a mile long tram that connected with the Owensboro and Nashville Branch of the L&N at Karnes Junction, just south of Island. The settlement that grew up around the mine is said to have been named Buttonsberry after Karnes had spied a button in a local berry patch. [Katharyn Leachman, McLean Co. PNS ms, fall, 1972]
BYBEE (Madison Co.): [Beve/bee] (Moberly, Panola). A crossroads hamlet with an active post office on old KY 52, 1 1/2 miles from the Estill Co. line and 8 air miles east of Richmond, that grew up around the Bybee Pottery and was named for it. According to legend, the pottery was established in the first decade of the 19th century, but recorded history traces it back to 1845 when Eli Cornelison shaped the first earthenware from the clay deposits 3 miles away and started the business that is now in its sixth generation, making it clearly the oldest existing pottery west of the Alleghenies. The post office was established July 7, 1902 with Matt T. Bybee, postmaster. [Lois Campbell, "Bybee Pottery: Shapes in Clay for Five Generations" GUIDE TO MAD. CO. pub. by the Mad. Co. NEWSWEEK, spring-summer 1971, Pp. 10-11]
BYPRO (Floyd Co.): [Beve/proh] (Wheelwright). A coal town with an active post office and a 1970 population of some 500 at the mouth of Otter Creek, a branch of Left (Fork of) Beaver Creek, and the junction of KY 122 and 306, 21½ air miles s of Prestonsburg. The site may have been called Briar Bottom in the last quarter of the 19th century. The post office was established as Bypro May 19, 1926 with Roy E. Webb, postmaster, and named for the Byproduct Coal Co. there. The local C&O Railroad station is called Wheelwright Junction for it serves the mining town of Wheelwright (q.v.) a short distance to the south. [Ermine Hall, interviewed by Patti Rose, ALC-OH Proj., 6/16/1971]