

✓ IBEX (Elliott Co.): [Ah/behx] (Bruin). An extinct post office about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile  
w. of the Little Sandy River, 1 mile from the Carter Co. line, and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  ad  
miles nne of Sandy Hook. The office was established Aug. 19, 1890 and  
named by Martin W. Green, its first postmaster, for the wild mountain goat  
that inhabits much of Alpine Europe. No one knows why he named it this.  
The office was discontinued in 1963. [Lucy & Bert White, interview, 7/28,  
1978] <sup>1412</sup>

✓ICE (Letcher Co.): [Ahs] (Whitesburg). An extinct post office and coal camp at the junction of KY 931 and 588 and the confluence of Cowan Creek and the North Fork of the Kentucky River,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  air miles sw of Whitesburg. When the post office was established Dec. 23, 1897, the river at that point was so jammed with ice that the visiting postal inspector had little difficulty coming up with an appropriate name. A modest coal camp was established at that site sometime around World War I. [(1) H.W. Stallard, L&N section laborer, Whitesburg, Ky., in R.R. South, "Our Station Names: Their Family Trees" L&N EMPLOYES MAG. 7/1950, P. 23; (2) Wm. T. Cornett, interview, 12/24/1977] 745, 1265

✓ INDEPENDENCE (Kenton Co.): [Ihn/də/pehn/dəns] (Independence). This 5th class city of some 6400 persons and the centrally located seat of Kenton Co. was established in 1840 at a crossroads site (now the junction of KY. 17 and 2045) as the seat of the new county and <sup>was</sup> presumably named to mark its independence from <sup>Covington</sup> Campbell Co. The crossroads site, 10 air miles s. of downtown, was donated by pioneer John McCollum. The first post office to serve this area was established <sup>Nov. 20, 1837</sup> as Everett's Creek by Isaac Everett. A month later Everett renamed it Crews Creek (sic), which may suggest its location on what's now Cruises Creek, 4½ miles s. The following July it was changed to Bagby, at site unknown, by Thomas H. Hordern who then moved it to or renamed it Independence on Oct. 7, 1840. It was incorporated in 1842. While in 1970 the town's businesses and 1800 residents occupied a 3 mile stretch along KY. 17, its population soon exploded and the community now extends from the Boone Co. line e. past the Taylor Mill Road, making it northern Kentucky's largest city in area. [(1) Tom Loftus, "Indy's Growing Pains" KY. POST, 4/9/1977; (2) W.L. Mendenhall, Dep. Clerk of Kenton Co., [ms. undated] in the Kenton Co. Publ. Libr.] 541, 941

INDIAN OLD FIELDS (Clark Co.): [Ihn/dyən Ohl(d) Feeldz] (Levee, Hedges). Long considered the only genuine Indian settlement in Kentucky: the village of Eskippakithiki [Ehs/kih/pə/kə/thee/kə] (Shawnee for "place of blue licks" referring to the salt deposits on nearby Lulbegrud Creek) may have been established as early as 1718-19 by a band of Shawnee who had separated from their neighbors on the Savannah River and moved to Kentucky. The village was on a rise above Lulbegrud, in eastern Clark County, in the midst of a 3500 acre plain drained by the Lulbegrud and Upper Howard Creeks, between the present Mountain Parkway and the hamlet of Kiddville. Part of this plain had been cultivated by the Indians before the arrival of the first white settlers who are said to have called it (the) Indian Old Corn Fields which over time was shortened to Indian Old Fields or simply Indian Fields by which name it is now generally known. (By the early pioneers, used to open lands merely as small clearings in otherwise forested areas, such cleared sites are said to have been generally designated as "Indian Old Fields".<sup>205</sup> Some historians, though, have suggested that the name was applied to a place once cleared for cultivation and then returned to its natural state).<sup>873</sup> By 1750 the village had grown to a considerable size (some estimate as many as 800-1000 Indians were living there at one time). On the two major Indian trails from the Ohio crossings to the Cumberland River, it had become the meeting place of the several branches of the Shawnee nation. In 1752 the village was visited by John Finley, considered the first white man in that section of what was to become Kentucky. The station he erected near the village and the village itself were abandoned a year or so later after an attack by a band of hostile Indians (perhaps Iroquois) and the Shawnees may have joined their brethren north of the Ohio. It is certain that the village had been abandoned when Finley returned with Boone in 1769. However, by 1775 the first of several white settlers had arrived to lay claims to the area. On Aug. 27, 1878 Levi

✓ Goff established the Indian Fields post office on the se corner of the Indian Old Fields,  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile n of the present Mountain Parkway and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  air miles ese of Winchester which, in time, came to serve a village and station on the Lexington & Eastern (later L&N) Railway. Until it recently closed, this office provided mail service for most of e and se Clark Co. as well as a local population of about 100. The area is now on a Winchester rural route. [(1) Lucien Beckner, "Eskippakithiki: The Last Indian Town in Kentucky" FILSON CLUB HISTORY Q., Vol. 6, 1932, Pp. 355-82; (2) Bessie Taul Conkwright, "Indian Old Fields" ms; (3) Kathryn Owen, interview, 6/1/1977; (4) Geo. R. Stewart, NAMES ON THE LAND, P. 151] 205, 267, 873, 1349

✓ INEZ (Martin Co.): [Ah/nehz, Ah/nehz, Ah/neeZ, Ah/nehz] (Inez).  
One of Kentucky's 2 unincorporated county seats, the seat of Martin Co., with an estimated population of over 600, is located on KY 40, at the forks of Rockcastle Creek, 6 air miles from the Tug Fork River which separates Kentucky and West Virginia, and 165 air miles e of downtown Louisville. The vicinity, said to have been settled around 1810 by James Ward and first called Armintha Ward's Bottom, was selected in 1873 as the permanent site of the county's seat which had, for 3 years, been located at Warfield (q.v.) According to tradition, J.M. Stepp, commenting on the view at this place, likened it to the Biblical Eden (~~The town that developed here was thus called Eden~~) and this name was given to the town that soon developed there. Another Eden post office in Kentucky, however, led to the selection of Inez for the office established June 23, 1874 and allegedly named for his daughter by Leo Frank, the postmaster of Louisa, in neighboring Lawrence Co. Some time later, to avoid confusion, the town adopted the post office name. [(1) Scalf, KLF, Pp. 143, 146; (2) Robt. K. Francis, Yalesville, Ct., in letter to me, 3/19/1969] 194,1069

✓ INGLE (Pulaski Co.): [Inn/21] (Faubush). This active post office on KY 837 (Tick Ridge),  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile s of Cumberland Parkway and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  air miles w of Somerset, was established Aug. 4, 1905 and named by and for the Rev. James W. Ingle, the first postmaster. [Mary Weaver, interview, 3/23/1979] 1710

✓ IRELAND (aka BURDICK) (Taylor Co.): [Eye/ər/land, Bɜ/dɪk] (Greensburg). A hamlet with extinct post office at the junction of KY 55 and 1701, 1½ miles from the Green Co. line and 4 air miles ssw of Campbellsville. According to local tradition, a group of Presbyterians from Augusta Co., Va. arrived in the area around 1799 and founded the Bethel Church and, in 1803, the Ireland Seminary from which the community that grew up around it took its name. No one knows why the school was so named. The post office was established as Burdick on July 10, 1882 with Alexander G. McCorkle, postmaster, and named for a local family. Both names are used interchangeably to identify the community now on a Campbellsville rural route. [Betty Jane Gorin, interview, 10/18/1978] 1291



✓ IRMA (Crittenden Co.): [3/ma] (Cave in Rock). On July 25, 1890 Samuel S. Sullenger established this post office which he named for his young daughter. The office (which closed in 1913), stores, and school which once served a farming community centered at the junction of the present KY 297 and 723, 9 air miles wnw of Marion, are all gone and retail and postal services are provided area farm families by Tolu, 4 road miles n. This vicinity may also be referred to as Whites Chapel for the church several hundred feet w of the junction. [Niles Minner, interview, 8/28/1978] 1336

✓ IRON HILL (Carter Co.): [Ahrn Hihl or Ah/ræn Hihl] (Tygarts Valley).

The short lived Iron Hill Furnace built by the Riverton Iron and Manufacturing Co. on the Lambert Ore Banks on Tygarts Creek in 1873 was reorganized and renamed Charlotte Furnace [Shar/laht/ee or Shahr/laht/ee F3n/əs] in late 1875 for the daughter of the new owner. Though the largest blast furnace in the Hanging Rock Iron Region, the latter too failed within a few years. A community of sorts grew up there soon after the first blast and the Charlotte Furnace post office was established Oct. 21, 1875 with Augustus C. Van Dyke, postmaster. For a number of years it and the local stores provided services for a fairly large section of northern Carter Co. until the post office closed in 1951. Little remains of the settlement on KY-7 and the e. bank of Tygarts Creek, 2 miles from the Greenup Co. line and 6½ air miles nw of Grayson. Since 1940 it has locally been called only Iron Hill. [(1) Rist KY. IRON FURNACES OF THE HANGING ROCK IRON REGION, 1974, Pp. 60, 63; (2) Christine McGlone, interview, 11/18/1977] 188, 1326

✓ IRVINE (Estill Co.): [3/van, 3/veen] (Irvine). A 4th class city of some 2100 persons and the centrally located seat of Estill Co., on the n bank of the Kentucky River, opposite the mouth of Station Camp Creek, 96 air miles se of downtown Louisville. It was founded in 1812 on 20½ acres owned by Gen'l. Green Clay and named for Col. William Irvine, both pioneer settlers of Madison Co. from which part of Estill Co. was formed in 1808. Seriously wounded in the Battle of Estills Defeat in 1782, Col. Irvine later served as clerk of Madison's county and circuit courts, was a member of the Virginia Legislature and of the statehood conventions of 1787 and 1788, and died in 1820. The first post office in the county was established here as Irvine or Estill Court House on March 10, 1813 with Elijah Broaddus, postmaster. [(1) Kathryn Carter, PNS of Estill Co., unpub. ms, 1978; (2) C.M. Treadway, "City of Irvine was Named for Brothers" LEX. LEADER, 4/4/1957, P. 3:1-6] 782, 865

✓ IRVINGTON (Breckinridge Co.): [3v/ihj/tuhn] (Irvington, Garfield).  
A 5th class city with an active post office and some 1160 residents at the junction of US 60 and KY 79, 1 mile from the Meade Co. line and 10½ air miles ne of Hardinsburg. R.M. Jolly and Edgar L. Bennett, 2 area businessmen, anticipating the route of the Louisville St. Louis & Texas Railroad (which had been chartered in 1882) purchased 315 acres of farmland at this site. With the help of railroad company surveyors they laid off a town in 1888-9 which the company's chief engineer, Eugene Cornwall called Irvington for his home in New York. On Dec. 26, 1888 the local post office, which storekeeper Peter P. Roberts had established as Merino on Feb. 16, 1885, was renamed Irvington. Merino [Mə/ree/noh] had been named for the nearby Mt. Merino Seminary, in operation from 1838 to 1843. Irvington soon became a junction point for the Louisville Henderson & St. Louis (now L&N) Railroad (which by then had acquired the L.St.L.&T.) and the Louisville Hardinsburg & Western spur to Fordsville. [(1) D.L. Bohn, ON THE TEXAS: A SKETCH OF A RAILROAD TOWN, Irvington, 1974, n.p.; (2) R.R. South, "Our Station Names" L&N EMPLOYES MAG., 6/1949, P. 37] 25, 736

✓ IRVINS STORE (Russell Co.): [3v/anz Stawr] (Eli). This extinct post office on KY 910, less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile's of the Cumberland Parkway and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  air miles ne of Jamestown, was established Jan. 27, 1876 and named for its first postmaster, the local storekeeper, John D. Irvin. [H.M. Smith, PM, Fonthill, Ky. in letter to Wm. G. Steel, 3/15/1930] 1211

✓ ISLAND (McLean Co.): [Ah/Iənd] (Livermore). A 6th class city with an active post office and some 430 residents at the junction of US 431 and KY 85, 8 air miles se of Calhoun. In the early 19th century, Judge William Worthington owned a large acreage on what was known for many years as "The Island", an area of 8 square miles surrounded during high tide by backwater from Green River, 2 miles n., and other local waterways. On Jan. 15, 1829 the judge established the Worthington post office in his home, ½ mile north of the present site of Island. It was discontinued in 1860. When the Owensboro and Nashville (now L&N) Railroad was completed in 1872, Island Station was established near Worthington's home site and a new post office was organized ~~at the same place~~ as Island Station on May 20, 1873. Both post office and town were renamed Island in 1882. The town developed quickly, first as a lumbering center and then as a coal town with a peak population of about 1100 in 1912. It is now a rural trade center

[ (1) Rothert, HIST. OF MUHL. CO. 1910, P. 19; (2) Mrs. Katharyn Leachman, PNS of McLean Co. ms. fall, 1972; (3) Mrs. Wesson Freels, "Island" McLEAN CO. NEWS, Bicent. issue, 7/1/1976, P. 12:1-4 ]

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435  
932

✓ ISOM (Letcher Co.): [Ahs/om] (Blackey). This active post office may originally have been at the mouth of Little Colly Creek when it was established on Feb. 10, 1898 with Isom Sergent, postmaster. If this were the case, sometime after 1915 it was moved about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile down Rockhouse Creek (a branch of the North Fork of the Kentucky River) to its present site at the mouth of Stampers Branch,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  air miles nw of Whitesburg. The post office and the community of some 200 persons that has grown up around it at the junction of KY 7 and 15 were named for the local descendants of George Gideon Isom, a pioneer settler of the North Fork region though it is believed they did not arrive at this site until after the Civil War. In any event, their name now seems to be limited mostly to the post office for the community itself is locally known as The Stock Sale, referring to its role, since the 1930s, as an active market for area livestock. It's still something of a trading center for livestock, fruit and hay, and old furniture and a place where miners and farmers like to hang around and loaf. Bryant Halcomb still runs Halcomb's Grocery there, and nearby are the offices of the eastern Kentucky operations of the South East Coal Co. [Wm. T. Cornett, interview, 12/24/1977] 1265

✓ ISONVILLE (Elliott Co.): [Ahs/ən/vihl] (Isonville). A hamlet serving the trade and postal needs of se Elliott Co., at the junction of KY 32 and 706, 4 air miles east of Sandy Hook. The post office was established May 13, 1886 and named for Archibald Ison (1780-1871), a Virginian who was the first settler of the forks of Newcombe Creek and whose old log cabin was still standing by 1970. The post office, two stores, a church, and one of the county's 3 graded schools now comprise this community. [The Whites, interview, 7/28/1978] <sup>1412</sup>



✓ IUKA (Livingston Co.): [Ah/yu/kə] (Grand Rivers). A hamlet at the junction of KY 93 and 917, just west of the Cumberland River and less than 10 air miles east of Smithland. Little is known of its early history save its role as a tobacco market and riverport with a ferry across the river that is no more. Will C. Lowery established the local post office on July 7, 1879 as Livingston, presumably for the county, and then renamed it Iuka on April 27, 1882 for reasons unknown. While opinions differ on the precise origin of the name, everyone seems to agree it is Indian. Some say it was named for an Indian girl who was supposed to have lived with her tribe on the Cumberland River. <sup>1189</sup> To others it was an Indian word meaning "welcome". <sup>1445</sup> According to George R. Stewart, Iuka was an early 19th century Chickasaw chief <sup>204</sup> whose people may have camped in the area for there is some evidence there of Indian occupation. Now one store, a community <sup>center</sup>, church, and post office serve 40 citizens and their neighbors. [(1) H.B. Champion, letter to Wm. G. Steel, 9/21/1923; (2) Delmina Ransom, "Memories of Iuka" STEAMBOAT DAYS ON THE CUMBERLAND, Liv. Ledger, 7/3/1974, n.p.; (3) Geo. R. Stewart, AM. P.N. P. 224; ] <sup>204</sup> <sup>1189</sup> <sup>1445</sup>

✓ IVEL (Floyd Co.): [Ahv/əl] (Harold). A hamlet and railroad flag stop mostly on the w bottom of the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  air miles se of Prestonsburg, though the still active post office is on US 23/460, on the e side of the river, at the mouth of Ivy Creek for which it was named. The post office was established by J(ohn) K(elly) Stratton on Dec. 11, 1905 and Dollie Setser was the first postmaster. It is near the site of the Civil War battle of Ivy Mountain (1861). (1) Scalf, interview, 4/21/1971; (2) John I. Sturgill WPA ms] 976, 1370

✓ IVYTON (Magoffin Co.): [Ah/və/tən, Ah/vihj/tən] (Ivyton).

A hamlet with an active post office centering at the junction of KY 867 and 1888, just sw of KY 114 (the Prestonsburg extension of the Mountain Parkway), 2 miles from the Floyd Co. line and 5 air miles ese of Salyersville. It was named for the profusion of ivy in that vicinity. The post office was established Sept. 24, 1883 with Robert A. Patrick, postmaster.