PACKARD (Whitley Co.): [Packerd] (Saxton). An abandoned coal town, 7 air miles se of Williamsburg, 0.6 mile up a hollow w of Folly Camp—the latter on the w bank of Patterson Creek, 1.7 miles s of KY 904. The town, its post office—established Nov. 27, 1908—the company store, and the station on the Long Branch Spur of the Pine Mt. Railroad-West (L&N) all served the Packard Coal Co. which is said to have been named for Amelia Packard, a Brooklyn, N.Y.—born long time Whitley Co. school teacher. The town and its institutions failed to survive the depletion of the area's coal resources; all residents moved away when the mine closed in 1946 and the foundations of several old buildings are all that remain. [Eugene Siler, interview, 6/25/1978]
PACTOLUS (Carter Co.). [Pack/toh/laas] (Grayson). This hamlet between the west bank of the Little Sandy River and KY. 1, just below the junction of that road and KY. 7, and 1½ miles n. of 364 and Grayson, was the location of the first iron furnace in Carter Co. In 1824 Joseph McMurtry and David L. Ward built a charcoal-fueled furnace on the site of an earlier bloomery forge that had been erected by Richard Deering who may also have operated there a water-powered grist and saw mill. The furnace was undoubtedly named for the Pactolus Torrent that flowed through Sardis, the seat of the ancient kingdom of Lydia in Asia Minor and which, according to tradition, covered a bed of pure gold. Though it must be assumed that such a name suggesting the potential of great wealth was inspired by the great faith of the furnace builders in the success of their efforts, these lasted but a short time for the furnace was abandoned in 1834. The Pactolus post office, established April 7, 1882 with Wm. Osenton, was discontinued in 1956 and the community which now consists of merely a store and church is clearly within the Grayson retail and service orbit. The name has long inspired folk etymological explanations. Some people would mention a Mr. Toll who owned a good pack mule or ass which he called "Pac"; hence, of course, "Pac, Toll's Ass." According to another account, farmers would pack their grain to Deering's mill and tell the miller "here's my pack, toll it for us" which was then easily corrupted to Pack-tol-us. (1) ms. by Rupert Wilhoit of Pactolus, in possession of Christine McGlone; (2) HIST. OF CARTER CO. 1838-1976, Pp. 37-8; (3) Donald E. Rist, KY. IRON FURNACES OF THE HANGING ROCK REGION, 1974, P. 84; (4) J. Lowell Lusby, interview, 9/23/1977; (5) Joan Easterling, letter to me, 7/14/1971; (6) Thelma Roe, interview, 11/18/1977.
PADUCAH (McCracken Co.)

A 2nd class city, Kentucky's 6th largest, with some 33,200 persons, and the seat of McCracken Co., just below the confluence of the Tennessee and Ohio Rivers, and 164 air miles wsw of downtown Louisville. James and William Pore are said to have built the first home on the site in 1821. Within a few years they had been joined by a number of others to form a community called Pekin, for reasons unknown. On May 26, 1827 the town was laid out by William Clark, who had earlier distinguished himself with Meriwether Lewis on an expedition to the northwest, and named Paducah. The post office was also established in that name on Feb. 25, 1828 with Francis A. Harrison, postmaster. In 1832 the county's seat was moved to this site from Wilmington near Massac Creek where it had been first located. Paducah is said to have been named for the legendary "Chief Paduke" of a never confirmed subtribe of Chickasaw Indians known as "the Paducahs". According to the noted author, Irvin S. Cobb, the name of the chief and the subtribe were derived from a compound word in the Chickasaw tongue meaning 'wild grapes hanging' or, more properly, 'place where the grapes hang down'. This place is spelled by the whites ...Pakutukah or Pak'tuka..." Cobb believed that the site of the later city was named for the wild grape vines there or that the "chief" was called some form of that word meaning "wild grape". Authorities on the Chickasaw Indians, however, say there was never such a subtribe or chief by that name or anything like it, nor such a word in their language. Though the chief is said to have died in 1819 and buried at the site of the later town, his name does not appear on the Jackson Purchase Treaty of 1818. Rather, it is now believed that Clark
had adopted the name by which the Comanche Indians, with whom he was acquainted, referred to themselves—"Padoucas". In any event, Paducah became an important 19th century river port and railroad center, a strategic transshipment point due to its proximity to 4 large navigable streams. Today it is a diversified industrial city and trade center for a 25 county area within a 60 mile radius. (1) Fred G. Neuman, THE STORY OF PADUCAH, Pad., 1927, Pp. 17-9; (2) "Gen'l. Wm. Clark Founded City of Paducah on May 26, 1827" Purch. Ed. of the MAYFIELD MESS. 12/27/1969, P. J6±5-9
PAGEVILLE (Barren Co.): [Padjviuhl] (Lucas). An extinct post office located where the old Glasgow-Scottsville Road crosses Peter Creek just above its confluence with Barren River which forms the Barren-Allen county line. This site, 9½ air miles sw of Glasgow, is now in the Barren River Reservoir. The post office, established April 16, 1851 with John E. Holman, postmaster, was named for the family of the local storekeeper. The community may also have been called Chaplinton or Chaplaintown for pioneer Abraham Chaplin who is said to have tried unsuccessfully to found a town there on land which he had acquired in early settlement times. (q.v. Chaplin). Indeed, a post office called Chaplaintown was in operation in that vicinity from April 7 to May 20, 1851 with John F.F. Jewell, postmaster. Jewell also served as Pageville postmaster from May 1853 to Dec. 1864. The Pageville post office was discontinued in 1916. (1) Mrs. J. Wood Vance, "Barren Towns: What's in a Name?" anni. ed. GLASGOW TIMES, 3/10/1968; (2) Mrs. Vivian Rousseau, interview, 8/11/1971.
PAINT LICK (Garrard Co.), [Paint Lick] (Paint Lick). A village with an active post office, bank, several stores, and some 200 residents on KY 52 and the w bank of Paint Lick Creek, 3 1/2 air miles e of Lancaster. It was named for the creek (that separates Garrard and Madison Counties) along whose banks Indians are said to have painted the rocks and trees to designate a good spot to hunt the animals that came to lick the salt. Col. William Miller (1717-1811), a Virginia-born Revolutionary War veteran who had acquired some 2000 acres on the creek, built a log fort at the lick in 1776 and initiated settlement. The Paint Lick post office was established sometime in the second decade of the 19th century. A fanciful, certainly unsubstantiated account of the name was once offered by Clay Sutton of Lancaster in the Lexington Herald: A hunter once ambushed a squaw on the upper reaches of the creek. He was soon captured by the Indians and hung by his heels from a tree with his throat cut. His blood was splashed on the white trunks of nearby sycamore trees and his body was left hanging as a warning to other white men.  

(1) Annie Burnside Brown, article in the KENTUCKY PROGRESS MAG. 4/31; (2) Reproduced in the LOU. TIMES, 6/14/1927


PAINTSVILLE (Johnson Co.): Paintsvill (Paintsville). A 4th class city of some 3,800 persons and the seat of Johnson Co., extending for over a mile along the broad bottoms of both sides of Paint Creek from its junction with the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River, and 151 air miles east of downtown Louisville. In 1826 the Rev. Henry Dickson or Dixon, a North Carolina-born preacher and farmer, laid out the town on the site of Paint Lick Station, a trading post of uncertain origin, which he and others had purchased by auction in 1812 from part of the 19,050 acre George Lewis Tract. It was not until 1834, however, that the town was officially established by the Kentucky Legislature. The post office may have been first called Paint Creek by 1831 when James Hayden became postmaster, but was Paintsville by 1843. In the latter year the town became the seat of the newly established Johnson Co. The Paintsville name, which may have been derived by Dixon from the station or the creek as early as 1826, refers to the red and black painted figures of animals and birds found by early hunters on the denuded trunks of many large trees for 5 or 6 miles along the creek. Some painted trees found in the vicinity of briny springs which attracted game animals led to thelicks being designated by the hunters as "painted licks" and the stream as Paint Lick Creek, by which name it appears on early maps. [(1) Henry P. Scalf, KLF, Pp. 26, 123-5; (2) J.K. Wells A SHORT HIST. OF PAINT. & JOHN. CO. 1962, Pp. 9, 11]
PANOLA (Madison Co.): [Pə/nəh/la] (Panola). This hamlet with extinct post office on KY 499, several hundred yards from the Estill Co. line and 10 air miles ese of Richmond, was essentially a station on the Richmond Nicholasville Irvine & Beattyville (later L&N) Railroad and was probably founded and named when the railroad was built through in 1890. According to tradition, it was first called Hispanola, for reasons unknown, but was shortened at the suggestion of the Post Office Department when the post office was established Nov. 27, 1891. Since cotton was grown in Madison Co. in the 19th century, it's conceivable that the name derived from the Choctaw word for cotton. When the train runs were discontinued, any economic significance the community had ended too. Mail service to residents is now provided from Bybee, 8 road miles n. (1) R.N. Grise, interview, 4/28/1978; (2) James Shannon, interview, 12/27/1977; (3) Oscar Rucker, "A Geog. Study of Rural Settlement Clusters in Madison Co., Ky." thesis, UK, 1967, P. 47
PANTHER (Daviess Co.): [Paenthr] (Panther). A hamlet at the junction of KY 554 and 1514, 8 air miles ssw of Owensboro, in a hilly area heavily stripmined in recent years. The Panther post office was established May 12, 1881 in John P. Burns' store and named for Panther Creek, the stream 4 miles n that's said to be the first named place in Daviess Co. The name was applied to the creek in 1780s by surveyors for George Mason of Virginia after a large animal had been spotted somewhere on this e bank tributary of the Green River. An earlier Panther Creek post office, established on the creek in 1830, was renamed Howardsville 9 years later and discontinued in 1843. The 100 or so residents of the Panther community are now served by the Utica post office, 9.5 road miles ese. [M.J. Edgeworth, ms. on Daviess Co. place names, 12/6/1973]
PARADISE (Muhlenberg Co.): [ˈparə/dɛr-/ə/deɪ(s)] (Paradise). A once thriving but now extinct Green River town, 10½ air miles one of Greenville. In the very early 19th century, if not earlier, this waterfront site was called Stum's Landing for the local ferry, landing, and store owned by Leonard Stum and his sons. No one knows how, why, or when the name was changed to Paradise but the story has been told since earliest times. A family traveling up stream with a sick child decided to spend the night at the landing; when they awoke the next day the baby had completely recovered and the grateful parents said "This truly must be Paradise." The place may have been called Monterey [ˈmɑːn(t)-ə/ra] for a while after the Mexican War but the post office was established as Paradise on March 1, 1852, with Robert Duncan, postmaster, and the town was incorporated in this name in 1856. The post office closed in 1967 in which year the TVA purchased the 40 acre community site to provide space for future coal storage and ash disposal for its nearby steam generating plant, and the 40 or so residents remaining of the over 800 at the town's peak were evicted. The TVA plant, one of the largest coal-burning, steam-electric power plants in the world, is less than a mile above the community site. (1) Alex'r. Cather, "Origins of Muhl. Co. P.N." CENTRAL CITY TIMES-ARGUS, 8/2/1972, P. 3; (2) Harry Bolser "Time is Running Out for Paradise" CJ&T, 3/12/1967, P. B6:1-4; (3) Joe Creason, LCJ, 1/4/1973, P. B1:5
PARIS (Bourbon Co.): [Par/œs] (Paris East, Paris West). A 3rd class city of some 7100 residents and the seat of Bourbon Co., centered at the junction of US 460, 27, and 68, and 75 air miles of downtown Louisville. Near a large spring at the mouth of Houston Creek, a branch of Stoner Creek, Joseph Houston established a station in 1776. This site was later preempted by John Reed and others. In 1786 Lawrence Protzman bought part of Reed's land, divided 250 acres of it into town lots, and offered it as the seat for the new Bourbon Co. created that year. At his request, the Virginia Legislature in 1789 chartered the town as Hopewell for his home town in New Jersey, but renamed it Paris in 1790 to conform to the county's name. The latter had been given to honor the French royal family for its decisive aid in the American Revolution. One of Kentucky's first post offices was established here as Bourbontown (or Bourbonton) on Jan. 1, 1795 with Thomas Eades, postmaster. It is uncertain when the name was changed to Paris but it is believed that name was in official use by 1815 when James Paton became postmaster. Aside from its use for the post office, there is no evidence that the Bourbontown name was ever applied to the town itself. The mundane derivation of Hopewell notwithstanding, local traditions of a more romantic nature have suggested that pioneer teamsters on the old Limestone-Lexington pike hoped to reach the security of Houston's blockhouse by nightfall or else "hope was... dawning in the..hearts of (early) settlers after years of horrible Indian atrocities." [1] Lilleston, "P.N. of Bourbon Co." KENTUCKIAN CITIZEN, 1/2/1924; (2) Perrin, 1882, P. 90; (3) Edna Whitley, interview, 4/6/1977; (4) Mrs. Wm. B. Ardery, "Hist'l. Sketch of Paris, Ky.," THE BOURBON NEWS, 10/1/1935; (5) Jillson, PIONEER KY. P. 88
PARK (Barren Co.): [Pahrk] (Park). A hamlet with extinct post office on the Metcalfe Co. line, at the junction of KY 740 and 1243, 10 1/2 air miles ne of Glasgow. On Jan. 20, 1853 the post office of Three Springs (q.v.), established 3 miles se in 1841 in Hart Co., was moved to this site by John C. Green, a physician, and renamed Park. This name was derived from that of his home which he had called Green's Park. The area is now on a rural route out of Horse Cave, 9 1/2 road miles nw. [Mrs. J. Wood Vance, "Barren Towns: What's in a Name?" anni. ed. of GLASGOW TIMES, 3/10/1968]
PARK CITY (Barren Co.): [Pahrk Sihte] (Park City). A 6th class city with an active post office and some 550 residents on US 31w, just w of its junction with I 65, ½ mile from the Edmonson Co. line and 7½ air miles nw of Glasgow. In the 1820s a stage coach relay station was located at this site where the Glasgow and Bardstown Roads joined the Louisville and Nashville Pike. A post office established here Oct. 24, 1827 with William Bell, postmaster, was thus called Three Forks. About this time Bell acquired a 1500 acre plantation in the vicinity and built a tavern which, as Bell's Tavern, became famed for its good food and hospitality and as the gathering place for a number of prominent ante-bellum politicians. After the tavern burned in 1860, George Proctor, who had remarried Bell's widow, and his sons, began a new tavern which came to be called the Rock House. The start of the Civil War and later a lack of funds prevented its completion and its remains, long a tourist attraction, can still be seen across the road from the depot. Part of Bell's plantation was divided into lots and sold to the founders of what was incorporated as the town of Glasgow Junction in 1871. A spur from this point on the L&N Railroad's main line, which had been completed in 1859, was extended 11 miles to Glasgow and the post office became known as Glasgow Junction on Dec. 15, 1863. Another spur was extended some 100 miles nw to Mammoth Cave in 1886. By 1900 the community had become an important tourist and trade center with hotels, a bank, and schools, tobacco factory, lumber mills. On April 1, 1938 the Glasgow Junction post office officially became Park City, as had the railroad station and town, to avoid confusion with Glasgow and because it was the closest railroad and highway
stop to Mammoth Cave National Park. (1) Deborah Slack in the GLASGOW TIMES, 5/30/1935; (2) Virginia Mansfield "Famed Tavern that Never Was" GLASGOW TIMES, 6/28/1974, Sec. 3, P. 9:1-8; (3) LCJ, 3/24/1938
PARKERS LAKE (McCreary Co.): [Fahrk/ər z Lāk] (Wiborg). A hamlet with an active post office at the junction of US 27 and KY 90, 7½ air miles n of Whitley City. The community was named for Joe Caldwell Parker, a land speculator who had sought to capitalize on the extension of the Cincinnati Southern (now Southern) Railroad through that section. The lake was made by the Railroad to supply its locomotives with needed water. The local station was called Cumberland Falls Station for it "was the point of debarkation" for the falls, some 8 air miles e, and the post office was established as Parkers Lake on Feb. 21, 1889 with Parker as postmaster. (1) L.E. Perry, McCREARY CONQUEST: A NARRATIVE HISTORY, 1979, Pp. 4-5; (2) Burris Smith, interview, 6/22/1978
PARK HILLS (Kenton Co.): (Park Hills) (Covington). A middle class residential suburb adjacent to Covington’s western boundary and a 4th class city of some 4000 persons centering on the Dixie Highway (US 25/42/127), its principal commercial routeway.

Around 1845 part of the site was subdivided and laid off as a town by Messrs. Coran, Spencer, and Corry; lots were sold and some building erected. But it wasn't until 1926 that the present Park Hills was formally established by D. Collins Lee and Robert Simmons. The "Park" refers to the Devou Park which it overlooks on the north, most of which William P. Devou’s children had donated to the city of Covington in 1910. Mail service has been provided by the Covington post office. (Robt. S. Tate, "The Grass Roots of Kenton Co." REG. OF THE KHS, Vol. 53, April 1955, Pp. 138-49)
PARKSVILLE (Boyle Co.): (Parksville). A hamlet with an active post office at the head of Chaplin River and centering at the junction of KY 34 and 300, 6 air miles wsw of Danville. The post office, established Feb. 12, 1859, was probably named for James Parks who was to donate the land for the L&N Railroad station built there in 1865. The town was incorporated in 1867.

[Mrs. Allen Hieatt, BOYLE CO. NAMES, DAR ms, 11/8/1940]
PARMLEYSVILLE (Wayne Co.): [Fahrn/leez/vih] (Parmleyville).

Only the historic Bethel Baptist Church remains of this community on KY 1756 and the Little South Fork River (a tributary of the Big South Fork of the Cumberland River), 11 air miles sse of Monticello. It is said to have been the oldest settlement in the county (c.1780) and was named for John Parmley, a Revolutionary War veteran, or his son, Robert, a prosperous local businessman. It was an unsuccessful contender for the county's seat in 1801. The post office was established Feb. 15, 1861 with James H. Burnett on the s side of the river but at some undetermined date it was moved several hundred yards upstream where it remained until it closed in 1958. The area is now served by the Rockybranch post office, 4½ road miles nne. [Odell Campbell, interviews, 7/21/1973, 12/5/1976]
PARROT (Jackson Co.): (Parrot). This hamlet with an active post office at the junction of KY 2002 and 2003, 8 air miles ssw of McKee, may have been named for Dan Parrot, a resident, or at least the local Parrot family. Locally it is still known as Letter Box, the name of its recently closed elementary school. Long before the post office was established Sept. 7, 1898 with John Lear, postmaster, the postal needs of the community were served by a letter box tacked to a tree by the side of the road. [(1) Jess Wilson, interview, 7/9/1977; (2) Jack Moore, interview, 7/9/1977]
PATESVILLE (Hancock Co.): [Pāts/viɦ] (Cloverport). A thriving trade and service center for area farm families in the late 19th century that declined to but a crossroads settlement on KY. 144, 7½ air miles s' of Hawesville, when improved roads attracted people to the larger county towns. It was named for its founder, Wm. Minor Pate (1775-1853) who, by 1803, had established an inn he called Pate's Stage at which the Lincolns are said to have stopped on their way to Indian in 1816. Postal service initiated by Wm. Minor Pate on Oct. 19, 1812 ended in late 1966 with papers transferred to Pellville, 6 road miles wsw. [Lillie Pulliam, "Patesville: Once a Way Station..." HANCOCK CLARION, 7th anni. ed. 7/1968, n.p. and Ibid. "Patesville Post Office was One of State's Oldest" Ibid., 67.]
PATSEY (Estill Co.): [Pat/see] (Cobhill). This active post office, over a mile w of the Lee Co. line and 9 air miles e of Irvine, was established July 31, 1882 when the ne section of Estill was in Powell Co. It was named for its first postmaster, Patsey Wells, through whose efforts, it is said, the post office was secured for this isolated ridgetop area.
PAULEY (Pike Co.): Fahl/ee (Pikeville). Formerly a northside suburb of Pikeville, this residential community on the west bank of the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River, was recently incorporated into the city's limits. The now extinct post office was established July 8, 1922 with Astace K. Steele, postmaster, and named for the Pauley family. [Leonard Roberts] 1956
Paw Paw (Pike Co.): [pah/pah] (Hurley). A hamlet with an active post office centering at the mouth of Rockhouse Fork of Paw Paw Creek, just about on the Virginia state line, and 20 1/2 air miles e of Pikeville. The post office, established Oct. 4, 1878 with Daniel B. Coleman, postmaster, and the creek, which joins Knox Creek 3 miles e in Virginia's Buchanan Co., were named for the growth of paw paw trees in the area. [Henry P. Scalf, interview, 5/28/1971]
PAYNES DEPOT (Scott Co.). [Fanz Dea/phon] (Georgetown). A rail shipping point where the L&N Railroad crosses US 62 in the extreme sw part of the county, 4½ air miles sw of Georgetown. From 1792 to 1834 when the Lexington & Ohio Railroad established a station there on its Lexington-Frankfort route, this site was a supply point for freight hauled by wagon. The station was named for the Payne family of local landowners whose progenitor, General John Payne had succeeded John Floyd as Virginia's surveyor of Kentucky lands and was Scott County's first Justice. From 1835 until the Cincinnati Southern Railroad was completed to Georgetown in 1876, this was the only shipping point for Georgetown and Scott Co. farmers. The post office of Payne's Depot was established Jan. 31, 1852 with Gen'l. Payne's son, Asa as the first postmaster. Since the office closed in 1925, the vicinity has been served by the Lexington post office, 10 road miles se. (1) SCOTT CO. HIST. 1954 by the Co. Homemakers Clubs, repro. & donated to KHS in ms. form, 1975; (2) Gaines, 1904, Pp. 44-5
PAYNEVILLE (Meade Co.): Payneville (Irvington). A village with an active post office and several stores extending for over 1/2 mile on KY 144, around its junction with KY 376, 7 air miles w of Brandenburg. The community was first called Caseyville but a post office by this name in Union Co. led to the Meade County's post office being established July 26, 1868 as Payneville to honor a local family. As Payneville too it was incorporated in 1884.

[Marie Coleman, interview, 8/23/1978]
PEACH GROVE (Pendleton Co.): [Peech Ghrohj] (Butler). This hamlet at the junction of KY. 10 and 154, less than 1½ miles from the Campbell Co. line and 10½ air miles nne of Falmouth, was named for its location in what was once an important peach growing area. Its post office was in operation from 1875 to 1907. Much of the adjacent farming area has been converted to homesteads for Cincinnati residents and the community has expanded far beyond its original borders. It is now on a Butler rural route. [Ethel Bell, interview, 10/17/1978]
PEACH ORCHARD (Lawrence Co.): [Peach Awr/chard] (Milo). This name was given to 2 coal mining communities on Nat's Creek, an e bank tributary of the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River, some 11-12 miles s of Louisa. The first of these, also known as Mellenburg, was established around 1850 by William B. Mellen who had been hired by the Peach Orchard Coal Co. to develop and manage the mining operations on its 2000 acre tract purchased 3 years before from Archibald Borders. On April 11, 1851 the local post office was established as Peach Orchard and the community soon adopted this name. Idled by the Civil War, mining was reactivated in 1881 when a new mine was opened on the Left Fork of Nats Creek, 3 miles e of the river, and a second town, called New Peach Orchard, was built in that vicinity. George S. Richardson assumed control of the company which, by then, had become the Great Western Mining and Manufacturing Co., and on Dec. 14, 1881 he re-established the Peach Orchard post office which had closed 10 years before. By 1882 Richardson's Chatteroi Railroad had reached the Peach Orchard mines to provide for the shipment of coal down the Big Sandy to the Ohio River. The new mine's boom status was comparatively shortlived; a succession of financial difficulties coupled with the depletion of the mine's resources led to its abandonment by 1912 though the local post office remained in operation until 1919. Little now marks the site of either of the Peach Orchard towns. [1] Mary Lucile Chapman, THE INFLUENCE OF COAL IN THE BIG SANDY VALLEY, UK diss. 1945, Pp. 31-56; (2) Chas. E. Beachley, HIST. OF THE CONSOLIDATION COAL CO. 1864-1934, pvtly. printed, 1934, P. 54 ] 19, 867
PEAKS MILL (Franklin Co.): [Peex Mihl] (Switzer). A hamlet with the homes of some 100 residents strung out along the Peaks Mill Rd. on the e bank of Elkhorn Creek, 5 air miles n of Frankfort. In 1817 Thomas H. Gouldman built at the site of one of the current stores a water-powered grist and saw mill. In 1838 his widow sold it to John J. Peak (1789-1855), a Virginian whose widow, in turn, sold it in 1871 to John W. Gaines. Meanwhile, in 1856, a Pecks Mill (sic) post office was established by Asa B. Tarrant. It became known as Tiger for a very brief period before it closed in Dec. 1859. The town of Peaks Mill was incorporated by the Kentucky legislature in 1873 and another post office, this time in the correct spelling, was established May 4, 1877 by Samuel G. Gaines. It closed in 1907. [Mrs. M.C. Darnell, "Records Show Peaks Mill Built in 1819" THE STATE JOURNAL, 10/4/1959]
PEARL (Whitley-Bell intercounty feature) (Frakes).
A settlement of some 250 persons centered at the junction of KY 190 and 1595, 13 air miles SE of Williamsburg and 15 1/2 air miles SW of Pineville. The post office was established in Bell Co. on June 17, 1907 and named for the daughter of the first postmaster James L. Fletcher. She later married Wren Thacker and lived her entire life in this vicinity, dying at about age 70 in 1967. The post office, which moved to the Whitley Co. side of the line in 1924, was discontinued in 1968 and the community is now served by a rural branch of the Frakes post office, 1 1/2 road miles NE in Bell Co. [Mabel H. Taylor of Henderson Settlement H.S., letter to me, 2/24/1969]
PEBBLE (Bath Co.): [Fehb/3r] (Sherburne). A settlement with extinct post office where KY 1602 crosses Lick Branch, 8 air miles n of Owingsville. Until 1905 the community was called Lick Branch for the rocky stream that joins the Licking River some 2 miles n, and was also, at times, known as Fairview for the small church on a nearby hill. In 1905 John G. McClure, the storekeeper, applied for a post office. As his name was already in use, an alternative suggestion—Pebble for the texture of the stream bed was adopted instead. The office closed in 1922 and the area it served is now on an Owingsville rural route. [Irene Stewart, "Pebble Named for Rocky Creek that Flows There" BATH CO. NEWS-OUTLOOK, 8/24/1961, Sec. 2, P. 4:6-7]
Pee Dee (Christian Co.): [Pee/dee] (Caledonia). A crossroads hamlet at the junction of KY 164 and 287, less than ½ mile from the Trigg Co. line and 9½ air miles sw of Hopkinsville. The post office, established as Pee Dee on May 22, 1876 with Joseph B. Pollard, postmaster, was named for Pumphrey David (locally called "P.D.") Smith, a highly respected local landowner, who had settled in the area sometime before the Civil War. While Smithland, Smithfield, and other forms of his name were rejected in turn by the Post Office Department as already in use, there seemed to be no objection to the spelling out of his initials as two words. Sometime over the years, however, the 2 words were combined into one. Two stores and a Methodist church now serve the rural population, but since 1909 postal services have come from Herndon, 7½ road miles e. [1] Wm. T. Turner, interview, 8/7/1977; [2] Myrtle Hayes, THIS IS YESTERDAY: STORIES OF KENTUCKY'S PENNYRILE, 1969, P. 8
PEELED OAK (Bath Co.): [Pealed Ohk] (Preston). Little remains of a once thriving village on the present KY 1331, 1/2 mile from the Montgomery Co. line and 5 1/2 air miles ssw of Owingsville, whose tannery and sawmills early exploited the large quantity of good timber in the area. According to tradition, early settlers happened upon a large chestnut oak tree at the edge of a nearby stream, the bark of whose trunk and every limb had been thoroughly peeled. It was assumed that this had been done by Indians or perhaps by a pioneer to mark a boundary line. The local post office was established April 26, 1822 and operated with many intermissions until 1874. The tree itself was so badly decayed by the late 19th century that it had to be cut down. When the area's timber was depleted, the mills and tannery closed and most of the local population left the area. [(1) Mrs. Carrie Myers, "How Peeled Oak Got its Name" BATH CO. NEWS-OUTLOOK, 8/24/1961, Sec. 3, P. 7; (2) Richards, HIST. OF BATH CO. 1961, P. 465]
PELLVILLE (Hancock Co.): [Pahl/vihl] (Pellville). A hamlet with an active post office on KY 144, less than ½ mile from the Daviess Co. line and 10 air miles ssw of Hawesville. It is said to have been called Bucksnort for years until the post office of Blackford—probably located on or near the creek of that name—was moved and renamed Pellville on May 23, 1868. Bucksnort traditionally refers to the tale of the pioneer who thought he heard a deer snorting in the brush by the side of the road, while Pellville was named for Samuel B. Pell (1796-1864), a state legislator and long term Hancock Co. sheriff who often visited the place. Following incorporation in 1870, it became a fairly prosperous trade center and enjoyed an oil production boom in the 1920s. (1) E.H. Barlow in HANCOCK CLARION, 75th anni. ed. 7/1968, n.p.; (2) C.D. Mayfield, interview, 8/24/1978; (3) Edna S. Pell, THE DESCENDANTS OF WM. PELL, SR. OF KENT CO., MD., 1968, Pp. 94-5
PELLYTON (Adair Co.): Dunnville. A hamlet with extinct post office on KY 206, 1 1/2 miles N of Green River, 1 1/2 miles from the Casey Co. line, and 13 air miles NE of Columbia. The post office was established Sept. 1, 1887 with James W. Perryman, postmaster, and like the community was named for the Pelly or Pelley family of early settlers. The area's farm families are now served by the Columbia post office. [Nancy Berley, interviewed by Henry Giles, 7/1979]
PEMBROKE (Christian Co.): [Pihm/brohk, Pihm/bro̅ck] (Pembroke).
The county's second largest town, a 6th class city with an estimated 680 residents on US 41, 2 miles from the Todd Co. line and 7 air miles se of Hopkinsville. The post office was established Sept. 9, 1836 and named by Dr. Lunsford Lindsay, local merchant, for the Earl of Pembroke, a much admired character in Jane Porter's historical novel Thaddeus of Warsaw (1803). Until the arrival of the L&N Railroad in 1868 and the incorporation of the town on March 6, 1869, the place was little more than a store and a post office. By the turn of the century it became a prosperous commercial center and important farm shipping point for se Christian Co. (1) Wm. T. Turner, interview, 8/7/1977; (2) Meacham, 1930, Pp. 196-201

Seat: Falmouth. Established in 1798 from parts of Bracken and Campbell Co's. and named for Edmund Pendleton (1721-1803), a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses (1752-74) and the First Continental Congress, Governor of Virginia (1774-76), and Chief Justice of the Virginia Court of Appeals (1779-1803).
PENNY (Pike Co.): [Pihnee] (Dorton). A hamlet with extinct post office on Shelby Creek, ½ mile w of the mouth of Caney Creek, and 7½ air miles s of Pikeville. It is said to have been named for Orville Roberts' daughter, Penny, who was killed there by some unknown animal or person. The Penny post office was established April 13, 1909 with Laura Branham, postmaster. The vicinity is now on a Pikeville rural route.

[Leonard Roberts] 1756
PENROD (Muhlenberg Co.): [Fihnh/rahd, Fehn/rahd] (Dunmore). A hamlet extending for about 1½ miles along KY 949 with an L&N Railroad station and an active post office just e of US 431 and 1½ air miles se of Greenville. The local post office was established as Albrittain (sic) [Ahl/briht/ən] on May 6, 1882 with Albrittain (or Albritton) J. Drake as postmaster. Drake was probably a descendant of Albritton Drake, a Revolutionary War veteran who had settled in the area in 1806 and died there in 1834. In 1884 the community was incorporated as Home Valley, for reasons unknown, and officially renamed Penrod in 1886 to conform to the name the post office had assumed on May 19, 1885. In 1881 Henry C. Penrod had become postmaster and he is said to have renamed the office for his ancestor, Tobias Penrod, a Pennsylvanian who had settled in the area around 1797. [Otto A. Rothert, A HIST. OF MUHL. CO. 1913, P. 420]
PEOPLES (Jackson Co.): [Peep/əlz] (Parrot). An active post office at the junction of KY 30 and 2002, ½ mile from the South Fork of Rockcastle River (which is the Laurel Co. line) and 10 air miles ssw of McKee. Established on the Laurel Co. side of the river on April 13, 1881 with W.A. Spence, postmaster, it was allegedly named for William Peoples, a Harlan Co. man who had married a Miss Ball then living near the site of the post office. The post office was moved to its present Jackson Co. site in 1888. [Maud Wilson, interview, 7/9/1977]
COUNTY: PERRY. 341 sq. miles. Pop. 33,347. Seat: Hazard. Established in 1820 from parts of Clay and Floyd Co's. and named for Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry (1785-1819), the hero of the Battle of Lake Erie (1813), for whom Hazard was also named.
PERRY PARK (Owen Co.): [Pehr/ee Pahrk] (New Liberty, Worthville).
A resort and retirement community with an active post office on KY 355 and the Kentucky River, between the mouths of Mill and Big Twin Creeks, 8 air miles w of Owenton. According to tradition, this site was first called Lick Skillet by a party of pioneer surveyors. Hunters for the party were so busy with guard duty (against an especially ferocious band of Indians) that little game was killed, so short on rations were they that they said, 'We would eat everything in sight, then lick the skillet.' "(sic) Years later a settlement was established there called Cleveland, probably for President Grover Cleveland, and then Balls Landing for James Ball who operated the local steamboat landing and founded the Balls Landing post office on April 6, 1887. In 1933 this office was renamed Perry Park for John M. Perry, Sr. whose forebears had owned a considerable amount of land s of Mill Creek. After some years as a New York based owner of a chain of newspapers, Perry returned home, acquired some 2600 acres of Kentucky River bottom land and established the Perry Park community, now a resort owned by his son, John M., jr. [1] Chas. Johnson, "Perry Park Prominent in Hist. of Owen Co." OWENTON NEWS-HERALD, 12/5/1957; [2] Alma Greene, interview, 5/20/1978; [3] Aileen Suter, postmaster, letter to me, 1/9/80.
PERRYVILLE (Boyle Co.): [Pehr/ə/vəl, Pehr/ə/vi:l] (Perryville). A 5th class city with an active post office and some 750 residents on Chaplin River and US 68 and 150, 7½ air miles w of Danville. The site was first settled in 1781/2 by a party led by James Harberson and was called Harberson's Fort and later Harberson's Crossing (for its location at the junction of roads between what became the towns of Harrodsburg, Danville, Lebanon and Louisville). The town was laid out in 1815 by Edward Bullock and William Hall and named in honor of Oliver Hazard Perry's Lake Erie victory in 1813. Bullock established the Perryville post office on Feb. 12, 1816 and the Legislature chartered the town in 1817. About 1 ½ miles nw is the site of the decisive Civil War Battle of Perryville (Oct. 8, 1862) which is now a state shrine. [Geraldine Crain Harmon, CHAPLIN HILLS: HIST. OF PERRYVILLE, KY, Danv., 1971, Pp. 1, 5, 16]
PETERSBURG (Boone Co.): [Pee/ˈtərz/berɡ] (Lawrenceburg, Ind). A recently de-incorporated town with an active post office and a 1970 population of 430, on KY 20 across the Ohio River from a point midway between Aurora and Lawrenceburg, Indiana, and 8 air miles WNW of Burlington. It was laid out and named by John J. Flournoy, proprietor, in 1817/8 on the site of Tanner's Station (allegedly also known as Caledonia), established around 1790 by John Tanner, a Baptist minister (c1732-1812). Flournoy also became the first Petersburg postmaster in Jan. 1819. The origin of the name of this prosperous 19th century industrial town is not known. (1) "Origin of Place Names in Boone Co." unpub. ms. by Wm. Fitzgerald, 1962; (2) E.N. Carter, "Sketch of a Ky. Town—Petersburg" COV. JOURNAL, 1/25/1873, P. 1:2-3.
PETERSVILLE (Lewis Co.): [Petersville] (Stricklett). A hamlet with extinct post office at the mouth of Dunaway Branch of Kinник Creek and the junction of KY 344 and 559, 12 1/2 air miles sw of Vanceburg. It was named for its founder, Peter D. Lykins, who had been forced by his Unionist sympathies to flee his Morgan Co., Ky. home during the Civil War. The post office was established and closed in 1948 April 17, 1878 with James M. Lawlyes (sic), postmaster. Two stores and a church still serve this community now on a Vanceburg rural route. [Beulah Faye Lykins, letter to me, 2/3/1973] н03
PETRIE STATION (Hancock Co.): [Pee/tree Sta/shan] (Tell City). Now but an L&N Railroad freight siding where the tracks cross KY 271, ¼ mile ne of US 60 and 2½ air miles wnw of Hawesville. It was established as a station on the old Louisville St. Louis & Texas Railway, forerunner of the L&N in this area, and probably named for Fred Petrie or his family. Fred operated the Petri Station (sic) post office here from 1889 to 1904. Area residents still call this place Petrie Station, not just Petri, and insist that this is the correct spelling. [C.D. Mayfield, interview, 8/24/1978] 332
PETROLEUM (Allen Co.): [Pa/troh/lee/am] (Petroleum). Just how long this section of Allen Co. has been an oil producing area is unknown. A settlement called Oil Springs appears on Munsell's 1818 Kentucky map and the Kentucky Geological Survey map of 1877. Nearby, on Little Trammel Fork (of Trammel Fork of Drakes Creek), is the community of Petroleum whose post office was established Dec. 13, 1886 with Joseph U. Tiffany, postmaster. According to local tradition, another Oil City in Kentucky precluded the use of this preferred name and Petroleum was offered as second choice. Oil is no longer produced in the vicinity of this hamlet, just off US 31E, only 4 miles from the Tennessee state line and less than 4 air miles SW of Scottsville. The old school building is now being used for a clothing factory, and the 50 or so residents are served by a store, a church, and the Adolphus post office, 3.8 road miles S. [1] Louise Horton, IN THE HILLS OF PENNYROYAL, P. 70; [2] ALLEN CO. NEWS, 5/17/1939; [3] The Eubanks, interview, 7/22/1978
PETROS (Warren Co.): [Pee/rohs, Pee/trahs] (Rockfield).
Now a store on US 68/KY 80 but once a flag stop on the Memphis Branch of the L&N Railroad, at the point where road and tracks almost come together, 1 1/4 miles ne of the junction of Logan, Warren, and Simpson Counties and 7 1/2 air miles sw of Bowling Green. Thomas McDavitt gave the land for the railroad's right-of-way. It is said to have been named for the old road bed, over which rock was hauled, that was considered as hard as rock itself. Petros never had its own post office but is 2 1/2 road miles sw of the office at Rockfield. [3] Irene Sumpter, interview, 9/1/78; (2) Ibid. letter to me, 9/17/1978
Pewee Valley (Oldham Co.): [Pee/wee Vaell/s] (Crestwood).
A 5th class city with an active post office and some 1200 residents, just short of the Jefferson Co. line and 7½ air miles sw of LaGrange. Which Smith may be credited with founding the town in 1852 and giving his name to Smith Station on the Louisville & Frankfort (now L&N) Railroad, as the place was first known, has long been a matter of debate. It may have been Thomas Smith, a Virginia-born veteran of the War of 1812, who was a local storekeeper and station agent, or it may have been Henry S. Smith, the son of a pioneer settler, who, it is said, laid out the town in 1856 on land he had earlier acquired from his father. The post office was established as Pewee Valley on Feb. 8, 1856 with Charles Franklin Smith as postmaster. The story goes that when the town's fathers were considering a name for this office, the distinctive call of a wood pewee (or phoebe), a bird common to the area, was heard, and everyone agreed that this would make a dandy name. Yet no one has since been able to explain the "Valley" part of the name since the town, then as now, lies on a ridge. In a more romantic vein, it may be recounted that, at the height of a rather spirited debate over the name, "a flock of pewee birds alighted just outside the windows and began to chatter noisily. The resemblance of the din to that of the meeting itself struck several of those present. Good humor was restored and the name was adopted." In any event, the town was incorporated in 1870 and, by the turn of the century, had become a famous resort with a large hotel and 2 colleges. (1) Paul Gottbrath "Early Days of Pewee Valley", THE OLDHAM ERA, 10/14/1976, P. 2c:1-8; (2) Cary Robertson, "Pewee Comes of Age" CJ&T MAG, 3/15/1970, Pp. 25-7; (3) R.R. South, L&N MAG. 7/49, P. 20; (4) Katie S. Smith, THE LAND OF THE LITTLE COLONEL: PEWEE VALLEY, 1975, in KHS libr.
PEYTONA (Shelby Co.): [Peyton] (Waddy). A settlement at the junction of Old US 60 and KY 395, 3 air miles east of Shelbyville, whose post office, in operation from 1874 to 1902, was named for John Peyton, the owner of the site. The terminal "a" is said to have been added at the suggestion of a neighbor, Squire James Gill, to make a better sounding name. It is now on a Shelbyville rural route. [SHELBY CO. PLACE NAMES, DAR ms, 1941]
PEYTONSBURG (Cumberland Co.): [Peɪtənsbɜrɡ] (Blacks Ferry). A hamlet with an active post office on KY 61, 1.7 miles from the Tennessee state line, and 10 air miles s of Burkesville. The post office, which was originally located on Sulphur Creek, was established by and named for Peyton Parrish, the local storekeeper, on April 28, 1871. He was the son of John Parrish, Sr., a pioneer settler who came from Henry Co., Va. in 1810 to settle on Howards Bottom, ne of Burkesville. About the time Dale Hollow Lake was formed, the post office was moved up on Pea Ridge to the site of the store and Methodist Church that is now identified as Peytonburg. Before its recent closing, however, the post office was moved to Nellie Moore's store, closer to the Tennessee line. 

[(1) R.N. Smith, interview, 9/22/1978; (2) J.W. Wells, HIST. OF CUMBERLAND CO., 1947, P. 401]
PEYTONOWN (Madison Co.): [Peytonown] (Richmond South). An almost exclusively black settlement, 1 mile west of I-75 and 4 air miles ssw of Richmond, that may have pre-dated the Civil War. It was named for the Peytons, a one-time prominent family in the county. The post office, established June 22, 1899 with Wiley E. Harris, postmaster, was closed in 1910 and the vicinity is now on a Richmond rural route.

PHERBA (Cumberland Co.): \[P^3/bee/y3\] (Burkesville). An extinct post office that served the community now called Bear Creek--several homes scattered along KY 90 and the middle stretch of the stream for which, with the local church, it was named. The post office, in operation from 1918 to 1922, was established by its only postmaster, Charlie C. Smith, and named for his paternal grandmother, Pherba or Ferba Rush Smith. It was located near the mouth of Vaughn Creek, a s bank branch of Bear, about 4 miles ese of Burkesville. [R.N. Smith, interview, 9/22/1978]
PHIL (Casey Co.): [Phil] (Phil). Once an important rural trade center with several stores and shops, a spoke factory, woolen and saw mills, post office, school and churches at the junction of the present KY 501 and 91 air miles s. of Liberty, the community has since declined to a single grocery store and filling station. The post office, established by F.P. Combest in 1882 and named for U.S. Congressman Phil Thompson of Harrodsburg, KY, was discontinued in Dec. 1968 with papers transferred to Liberty.

Gladys & Otis Thomas, interview, 9/21/1978
PHILPOT (Daviess Co.) [Fihl/paht] (Philpot). Now centered at the junction of KY 54 and 142, 5 air miles e of Owensboro, this rapidly growing suburban community with an active post office and some 250 residents is the site of the Daviess Co. fairgrounds. Its first post office was established June 3, 1872 as Philpott by Augustus J. Philpot (or Philpott) and named for his very early Daviess Co. family. It lasted but a year to be re-established in 1875 as Philpots Station at the junction of the Illinois Central Railroad and the Old Leitchfield Road, ½ mile e of its present site. In 1882 the post office became just Philpot and sometime later was moved to its present location. (1) Michael J. Edgeworth ms. on Daviess Co. Place Names, 12/6/1973; (2) The Orrahoods, interview, 9/30/1977
PHILLIS (Pike Co.): [Fihl'as] (Lick Creek). A hamlet extending for over a mile along KY 194 and Grapevine Creek, with an active post office at the mouth of Dicks Fork, 9 air miles sse of Pikeville. The community, settled in the 19th century, was first called Grapevine for the 6 mile long tributary of the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River that, according to tradition, had been named for a large grapevine that some early settlers had split to make fence rails. On March 29, 1917 a post office was established on the creek at a site just above the present post office and named Rowton [Roh/tan] for its first postmaster, Grover C. Rowe. It closed in the mid 1930s and its papers were transferred to the Fishtrap post office, some 8½ miles w. In 1947 Ervel Reynolds succeeded in re-establishing the local post office 3/4 mile from the mouth of Grapevine but his choice of Orlando for his grandfather, Orlando Reynolds, a pioneer settler, was rejected and it was named Phyllis for the daughter of a Post Office Dept. official. When the post office site was flooded in the creation of the Fishtrap Reservoir in 1968, Phyllis moved 2 miles up the creek to its present location. (1) Arthur Long, Pikev. Col. student for Leonard Roberts; (2) Edith Roberts, interview, 4/3/1969; (3) Ervel Reynolds, Culver City, Cal., letter to me, 6/4/1969, 7/18/1969.
PIERCE (Green Co.): Two stores, a feed mill, and an elementary school--but no longer a post office--serve this hamlet of some 100 residents on KY 218 at its junctions with KY 729 and 1464, 7 air miles sw of Greensburg. It was founded in the early 19th century by a family of Brewers who had a legal distillery there and named their community Brewersburg. The post office, established July 16, 1886, was named Pierce for the local storekeepers, William Franklin ("Buck") and John Pierce. John was the first postmaster. It was often referred to as Loafersburg for for some of the residents could be observed whiling away the hours in front of a local store. The community is now on a Greensburg rural route. [(1) Sam Moore, interview, 7/20/1978; (2) James Sharon Wallace, ch. 12 of A COLL'N. OF GREEN CO. HIST., compiled by Kate Powell Evans, 1976, P. 66]
PIG (Edmonson Co.): [Pingh] (Rhoda). A crossroads settlement at the junction of KY 259 and 422, near the southern edge of Mammoth Cave National Park and 6 air miles se. of Brownsville. According to tradition, some local residents, assembled to name the new post office—established Sept. 23, 1880—could not agree on what to call it for each wanted it named for himself. Finally when the deliberations seemed about to break down, one man said in disgust "I see a small hog outside on the road and that prompts me to suggest that we name the post office PIG." The Post Office Department apparently accepted the suggestion, and the community was then named for the post office. The latter closed in 1904 and mail now comes from Smiths Grove, 4½ road miles s. V.L. Spalding in UNIONTOWN TELEGRAM, repr. in LOU. TIMES col. "From Mills Pt. to the Big Sandy" 3/1/1941 747
PIGEONROOST (Clay Co.): [Pigh/n/rust] (Hima). A mining community with extinct post office on KY 80 and Horse Creek, about 2 miles below the mouth of Pigeon Roost Branch, and 3 1/2 air miles SW of Manchester. The post office was established as Pigeon Roost on May 11, 1888 with Jefferson D. Rowland, postmaster, and probably named for the branch on which early settlers had observed such large numbers of pigeons roosting in the timber that they seemed to "break the branches out." In 1894 the Post Office Department ordered the 2 parts of the name combined, and in its one word spelling it remained until it recently closed. (1) Glada Cobb, interview, 6/29/1977; (2) Patsy Hibbard in t.p. for Leonard Roberts, Union College, 1955.
COUNTY: Pike

[PIKE] 782 sq. miles, Kentucky's largest. Pop. 80,777.

Seat: Pikeville. Established in 1821 from part of Floyd Co. and named for Gen'l. Zebulon M. Pike (1779-1813), frontier explorer who was killed in the assault on York, Canada in the War of 1812.
PIKE VIEW (Hart Co.): [Pavek Vyū] (Hammonsview). A hamlet with a recently discontinued post office at the junction of KY 936 and the old route of US 31E, ½ mile E of the present US 31E, and 10 air miles NE of Munfordville. The post office, in operation from 1891 to 1908, was named for its location on the pike to Nashville from which early travelers could enjoy a picturesque view of the countryside. It is said that when the office was re-established there in 1910, another name was requested by the postal authorities to avoid confusion with Pikeville in Pike Co. Dowagiac [Dow/djaék] was suggested by someone who had spotted that name on an old wheat drill in the vicinity. The office retained this name until Pike View was recently readopted. It is believed that the Dowagiac name was ultimately derived from the town in Michigan which, according to George R. Stewart, bears a Potawatami name probably referring to "a place where fish can be netted." (1) Judge Roy A. Cann, ms. hist. of Hart Co., 1971, P. 11; (2) Geo. R. Stewart, AM. PLACE NAMES, P. 411.
PIKEVILLE (Pike Co.): [Panh/val] (Pikeville). A 4th class city of some 4,800 residents and the seat of Pike Co., on US 23/460 and 119, 172 air miles ese of downtown Louisville. Public disapproval of the first site of the new county's seat at the present site of Garden Village (q.v.) led to the decision of a commission on Dec. 24, 1823 to locate the seat on Peach Orchard Bottom, opposite the mouth of Lower Chloe Creek, a tributary of the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River, on land donated for this purpose by Elijah Adkins. The town was probably called Pikeville from its inception though its post office was established as Pike on Aug. 5, 1825 with William Smith, postmaster. The post office name was changed to Piketon in 1829 and the town was incorporated in this name in 1848. The town officially became Pikeville in 1850 though the post office did not assume this name until 1881. The town and county were named for Zebulon M. Pike (1779-1813), U.S. Army officer-explorer and the discoverer of Pike's Peak. An ambitious project, initiated in late 1973, to rechannel the Levisa and to relocate the C&O Railroad tracks and US 23/460 through a 500 foot cut in Peach Orchard Mt. is nearing completion. This will relieve severe traffic congestion and, by filling in the river channel and adjacent hollows, make available some 400 acres of new land for badly needed industrial, commercial, and residential development. (1) Scalf, KLF, P. 136; (2) Eva Powell, interview, 8/16/1977; (3) Art Ehrenstrom, "Pits Economic Hopes on River-Diversion Project" LCJ, 8/21/1974, Pp. 1, 8
PILGRIM (Martin Co.): [Pihl/ghrum] (Kermit). A hamlet with an active post office and a 1970 population of 300, on KY 1714, 3½ miles up Wolf Creek from its confluence with the Tug Fork of the Big Sandy River at Lovely, and 7 air miles se of Inez. The post office was established June 30, 1891 with Moses Parsley, postmaster, and may have been named for the Pilgrim Home United Baptist Church there. [Golda Swain, interview, 3/24/1973]
PILOT OAK (Graves Co.): [Pahlah et Ohk] (Cuba). A hamlet with extinct post office at the junction of KY 94 and 129, 12 air miles ssw of Mayfield, that was named for a tree from which early travelers could refer for directions to Paducah, due n. The post office was in operation from 1876 to 1906, but mail service is now provided from Water Valley, 5½ road miles w. ["Place Name Stories about W. Ky. Towns" KFR, Vol. 7, 7-9/1961, Pp. 112-13] 466
PILOT VIEW (Clark Co.): [Pah/17t Vyu] (Hedges). This hamlet 1 mile south of the Mountain Parkway and 5½ air miles east of Winchester, at the junction of KY 15 and the Schollsville Rd., originated and was named when these 2 roads were built to this site in 1868. According to tradition, the impressive view of Pilot Knob, Boone's famed reference point 15 miles southeast in adjacent Powell Co., inspired either Franklin H. Ramsey, the local storekeeper, or Major John N. Conkwright to suggest its name. The community served by the Pilot View post office from 1893 to 1904 still has its store and school and is now on a Winchester mail route. [(1) Kathryn Owen interview, 6/1/1977; (2) Kingsbury-Stuart ms. on Clark Co. p.n.]
PINCHEM (Clark Co.): [Pincham](Winchester). This rural settlement extending for about a mile down Four Mile Creek (a branch of the Kentucky River) and KY. 974, from the site of the extinct Tulip post office to that of the old Hunt store and school, has long been called Pinchem. It is not known how long the name has been in use or who first applied it to the community but three accounts of its origin have been suggested. Clark Co. historian, Kathryn Owen, a descendant of the community's pioneer settlers, prefers to recall the early storekeeper who was so tight that customers would come away feeling they had been pinched in the trade. After awhile they got to calling his the Pinchem Store and eventually the community was called just Pinchem. Or the name may have been derived from Pinchem Slyly and the story is told that when the county was dry, anyone wanting a quart would come to the store and pinch the local bootlegger in a subtle fashion. Or else the area farms were so poor that everyone suffered from a lack of nourishment; even the cattle had a pinched appearance, so skinny were they that one could pinch a calf and there wouldn't be anything between his sides. Miss Owen discredits this last account for though it's a rocky place, much like the New England countryside, it has always been fairly good grazing country. In any case, when it came time to establish the local post office—on March 13, 1888—postmaster-designate William Perry Owen, finding that the Pinchem name had already been applied to an office in Todd Co. (q.v.), suggested the name Tulip, that of a town in Missouri that had so impressed him on a recent visit. Some 5 years before, the descendants of Jonathan Hunt had established the Hunt post office in their store a mile down the creek in the vicinity of the Hunt School which was to serve the Pinchem-Hunt area for many years. The Tulip post office closed in 1908, the Hunt post office a year later. Today Ballard's Store and the Antioch Church serve the community 4 air miles s. of Winchester.

[Kathryn Owen, interviews, 10/17/1971 and 6/1/1977]
PINCHEM (Todd Co.) : [Phnch/m] (Guthrie). A crossroads settlement at the junction of KY 181 and 848, 7 air miles ssw of Elkton, and the center of a community of Old Order Amish. At some undetermined time in the past, Mr. Green Simms (Sims) owned a "blind tiger" across KY 848 from the present Peachy store. To announce their intentions and avoid being mistaken for lawmen in that age of dryness, customers would follow a pre-arranged procedure and pinch the proprietor in a sly fashion. He would know what they wanted and provide it accordingly. Over the years, the place came to be known as Pinchem Slyly which was later simplified to Pinchem and even corrupted to Penchem. On July 1, 1882 the post office of Pinchem was established with William L. Adams, postmaster. It lasted only 12 years and residents have since depended on Guthrie, 5½ road miles se, for their mail. It is not known how old the community is or when this unusual name was first applied to it. The Amish settled in this vicinity in 1958 and one of their number, Jacob Peachy, now owns the crossroads store. [George Boone, interview, 7/20/1972] Besides the Clark Co. settlement described above, Kentucky claims at least 2 other Pinchems, in Anderson and Taylor Counties.
PINE GROVE (Clark Co.): [Pahn Ghrohy] (Clintonville). There are actually 2 Pine Groves extant in Clark Co. One, called Pine Grove or Pine Grove Station, is the remains of a village and station where the C&O Railroad crosses the Combs Ferry and Old Todds Roads, less than 1/2 mile from the Fayette Co. line, and 6 air miles w of Winchester. This was named for an older village of Pine Grove which is shown on contemporary maps as Old Pine Grove at the junction of US 60 and KY 1678, 1 mile from the Fayette Co. line and 4 air miles wnw of Winchester. The latter, in turn, had been named for a grove of pine trees on both sides of US 60 or what used to be called the Lexington Pike. At one of the 2 sites, probably the one on the railroad, was the Pine Grove post office which, in Jan. 1850, had been moved from Chilesburg (q.v.) in Fayette Co., less than 2 1/2 miles w of Pine Grove Station. This office closed in 1964 and residents of both sites now get their mail from a Winchester branch office. (1) Kathryn Owen, interview, 6/1/1977; (2) Kingsbury-Stuart ms. on Clark Co. place names 975/1349
PINE GROVE (aka WATAUGA) (Clinton Co.): [Pahn Gröv] (Cumberland City). This community of farms and summer homes, extending for some 3 miles along KY 588, was served by the extinct Watauga [Wah/tah/gha] post office, located just s of the Russell Co. line and 10 air miles nne of Albany. Before the office was established Feb. 23, 1901 with George F. Brown, postmaster, the community was called Piney Woods for the tall pine trees in the vicinity. Watauga was requested for the post office because many of the area's first residents had come from the old Watauga settlement in Tennessee. With the closing of the office in 1954 the community, now on an Albany rural route, has been locally called Pine Grove for the neighborhood school (also closed) and Methodist church. It is doubtful if the Watauga name is used at all anymore. [Eva Conner, interview, 3/22/1977]
PINE HILL (Rockcastle Co.): [Pahn Hihl] (Mt. Vernon). Now a settlement of scattered homesteads, trailer parks, and several churches in the vicinity of US/25 and the L&N Railroad, 3½ air miles ese of Mount Vernon. The post office was established April 16, 1867 with Rees B. Ward, postmaster, and named for the (pine-timber-growing-in-abundance-there) local pine trees. It has also been a coal mining town and, earlier, local clay was used to make pottery. From a peak population of over 600 a century ago, its 1970 figure of 150 has declined even more with the rerouting of through traffic to I 75, 2 miles w. A rural branch of the Mount Vernon post office now serves this vicinity.

[Charley Carter, interview, 4/29/1978]
PINE KNOB (Grayson Co.): [Pahn/nahn] (Spring Lick). A rural settlement in the valley of Pine Knob Creek, 11 air miles w of Leitchfield. It was named for the 760-foot knob to the w, and may also have been called Hoodoo (by which name it is identified on a 1925 topographic map). About a mile away is the Big Mouth Cave which once served as the hideout of the notorious Dock Brown gang and the place is haunted by the ghosts of the many persons they are said to have murdered there. The Pine Knob settlement, by whatever name, goes back to pre-Civil War times and enjoyed a shortlived boom in 1866 with the discovery of lead and zinc deposits that didn't amount to much. In 1974 there were hopes of the discovery of oil or gas in the area that never materialized either. Today a church and Elmer Edwards' general store serve the local population who get their mail from Caneyville, 4 1/2 road miles s/s. \[\text{(1) Duvall Morrison in "Communities" sect. of Bicent. Ed. of the LEITCHFIELD GAZETTE, c.1976, P. 14:5-7; (2) Wm. Hughes, interview, 9/28/1977} \]
VINE KNOT (McCreary Co.): [Pahn Naht] (Whitley City). A village with an active post office and a 1970 population of some 800, on old US 27 and KY 92, 3 1/2 air miles s of Whitley City. Katie Branham's Inn was a favorite of ante-bellum travelers on the old toll road between Lexington and Jacksboro, Tenn. According to tradition, when someone stopped to spend several nights there Katie, as was her custom, asked him how many ears of corn to drop in the bucket to feed his horse. He said 12 and that's what she charged him. But, in fact, she only dropped in pine knots and no ears at all and later she retrieved them so he wouldn't know the difference. But he became quite concerned when his horse, though apparently well fed, kept getting progressively thinner, and he discovered Katie's deception. He spread the word of what had happened up and down the road and over a period of time Katie Branham's came to be called Katie's Pine Knot and, after her death, the Pine Knot Inn. Then, when the post office was established there on June 19, 1874, with James H. Wilson, postmaster, it too was called Pine Knot. It closed in 1878 and re-opened in July, 1879 at this site or nearby as Commercial Summit. In 1887 it again became known as Pine Knot. In 1912 the community that had grown up around the inn and post office was an unsuccessful contender for the new county's seat. It was incorporated in 1913, but is no longer. [Smith Ross, interview, 6/22/1978]
PINE RIDGE (Wolfe Co.): [Pahn Rihdi] (Pomercyton). A hamlet with an active post office centering at the junction of KY 15 and 715, 1 mile nw of the Pine Ridge interchange of the Mountain Parkway and 3½ air miles wnw of Campton. It was named for its location on a ridge dominated by scrub pine and near the Rock Bridge section of the county said to contain "one of the largest strands of eastern white pine in Kentucky." The post office was established March 6, 1907 with Henry C. Lacey, postmaster. The community is now noted for the DeSie Scott Childrens Home on the site of the older Alvin Drew School built in 1911 by Mrs. M.O. Everett. (1) Nevyle Shackelford, "Large Acreage of White Pine Timber in Wolfe Co." LEX. LEADER, 12/11/1964; (2) Hazel Booth, interview, 8/11/1978; (3) 1860-1960 CENT. CELEBRATION OF WOLFE CO., KY. SOUVENIR BOOK, 9/2-5/1960, P. 19
PINEVILLE (Bell Co.): [Pahn/vəl, Pahn/viːl] (Pineville). A 4th class city of some 2700 residents and the seat of Bell Co., on the Cumberland River and US 25e and 119, 141 air miles se of downtown Louisville. The site was settled early (c. 1781) since it was at the point where the Wilderness Rd. crossed the Cumberland River. Thus the community was first called Cumberland Ford and by this name the post office was established March 31, 1818 with Moses Dorton, aptly postmaster. Though the settlement may have been called Pineville as early as 1825, it wasn't until 1867 that the town was actually laid off on a narrow strip of land, called "The Narrows", some 200 feet wide, at the upper end of the present city. In 1869 J.J. Gibson donated land for the seat of the new Josh Bell Co. which had been created two years before. The post office name was changed to Pineville in 1870. In 1887 the Pine Mt. Iron and Coal Co. acquired more Gibson land below the Narrows, developing it for settlement in '88, and relocating the court house, homes, and other businesses here. This was incorporated as Pineville the following year. (1) Clyde Guthrie "Early Settlement of Cumberland Ford PINEV. SUN, 8/26/1954; (2) Nelle Putnam, "Before the Establishment of Pineville..." BELL CO. CENTEN: THE BELL CO. STORY, 1868-1967, Pinev., Ky. 1967, n.p.; (3) J.C. Tipton, THE CUMB. COAL FIELD AND ITS CREATORS, Middlesb., Ky., 1905, n.p.
PINSONFORK (Pike Co.): [Pihn/san/fawrk] (Belfry). A village with an active post office and a 1970 population of some 800 extending for almost a mile along KY 199 and Pond Creek, around 13 air miles east of Pikeville. The post office was established as Pinsonfork on June 6, 1890 and undoubtably named for its first location at the mouth of Pinson Fork of Pond, the site of the present village of McAndrews (q.v.). It was later moved to its present site 1½ miles up Pond Creek (i.e. to the s). The fork was named for the Pinson family, probably the descendants of Pike Co. pioneer Allen Pinson, a Virginian who had settled on Johns Creek around 1800. Over the years folks have apparently come to accept the Post Office Department's preference for one-word names and continue to refer to their community and its post office as Pinsonfork. The local Norfolk and Western Railroad station has been called Peg Station allegedly for an old man with a wooden leg. (1) Clyde Runyon, letter to me, 12/13/1979; (2) Perrin, 8th ed. 1888, P. 947; (3) Mrs. Albert Scott, former pm, Pinsonfork, Ky., letter to me, 2/4/1970.
PIPPA PASSES (Knott Co.): [Pi:\pa Faes/az] (Hindman, Kite). Famed as the home of Alice Lloyd College, this village with an active post office extends along the upper reaches of Caney Creek for a mile or so in one direction from a point 4½ air miles e of Hindman. The vision of Boston, Mass. native, Mrs. Alice Geddes Lloyd of a college to train the future leaders of Appalachia led to the establishment, in 1923, of Caney Creek Junior College. Among those groups from whom she solicited funds for this purpose were the Robert Browning Societies of New England. They agreed also to build the local post office and are said to have suggested its name for the poet's heroine, the devout and simple mill girl, Pippa, who, as she passes through her town on New Years Day, innocently touches the lives of those who hear her songs of joy and fulfillment. Over the years this name has come to symbolize to the community and future generations of students the great influence they could have over the lives of the people they would serve. Yet the Post Office Department's preference for 1 word names led to the office's establishment, on Dec. 31, 1917, as Pippapass, a meaningless name which remained until July 1, 1955 when pressure brought about a return to the intended spelling. Even so, local people still call their community Caney or Caney Creek as they always have. Following Mrs. Lloyd's death in 1962, the school was renamed for her and, in 1980, became a 4 year college. (1) "Pippa Passes: A Poem and a Place", brochure distributed by ALC, c1970; (2) Ed Edstrom "Poetic Justice Wins Victory at Pippapass" LCJ, 6/11/1955 [177, 403]
PIQUA (Robertson Co.): [IPA: paˈkwa] (Piqua). A hamlet with extinct post office just s of KY 165, a mile n of the Licking River and the Nicholas Co. line and 4 air miles s of Mt. Olivet. The community was founded by Isaac Chamberlain, a school teacher who had come from Piqua, Ohio, the birthplace of Tecumseh and the site of a principal village of the Piqua subtribe of the Shawnee nation. The post office was in operation from 1889 to 1937 and the community now receives its mail from Mt. Olivet. [Lucien Robinson, interviews, 4/22/1972, 4/16/1978]
PISGAH (Pulaski Co.):  [Pihngh] (Delmer). This residential community just w. of US 27, less than a mile n of Lake Cumberland and 2 air miles s of Somerset, was established around a Presbyterian church organized in 1828 by the Rev. William Dickson on land donated by Richard Goggin. The church was named Pisgah in 1830 for the mountain from which Moses viewed the promised land as early settlers had stood on the local hill and looked over the land below. The post office organized on June 30, 1864 to serve this vicinity was called Stigall's Ferry  [Stihgahl] until, in 1867, Samuel R. Owens renamed it Garden Cottage for the home built for the Rev. James E. Barnes, the church's pastor. The office was discontinued in 1884. [Alma Owens Tibbals, A HIST. OF PUL. CO. KY. 1952, Pp. 103-6]
PISO (Pike Co.): [Peve/soh] (Warney). An active post office at the mouth of Big Lick Branch of Brushy Fork (of Johns Creek), 10 air miles nne of Pikeville. After several proposed names were rejected by the Post Office Department, Bud Williamson submitted Piso, the name of a patent medicine, an ad for which he had seen in an almanac. The office was established April 27, 1904 with Williamson as postmaster. [Edna Williamson to Leonard Roberts, 11/1974]
PITTSBURG (Laurel Co.): [ˈpiːtsbɜrɡ] (London). This village with an active post office and some 500 residents, extending for over a mile on US 25 and the L&N Railroad from a point ½ mile north of London, may have been named for the pioneer Pitman (sic) family. The brothers Lot and Holland Pitman, sons of Richard Pitman, and the neighboring McNeills were the first settlers of the vicinity; the first house is said to have been built by Holland before 1817. The original site where the road to Richmond left the Wilderness Road, was proposed by Lot for the county seat and, if he had been successful, would have been called Edinburgh for the Pitmans were of Scottish descent. (q.v. London). Soon after the Kentucky Central (now L&N) Railroad arrived around 1881, the coal lands owned by the Pitmans and McNeills were developed and the community grew up around the mines, and the railroad station came to be known as "The Pittsburgh of the South." It was incorporated in 1884. The post office established as Peacock on June 13, 1882, with Michael Hope, postmaster, was renamed Pittsburg on March 16, 1883 and then respelled Pittsburg in the 1890s. 

(1) John C. McNeil, "Pittsburg Developed by Coal Operators and Central Kentucky Capitalists" in a vol. of reprints from the Diamond Jubilee Ed. of the SENTINEL ECHO, 1954, P. 176; (2) Logan Ewell, interview, 4/29/1972; (3) "Three Versions of London's Name" Ibid., P. 64
PITTS POINT (Bullitt Co.): [Pitts Point] (Pitts Point). All that remains of a prosperous 19th century factory town and steamboat port at the mouth of the Rolling Fork of Salt River, are "scattered foundation stones" in the Ft. Knox Military Reservation. The town was laid off by the brothers James G. and John S. Pitt on 600 acres they had purchased in 1831 from the Fromans and was first called Pittstown. However, the post office, established March 11, 1850 with John Greenwell, postmaster, was called Pitts Point by which name the town was also incorporated in 1861. At the head of navigation on the Salt River, it early became the terminus for river cargo craft and thus a shipping point for area farm and timber products. When highways replaced the river as channels of commerce, Pitts Point declined; its post office closed in 1907 and little was left when, in 1941, the Federal Government purchased the site for the expansion of the military reservation. The similarity of the name of this town to Pittsburg, Pa., also located at the point of convergence of 2 large streams, has suggested a variant source of the name though we'll stay with the brothers Pitt. 

PLANK (Clay Co.): [Plaŋk] (Ogle). This active post office, some 2½ miles up Martins Creek (an e bank branch of Goose Creek), and 8 air miles se of Manchester, was established Dec. 7, 1906 with George W. Walker, postmaster. "In this area," writes Marian Martin, "there was very fine virgin timber and sawing lumber was big business. Each sawmill owner liked to boast of the largest boards or planks they had sawed. When the post office was named they called it Plank because they had possessed the largest plank that had been sawed in the whole area." [Marian Martin's ms. on Clay Co. place names]
PLEASANT HILL (or SHAKERTOWN) (Mercer Co.), [Pleasant Hll, Shā/kər/town] (Wilmore). A restored religious community at the junction of old US 68 and KY 33 and 29, bypassed ¼ mile southeast by the new route of US 68, and 6 air miles northeast of Harrodsburg. From a small handful of members when their colony was established in 1805 on a 140 acre farm on nearby Shawnee Run, the Shakers soon moved to the Pleasant Hill site, laid out their village and eventually expanded their farm holdings to some 4500 acres. By 1840 they had grown to a prosperous self-sufficiency with a population of over 500. The products of their well cultivated fields and exceptional craftsmanship reached a wide market by Kentucky River steamboats which stopped at Shaker Landing, a mile east of the village. A shortlived Pleasant Hill post office, established March 12, 1818 with Francis Yaris, postmaster, and re-established as Shawnee Run on Jan. 22, 1834, was renamed Pleasant Hill in 1851. By this time the colony's population and prosperity had peaked and their inevitable decline had begun. The post office closed in 1904 and the colony was formally disbanded in 1910 and 1800 acres were deeded to George Bohon of Harrodsburg. From then until the restoration of the Shaker colony began in 1961, Pleasant Hill was a small village of privately owned homes and businesses. Twenty five of the original buildings have since been restored and the village is now a national historic landmark. The several names associated with this religious group and its colony have long confused the uninitiated. Referring to themselves as the United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing and to their settlement as the Pleasant Hill Colony, they were almost universally known to others as Shakers. At first they resisted this label but soon came to accept it and even to refer to their colony as Shakertown, a name still popularly applied to the community as evidenced by the name it bears on the topographic maps. State highway maps, however, continue to identify the place as
PLEASANT RIDGE (Daviess Co.): [Plehz/ənt Rihdʒ] (Pleasant Ridge). Now on US\textit{231} and the Ohio-Daviess County line, midway between Hartford and Owensboro, this rural hamlet was centered around a post office established Aug. 3, 1859 by storekeeper Elijah Hatfield and named for the attractive view from the ridge on which it was then situated. From the latter site on the old Hartford Rd. (now KY: 764) on which it extended for about a mile, it was moved to US\textit{231} after that road was completed around 1950. It is generally considered in Daviess Co. and is geared economically to Owensboro, 11 air miles nnw. With the closing of the post office in 1913, this community has been served rural routes out of Whiteville and Utica. 

(1) Cecelia M. Laswell, "Towns and Vil. of Daviess Co." WPA ms. 6/19/1936; (2) The Orrohoods, interview, 9/30/1977
PLEASANT VALLEY (Carter Co.): The site of the Carter Co. Vocational School and a number of local businesses, at the junction of US 60 and KY 182, just s. of 1/4 and 8½ air miles w. of Grayson. This was originally called Counts Cross Roads for Philip Counts, a Virginian, who had arrived by 1850 and with his 5 sons, ran the local store. It is believed that this vicinity had been settled as early as 1792 by the Offill and Sam Everman families. The Counts Cross Roads post office was established Sept. 24, 1873 with Van Buren B. King, postmaster, but the community was incorporated May 9, 1890 as Pleasant Valley, a commendatory name by which it is still known. Since the post office closed in 1935 mail service has been provided from Olive Hill, 4 miles wsw. (1) J. Lowell Lusby, interview, 9/23/1977; (2) Christine McGlone, interview, 11/18/1977; (3) CARTER CO. HIST. 1838-1976, P. 38.
Pleasant View (Whitley Co.): [Flehz/ant Vu] (Williamsburg, Saxton). This settlement, aptly named for its view of the nearby hills, centers on the junction of US 25W and KY 628, just e of I 75 and is suburban to Williamsburg, 3½ air miles n nw. It was once both a sawmill and a college town and a station of the present Knoxville and Atlanta Division of the L&N Railroad. Its post office, established Nov. 13, 1870 with Robert Bird, postmaster, is now a rural branch of the Williamsburg post office and its 400 or so residents are served by one of the county's consolidated elementary schools.

[Eugene Siler, interview, 6/23/1978]
PLEASURE RIDGE PARK (Jefferson Co.) (Pleh3r Rihdj Pahrk)

(Louisville West). An unincorporated suburb of Louisville, with a
1970 population of 28,500 (thus the largest unincorporated town in
Kentucky), extending between Muldraugh Ridge (on the e), Rockford
Lane and Shively (on the n), the Ohio River (on the w), and Pages
Lane (on the s), but centering at the junction of the Dixie Highway
(US 31w/60) and Greenwood Rd. (KY 1931), 9 air miles ssw of the
court house in downtown Louisville. It was named for a 19th
century dance hall in a large park on the ridge just e of the high-
way and the Elizabethtown & Paducah (now L&N) Railroad tracks which
had been completed to this point by 1874. To the park and the
Paine family hotel at the foot of the ridge, w of the highway,
special excursion trains brought hundred of Louisville residents
every month for a day in the country. The local post office which
had been established as Lacona in 1850 was changed in 1876 to
Pleasure Ridge Park. This post office was discontinued in 1903,
re-established in 1948 and closed for good in 1964. Mail service
is now provided by a branch of the Louisville post office. [Ward
Sinclair & Harold Browning, "Pleasure Ridge Park Kindles Memory of
Day When it Was Dance Hall" LOU. TIMES, 11/9/1965]
PLEASUREVILLE (Henry-Shelby intercounty feature) (North Pleasureville). A 6th class city with an active post office and some 620 residents on US 421 and KY 241, 5½ air miles southeast of New Castle and 10 air miles northeast of Shelbyville. In 1784 some 30 families of a Dutch Huguenot colony in Mercer Co. acquired 10,000 acres in the future Henry and Shelby Counties from Squire Boone and built a fort on a site about 1⅔ miles east of what was to become North Pleasureville. Their land, owned and cultivated in common and managed by Abraham Banta, has been identified historically as The Dutch Tract or Low Dutch Settlement. North Pleasureville was first called Bantatown but its post office was established as Pleasureville perhaps as early as 1828 and it was incorporated in this name in 1842. The name is traditionally believed to have been derived from a visitor's remark about his pleasure in being there among such pleasant people. In 1858, what later became a part of the L&N Railroad was built through to a point a mile south of Pleasureville and another town developed around the depot. In 1874 the Pleasureville post office was moved here, retaining this name; in 1879, another post office, called North Pleasureville, was established at the original (or Bantatown) site. The towns which thus developed as North Pleasureville and Pleasureville (or South Pleasureville) finally merged in 1962. Many of the older residents, however, still refer to the two component communities as simply North Town and South Town.

PLUM (Bourbon Co.): [Pluhm] (N. Middletown). A crossroads settlement at the confluence of Plum Lick and Boone Creeks in the extreme eastern part of the county, 11 air miles east of Paris. Historians suggest it was first called Pinhook but can't tell us when or why. It was then called The Levy when, in 1873, Andrew B. Thomason removed his post office from Flat Rock (now called Little Rock), 1½ miles northwest. Historians are equally mystified by the Levy name but its pronunciation as Lehv/ee and the definite article suggest a corruption of that geographic term and thus that kind of geographic feature somewhere in the vicinity. On April 20, 1874, Thomason renamed his post office Plum Lick, probably for the stream, and in May, 1894 it became simply Plum. This name is said to have derived from a grove of wild plum trees, [some of which still stand on the hillsides.]

Local tradition has it that a band of Indians enroute to or from their homes in Ohio [had been eating] plums from a supply in the knapsacks and [throwing] the seeds on the ground, where they germinated. The Workman now country store and filling station is all that's left of the once thriving farm trade center, and the Levy name is once more locally applied. [Since the post office was discontinued in 1905, mail has been delivered by rural route from North Middletown, 5 miles southwest.]

PLUM GROVE (Greenup Co.): Plum Grove (Greenup). A rural settlement on Shackle Run, an e bank tributary of the Little Sandy River, just s of W Hollow, w of KY 1, and 1 1/2 air miles s of Greenup. Famed author Jesse Stuart was a pupil at the local school, now defunct, and his family is buried in the Plum Grove Church cemetery. The community, on a Greenup rural route, was named for the many wild plum trees there. (1) RUSSELL TIMES, 9/25/1942, Sect. 2, P. 12:4; (2) Mary S. Nelson, to Leonard Roberts, MS, 1959
PLUMMERS LANDING (Fleming Co.): (Plummers Landing). This hamlet with an active post office near the confluence of Stocktons and Fox Creeks, 11 air miles SE of Flemingsburg, was named for the landing maintained for stock drovers by George Plummer in the early 19th century. Feb. 8, 1849. The first post office to serve this area was established at Plummer's Mill by George's son, Benjamin. The mill, built by a Capt. Seavers, Benjamin's father-in-law whom he succeeded in its operation, was two creek miles below the Landing. On Jan. 3, 1862 Samuel Maguire moved the Plummer's Mill post office a mile up Stockton's Creek from the Landing and called it Belle Grove (a commendatory name) which he renamed Belle Grove Springs for the sulphur springs there that attracted patronage to a popular summer resort. For some reason the post office was again moved, in Sept. of 1962, to the Landing where it was renamed Plummers Landing and here it remains, in Frank Hinton's store. However, a post office having been established as Crane Creek in 1865 moved two miles up Fox Creek to Plummers Mill in 1867 where it went by that name until it closed in 1877. The hamlet of Plummers Mill is now called Butler for another local family and sometimes Watsons Store for the local store which, with Shiloh Church, is about all that's left of it. After the hotel at Belle Grove Springs burned in 1876 the resort was abandoned and today no trace remains of it.

PLUM SPRINGS (Warren Co.): [Pluhm Springs] (Bowling Green North). A 6th class city and suburban residential community of some 220 residents, incorporated Jan. 27, 1966 and probably named for its location on the s. end of the Plum Springs Rd. (KY 957), just n and w of US 31w and 1½ air miles e of Bowling Green. Postal services have always been provided from Bowling Green.
POLIN (Washington Co.): [Poh/lan] (Brush Grove). A hamlet with extinct post office where KY 433 crosses Lick Creek, just above its confluence with Long Lick Creek, and 8 air miles n of Springfield. It is said to have grown up around the site of Walton's Lick, a late 18th century salt lick named for (and probably owned by) Gen'l. Matthew Walton (1759-1819), a Virginia-born surveyor and extensive land owner (q.v. Springfield). In fact, the local post office, in operation from Sept. 23, 1879 to June 6, 1881, was called Walton's Lick [Wahl/tonz Lihk]. It was re-established by Enos Polin as Polin on March 1, 1888. Enos was the son of an Irish-born pioneer, John Polin (1816-1897) who lived on Little Beech Fork. This office closed in 1908 and residents now get their mail from Willisburg, 6 road miles e. [Mary D. Kelly, interview, 8/10/197_]
POLKVILLE (Warren Co.): (Polkville). A crossroads hamlet at the junction of KY 1297 and 1182, 7 air miles east of Bowling Green, whose post office was established July 29, 1846 with Nathan Howard, postmaster, and probably named for James K. Polk, then President of the United States. With the closing of the office in 1903, mail service has been provided from Oakland, 6 miles north.
POLSGROVE (Franklin Co.): [Pahlz/ghrohv] (Polsgrove). An extinct post office and country store in the extreme n. c. part of the county, on the w. bank of the Kentucky River, just above the mouth of Flat Creek, and on KY 12, 9 air miles n. of Frankfort. The local post office was established July 7, 1870 as Palsgrove Store (sic) with William H. Palsgrove (sic), postmaster and probably also the store's owner. The office was discontinued in 1875 and re-established on April 19, 1880 as Polsgrove. Yet the community was for years called Polsgrove Landing and this name identified it in an 1882 atlas. Polsgrove is generally considered the correct spelling of the name of this early Franklin Co. family whose progenitor, George Polsgrove, had settled on Flat Creek in 1821. The post office closed for good in 1962. [(1) Kenneth Goin, interview, 7/14/1978; (2) J.L. Cannon, "Place Names in Franklin Co., Ky." DAR ms, 1940]
POOLE (Webster Co.); (Poole). A village with an active post office and some 350 residents at the junction of US 41A and KY 56 and 145, on the Henderson Co. line and 8 air miles n of Dixon. The brothers John H. and James Poole, first cousins to Sam Houston of Texas fame, arrived here from Nelson Co., Ky. in 1826 to settle on a 2400 acre military grant. John, a millwright, built a horse-powered grist mill and brick factory. The town was first called Poole's Mill as was the post office, established Jan. 29, 1855 with John's son, William W. as postmaster. By this time it had a store and shops, 2 taverns, and 4 tobacco factories. The town was later called Pooleville and it and the post office were renamed Poole in 1894. While the businesses and the active post office are in Webster Co. about a third of the residents now live in Henderson Co. (1) Betty Williams, letter to me, 5/1/1979; (2) Maralea Arnett, ANNALS & SCANDALS OF HENDERSON CO., KY. 1775-1975, 1976, Pp. 230-237.
POPLAR GROVE (Owen Co.): [Pahlp/lor Ghrohv] (Glencoe). This post office, in operation from 1838 to 1903, was named for its site in a grove of yellow poplars. The Poplar Grove Baptist Church, on US 127, 8 air miles n. of Owenton, was organized in 1827. The several farm families of this community now receive their mail from Glencoe, 4 miles n., in Gallatin Co. [Alma Greene, interview, 5/20/1976]
POPLAR PLAINS (Fleming Co.): [Pahp/ər Plänz] (Hillsboro). This hamlet with extinct post office at the junction of KY 111 and 156, 4½ air miles se of Flemingsburg, is believed to have been settled before 1792 by William Pearce, Sr. and his family. An attempt by the Pearces to name the community Pearceville was rejected by the other early residents who favored The Poplar Plains—which was later shortened to Poplar Plains—for its situation amid a grove of yellow poplars on a level stretch of land. By this name the local post office was established on or before Oct. 31, 1826 with William Pearce (probably a son) as postmaster. It soon became a prosperous trade center with a peak population of nearly 700 and was incorporated by the Kentucky legislature on Jan. 14, 1831. An early attempt to move the county's seat to Poplar Plains, then as now more centrally located than Flemingsburg, was unsuccessful. Since the post office closed in 1926, the 150 or so residents, who still patronize the local store and churches, have been on a Flemingsburg rural route. [Mrs. Martha Royse, interview, 9/26/1971]
POPLARVILLE (Pulaski Co.): [Poplarville] (Dykes). This active post office on KY 1097, 3/4 mile east of Buck Creek and 10 air miles southeast of Somerset, was established March 11, 1903 with Lawrence Sears, postmaster, and named for the many poplar trees in the vicinity. [Mary Weaver, interview, 3/23/1979]
PORT OLIVER (Allen Co.): [Pawrt Ahl/ə/ver] (Meador). An extinct community on the Barren River, believed to have been midway between the mouth of Big Difficult Creek and the gauging station of the Barren River Reservoir, 9 air miles n of Scottsville. One of the earliest communities in Allen Co., it appears by name on Munsell's Kentucky map of 1818. It was probably named for George Washington Oliver who had settled in that vicinity in the 1790s and begun the exploitation of a natural salt deposit on the river. Also taking advantage of the buffalo trace that had recently been surveyed and developed for travel between Lexington and Nashville (the so-called Stovall Road), Oliver opened a trading post and river shipping port. This settlement apparently grew sufficiently by 1815 to justify its being laid out as a town. On May 17, 1824 a post office called Port Oliver was established with Fielding Fant, postmaster, which, in 1825, was removed to Rocky Hill (q.v.), some 6 miles ne, in Barren Co., with Franklin Settle, postmaster. In 1833 a Barren Co. post office called Lewis was established by John Lewis at some undetermined site (perhaps the present Finney), though near enough to Port Oliver to be considered by at least one source to have served that community until it closed in 1846. The salt works established by Oliver probably reached its production peak in the mid 1840s when 400 bushels of salt a week are known to have been processed there. From this point in time, little is heard of the community or its industry. On the current topographic map the site is marked as Port Oliver Ford, and a Gainesville–Port Oliver Rd. is shown on state highway maps. 

POSSUM TROT (Marshall Co.): [Pahs/əm Traht] (Little Cypress).
A concentration of several large stores and other businesses at the junction of US 62, KY 1610, and the old Paducah-Calvert City Road, 10 air miles nnw of Benton, that can be traced back only to the construction of US 62 between Paducah and the Kentucky Dam. According to local tradition, Sol King and Buck Bolen were possum hunting in the area around the turn of the century, and one said to the other "If we don't catch one soon, these possums are going to trot across the road and be gone." A recent effort to change the name to Fairview was unsuccessful when, after an informal poll, it was decided to retain the more colorful name. The community never had a post office of its own but has always been dependent on Calvert City's, some 5½ road miles ne. [Ray Mofield, interviews, 8/4/1977, 8/28/1978]
POTTERS FORK (Letcher Co.): [Fahvaz Pawrk] (Jenkins West). A residential community strung out for a short distance along US 119 on Potters Fork (of Boone Fork of the North Fork of the Kentucky River), below the mouth of Grays Branch, 8½ air miles northeast of Whitesburg. The post office was established Dec. 23, 1891 and named for the creek which had been named for the Potter family, among that area's earliest and most distinguished residents. Though the post office was discontinued in 1913, it was several years before the community's economic importance as a trading center for the area coal camps was to be realized. Today the only businesses of significance are a weekend auction sale and the Community Press, one of the county's 2 weeklies. The 100 or so local residents now get their mail from the Cromona post office, a mile down the fork. [Wm. T. Cornett, interview, 12/24/1977]
POTTERTOWN (Calloway Co.): [Potter/town] (New Concord). This rural settlement with extinct post office on KY 280, 5½ air miles east of Murray, was named for the pottery works that developed there after the discovery of local clay deposits before the Civil War. It's not known when or by whom the vicinity was first settled or who actually developed the pottery industry there. Some say it was John Shell; others credit Willis Bonner. But while the Pottertown post office operated from 1888 to 1905, the pottery works were still producing by the late 1930s. Local farm families are now on a Murray rural route. [1] Edward Freeman, "Brandon's Mill, Pottertown, and Peter Hamlin Enrichen Glamour of Calloway" THE LEDGER & TIMES, 4/28/1938, P. 1; [2] Judy Maupin, "Pottertown" MURRAY LEDGER & TIMES, Sept. 17, 1977.
POVERTY (McLean Co.): [Pahv/ər/ti] (Calhoun). An extinct post office and hamlet at the junction of KY 140 and 256, 3½ air miles wnw of Calhoun. The name is said to have been applied to the shortlived post office (1902-1906) by a local physician, William Short. According to tradition, this was his way of ridiculing his snobbish neighbors who, having formed themselves into a group known as "the Social Circle", held that property, breeding, and cultural attributes clearly placed themselves a cut above everyone else in the community, including the good doctor. Much to their chagrin, the name has officially identified the place ever since, though recently some residents, now on a Calhoun rural route, have expressed preference for Eureka, the name of the community's old church and school. [(1) Katharyn Leachman, ms. on McLean Co. place names, Fall 1972; (2) Dave Callahan, "One Man's Spite Annoys Both Residents of Poverty" OWENSBORO MESS. & INQUIRER, 6/23/1972]
POWDERLY (Muhlenberg Co.): [Pow/der/leg (Greenville). A 6th class city with an active post office and some 630 residents, contiguous on the south to Greenville. The town sprang up around the Cooperative Coal Co. mine which was opened in 1887 by Terence V. Powderly, an early labor organizer. The post office was established Jan. 14, 1888 with H. Smith, postmaster, and the town was incorporated in 1963. ((1) Otto A. Rothert, A HIST. OF MUHL. CO. 1910, P. 388; (2) Amy Longest, "Powderly: Past & Present" GREENVILLE RECORD, 3/1911.)
POWDER MILLS (Hart Co.): [Pow'der Mhlz] (Hudgins). This extinct community on Lynn Camp Creek, 1½ miles from the Green Co. line and 11 air miles ne of Munfordville, was the site of Kentucky's first commercial powder mills. Built in 1811 by John Courts, these are said to have supplied Jackson's troops at the Battle of New Orleans and Union soldiers in the Civil War. This was the county's principal town in the 1820s with water-powered grist, carding, and saw mills and a tanyard; and its first post office, Fountain Powder Mills was in operation here from 1826 to 1846. The now extinct Powder Mills post office was established May 24, 1876 with Milton P. Ligett, postmaster. (1) Collins' HIST. Vol. 2, P. 334; (2) Judge Roy A. Cann's ms. Hist. of Hart Co., 1971, Pp. 14-6; (3) "Pioneer Industry in Hart Co." HART CO. HIST'L. SOC. Q., Vol. 3, 1/1971, Pp. 10-13
Established in 1852 from parts of Montgomery, Clark, and Estill Co's. and named for Lazarus W. Powell (1812-1867), Governor of Kentucky (1851-55) and U.S. Senator from Kentucky (1859-65).
POWELL VALLEY (Powell Co.): Powell Valley (Clay City). A hamlet at the junction of KY 15 and 82, just off the Mountain Parkway, at the Clay City Interchange, 1 mile W of Clay City and 4 air miles W of Stanton. The Powell family, for whose progenitor the community was named, still live there. Local service stations and a restaurant cater to Parkway traffic. Postal services have always been provided by the Clay City office. [Larry Meadows, interview, 11/30/1977]
POWERSBURG (Wayne Co.): [Pahrvz/bergh, Paer/əz/bergh] (Powersburg). A hamlet with extinct post office now centering at Hurts' store on KY 200, ½ mile s of its junction with KY 1009, ¾ mile sw of Otter Creek, and 9 air miles sw of Monticello. The post office was established Aug. 4, 1876 with Daniel D. Powers, postmaster, and named for the influential Wayne Co. Powers family whose progenitor was Virginia-born Revolutionary War veteran and pioneer settler, Jesse Powers. The post office was discontinued in 1972 and the community is now on a Monticello rural route. The Powersburg Elementary School, one of the 5 in the county system, is located just sw of the junction of KY 200 and 1009.

(1) Larry Hurt, interview, 5/4/1975; (2) Johnson, A CENT. OF WAYNE CO. P. 9
POWERSVILLE (Bracken Co.): [Pow/ez/vi/]] (Brooksville). This hamlet with extinct post office at the junction of KY 10 and 19, 2 air miles sw of Brooksville, was established at some unknown date on the site of a travelers inn between Augusta and Cynthiana. Philip Buckner, the founder of Augusta, is known to have moved here and was buried in the local cemetery in 1820. The local post office, established Nov. 13, 1841 with James W. Morford, postmaster, closed in 1904 and the vicinity is now on a Brooksville rural route. [RECOLLECTIONS, 1969, n.p.] 2-7
PREACHERSVILLE (Lincoln Co.): [Preech'z/vuhl] (Lancaster). A hamlet extending for over a mile along KY. 39 from a point ½ mile from the Garrard Co. line and 6 air miles e. of Stanford. The post office, established May 18, 1854, was named for the several preachers who lived there at that time. It closed in 1911 and the community is now served by the Crab Orchard post office, 3 ½ road miles s. [Ora Spaid; "Wonder How Two Towns Named?" LCJ, 7/3/1961]
PRESTON (Bath Co.): [Pres'ton] (Preston). A C&O Railroad station, post office, stores, a bank, and the widely scattered homes of some 200 persons constitutes this community 3½ air miles s of Owingsville. As Preston Station it was founded in 1881 and named for William Preston who donated the right-of-way to the then Elizabethtown Lexington & Big Sandy Railway on condition that a station named for him be located and maintained there. The local post office was established Aug. 21, 1882 as Crooks for a prominent area family and renamed Preston in 1913. A village that reached a peak population of 250 grew up around the station which served Owingsville and was the shipping point for area timber products. [Richards, HIST. OF BATH CO., 1961, P. 259-61]
PRESTONSBURG (Floyd Co.): [Prehs/tanz/bergh] (Prestonsburg, Lancer). A 4th class city of some 4000 persons and the seat of Floyd Co. Though centering at the junction of the eastern terminus of the Mountain Parkway (KY 144) and US 23/460, at the mouth of Middle Creek, 156 air miles e of downtown Louisville, it extends for some 6½ miles along the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River. It was founded and laid out in 1797 as Preston's Station on part of John Preston's 100,000 acre grant which had first been settled in 1791 by John Spurlock of Montgomery Co., Va. When Floyd Co. was established in 1799 it became its seat and was incorporated as a town in 1818. The post office was created as Floyd Court House on April 1, 1816 with John Havens, postmaster, and was renamed Prestonsburg or Prestonsburg Court House in the late 1820s. (1) Henry P. Scalf KLF, Pp. 104-6, 345; (2) Ibid. "The Early Settlements of the Big Sandy Valley, BOYD CO. PRESS-OBS. 1/22/1976, P. 2:4-5
PRICE (Floyd Co.): [Fras] (McDowell). A coal town with an active post office on KY 122 and (the) Left (Fork of) Beaver Creek, 17½ air miles S of Prestonsburg. The community and its post office, established Aug. 1, 1923 with Columbus Jackson, postmaster, were first called Gearheart for Robert Gearheart, a local resident. In 1948 they were renamed for Emory R. (Jack) Price, then general manager of Inland Steel Company's operations on Left Beaver and a highly respected community leader. In 1966 Inland Steel sold its area holdings to the Island Creek Coal Co. though by then Mr. Price had already retired and left the state. (1) Terry L. Thornsberry, t.p., PCC, spring, 1972; (2) Fred Hull, pm, Galveston, Ky. in a letter to Wm. G. Steel, 10/10/1923; (3) "Wheelwright, Ky. is Ultra-Modern" IN KENTUCKY, Vol. 12 (4), Winter edition, 1949, Pp. 38-9
PRICES MILL (Simpson Co.): 

A hamlet with extinct post office on the Red River, at the junction of KY 591 and 1885, 2 miles from the Tennessee state line and 7 air miles wsw of Franklin. It was named for a water-powered flour mill built by J.C. Price in 1844. The post office was established April 30, 1879 with Marion L. Fugate, postmaster, and closed in 1909. The mill had many owners and enjoyed a long history of service to farmers of both states. In recent years it has fallen into ruin, some parts having been torn away while others just collapsed. The area is now on a Franklin rural route.  

PRICETOWN (Casey Co.): [(Prahs/town)] (Liberty). A hamlet with extinct post office on US 127, a little over 1 air mile, ssw of Liberty. This vicinity may first have been settled by Hansfords and was early known as Walnut Hill for a large stand of walnut trees. The local post office was established Feb. 4, 1925 as Pricetown for Ed Price who then owned half the land on Walnut Hill Ridge, e of the present highway. His was the name chosen by the Post Office Department from a list submitted by John W. Weddle, Sr., storekeeper, and brother of Rupert C., the first postmaster. With the closing of the office in 1959, local residents have been getting their mail from Liberty. (1) Gladys & Otis Thomas, interview, 9/21/1978; (2) Mrs. R.C. Weddle, Jr. in CASEY CO. KY. 1806-1977, A FOLK HIST., compiled & edited by Gladys C. Thomas, 1978, P. 296
PRICETOWN (Fayette Co.): Five miles e. of Lexington's New Circle Rd., this predominantly black settlement on Todds Rd., 1 1/2 miles e of I 75, was named for Dr. Sanford Price who subdivided land his father, Willis had inherited from his pioneer family and established this settlement for freed slaves. Donald Burrell and Michael Putnam, Part 2, "Rural Settlements Housing Study of 1971, Housing Rept. of City-County Planning Comm." May 1971, P. 63.
PRICEVILLE (Hart Co.): [Preves/vihl] (Munfordville, Upton). Only a store and some homes remain of a once thriving farm trade center and manufacturing town at the junction of KY 728 and 1140, 7 air miles nw of Munfordville. It was founded in 1848 on land owned by James Corder and named for pioneer settler Meridith (or Marida) Price. The local post office was established as Vanfleet on April 4, 1882, and named for Ideral Vanfleet, the first postmaster. His successor, Thomas H. Bowles renamed it for the community in 1886. Residents now get their mail from Bonnieville, 5 road miles e. [1] "Coon" HART CO. NEWS, 2/6/1902, cited in HIST'L. SOC. Q., Vol. V (4), 10/1973, p. 8; (2) ACTS of the Ky. Gen. Ass., 1847/8, P. 115
PRIDE (Union Co.): [Pryed] (Sturgis). Now but a hamlet at the junction of KY 141 and 758, 8 air miles s of Morganfield, this was, for some years a prosperous farm trade center and rail shipping point. In 1906 it was laid off as a town around the station established the year before by the Morganfield and Atlanta Railroad on land purchased from Mr. and Mrs. D.T. Pride. Better roads and conveyances proved too competitive and rail traffic ended in 1939. It never had its own post office and Clay, 11 road miles se in Webster Co., now provides mail service. [MORGANFIELD SESQUICENT. HIST'L. PROJ. 8/30-9/4/1951, P. 16]
PRIMROSE (Lee Co.): [Primu̇rouch] (Tallega). This hamlet, with a store and active post office on KY. 2017, over a mile n. of KY. 52 and 5 air miles ene of Beattyville, was one of the oldest communities in the county. It is said to have been first settled by a Mr. Grey, a Lexington silversmith, in the 1830s, and may first have been called Greys Bend. He sold off his land to other settlers, one of whom, Patton Coomer, became the leading citizen, and the community came to be known as Pattonsville. Joseph Hieronymus established the local post office on July 21, 1893 and named it for the yellow flowers that bloomed in profusion in that area. (1) Nevyle Shackelford, interview, 7/8/1978; (2) LEE CO. CENT. 1870-1970, Pp. 267–271.
PRINCESS (Boyd Co.): [Frihs/s] (Ashland). This hamlet with extinct post office on Williams Creek, at the junction of US 60 and KY 5, and 6 air miles SW of Ashland, grew up around the shortlived Princess Coal Mine and Iron Furnace for which it was named. These were established in the mid 1870s by a company headed by Thomas W. Means. The furnace which opened in 1877 was a money loser and ceased operation after only 13 months. In 1883 it was dismantled and rebuilt in the same name in Botetourt Co., Va. A Princess post office served the area from 1887 to 1924 and the community, with a 1970 population of 175, is now on an Ashland rural route. (1) Wallace J. Williamson, interview, 3/6/1971; (2) Rist, KY. IRON FURN. 1974, Pp. 93-4.
PRINCETON (Caldwell Co.): [Prin'ceton] (Princeton East, Princeton West). A 4th class city of some 7000 residents and the more or less centrally located seat of Caldwell Co., on US 62 and the Western Kentucky Parkway, about 130 air miles SW of downtown Louisville. First called Eddy Grove for its location by a big swirling spring that was the head of Eddy Creek, it was renamed in 1817 for, and probably at the request of the heirs of, William Prince, a Virginia-born pioneer settler (1752-1810) who had acquired some 1700 acres there for Revolutionary War service. According to some accounts, his heirs had donated 40 of these acres for the relocation of the county's seat from Eddyville. In July 1817 the county court ordered that the town, laid off on land owned by Prince and Thomas Frazier, be called Princetown, which shortly thereafter became Princeton. The post office for this vicinity was established as Eddy Grove on Oct. 1, 1805 with Elisha Prince, postmaster, but by Dec. 19, 1817 it too had become Princeton. [Olive S. Eldred, interview, 10/1/1977]
VPRINTER (Salisbury Station) (Floyd Co.): [Pri'm/tər, Sahlz/behr/ee] (Harold). A hamlet with an active post office on KY 122, at the mouth of Spurlock Creek, a branch of Left (Fork of) Beaver Creek, and 9 air miles s of Prestonsburg. The post office was established May 26, 1909 with Henry H. Justice, postmaster, and named for John Printer, a local resident. When the Long Fork (now C&O) Railroad was built up Left Beaver around 1918, the station of Salisbury was established for this had been the site of an early settlement of Salsburys of which the Rev. William Salisbury (1785-1871) was the best known. From this vicinity at one time great amounts of maple and poplar timber were rafted down Beaver Creek and the Big Sandy River to the Catlettsburg market. (1) Henry P. Scalf, interview, 5/16/1971; (2) Ibid. KLF, Pp. 489-90; (3) Joan Elliott, interview, fall, 1970; (4) John I. Sturgill, WPA ms 1947-1950.
PROCTOR (Lee Co.): pronounced (Beattyville). Now a residential suburb of some 100 persons, just below the forks of the Kentucky River and across the river from (i.e. south of) Beattyville. The area may have been settled in the very early 19th century by pioneer and Indian fighter Archibald D. McGuire and named for the Rev. Joseph Proctor (1754-1844), a North Carolina born Indian fighter, turned Methodist minister, and one of the first permanent settlers of Estil Co. The Proctor post office was established April 4, 1843 with Nathan Jacobs, postmaster and discontinued in 1918. The first session of the Lee Co. court was held here in 1870 but the permanent seat was located at Beattyville. Saw and flour mills, a wool carding factory, and nearby coal mines which shipped their products down the river to Frankfort were the community's 19th century economic base. Postal services are now provided by Beattyville. (1) Nevyle Shackelford, interview, 7/8/1978; (2) LEE CO. CENT. 1870-1970, p. 21.
PROSPECT (Jefferson Co.): [Prahs/pehkt] (Anchorage). A 5th class city with an active post office and some 2000 residents, including some of the county's wealthiest business and professional families. This was once the terminus of the 12 mile long narrow-gauge Louisville Harrod Creek & Westport (later L&N) Railroad, located at the junction of the present US 42 and Rose Island Rd., ½ mile from the Oldham Co. line and 1½ air miles ne of the court house in downtown Louisville. The station is said to have been named in the late 1870s when the railroad was almost completed to what was, till then, aptly known as Sand Hill. Either someone admired the view from the hilltop or the prospects of ever completing the line was then in question.7/16 (Actually it never did reach Westport, 10 air miles ne). In 1881 the railroad, since defunct, was acquired by the L&N. The local post office of Wilhoyte, established Feb. 15, 1886 with A.C. Wilhoyte, postmaster, was renamed Prospect the following month. By 1959 the Prospect name had come to identify a 2 mile stretch of US 42 extending from beyond the Oldham Co. line to a point over a mile s of the Prospect Store and the post office across from the depot site and still the center of the community. [(1) Ward Sinclair & Harold Browning, "Prospect is Where Millionaires Meet with Commoners" LOU. TIMES, 11/30/1965, P. A14:1-6; (2) Hewitt Taylor, "Prospect" LOU. HERALD-POST, 10/21/1936; (3) Harry P. Hoskins, WPA ms] 724;722;916
PROSPERITY (Edmonson Co.): [Frahs/pehr/ə/tes] (Bee-Spring). A relatively isolated rural settlement on the New Salem Church Rd., 2 miles w of its junction with KY. 259, less than ¼ mile from the Grayson Co. line and 9 air miles n of Brownsville. According to Lancie Meredith, sometime in the early 20th century the local storekeeper observed that "this place is really beginning to prosper" and suggested this commendatory name which was obviously adopted. It just as obviously failed to live up to its name, never even acquiring a post office. Today local mail is obtained from Bee-Spring, 3½ road miles se. [Lancie Meredith, ms. on p.n. of Edmonson Co., 1972] 9½
PRESTONVILLE (Carroll Co.): [Prestonville] (Carrollton). For his services in the Revolutionary War, Col. William Preston of Virginia received a grant of several thousand acres on the Ohio River which was to include the site of the future town named for him. According to Collins’ History, he was a surveyor for Fincastle Co., Va. and had made his camp in 1773-4 at the mouth of the Kentucky River opposite the future city of Carrollton. In early 1795 Elijah Craig built a warehouse at this site and initiated flatboat and keelboat service up and down the Kentucky River. Two years later a town was chartered there by the Kentucky General Assembly and, on Nov. 26, 1844, a local post office was established by G.W. Lee. With the building of the railroads in the mid 19th century and the concomitant decline in river shipping, Prestonville lost its importance as a trading center; its post office had already closed by 1849. However, on Aug. 12, 1880, another post office called Wideawake, the location and even existence of which is not known to contemporary county historians, was established in the vicinity with Joseph S. Colyer, postmaster, and on April 13, 1893, its name was changed to Prestonville; or else the office was relocated there and given that name. Today, as county historian, Anna V. Parker, has observed, it is but a "skeleton" of its former self. Its post office is gone and its 250 residents are integrally tied to neighboring Carrollton. (1) Collins, HIST. Vol. 2, P. 238; (2) Anna V. Parker, "A Short Hist. of Carroll Co." REG. OF KHS, 1/1959, Pp. 35-48; (3) Mary Verhoeff, KY. RIVER NAVIGATION, Filson Club Publ.; (4) Mary Masterson & Ruth Adkinson, interview, 5/20/1978; (5) "Prestonville Was Once Larger than Old Port William" CARROLLTON NEWS-DEMO. Bicent. Issue, 2/21/74, P. 1:1-411, 119, 646, 670, 1330.
PROVIDENCE (Webster Co.): Providence, Nebo. The largest community in the county, this 4th class city of some 4400 residents in the heart of the western Kentucky coal fields is on the Hopkins Co. line, 6½ air miles ssw of Dixon. It was founded by Richard Savage who arrived there with his wife in 1820, built their home, and opened a store. The settlement that grew up around his store was first called Savageville but was renamed Providence when the post office was established Oct. 16, 1828. The name is traditionally believed to have been suggested by an old trader who, on his way from Henderson to Madisonville, had avoided a serious calamity thanks to the good samaritan efforts of local farmers. He was ever to bear witness that his succor had been an act of Providence. The city of this name in Rhode Island may also have influenced the naming of the Kentucky community which was chartered in 1840. This growing industrial city with an active post office has long served as trade, shipping, and service center for area mining operations. [Jack Hudgions, "Webster Town at One Time Called Savageville, Ky." HENDERSON GLEANER, 6/14/1940]
PROVO (Butler Co.): [Proh/voh] (South Hill). A community of scattered farms and homes centering on its post office on KY.1117, 1 mile s of the Green River and 7½ air miles w of Morgantown. The post office was established May 7, 1901 with William A. Pendley, postmaster, and named by Lena Stall and Hardin Rone for the city in Utah. The latter, according to George R. Stewart, had been named for Etienne Provost, "a French-Canadian trapper who explored the region in the 1820s." The Butler Co. community's last store, which had housed the post office, closed in 1978. Only the post office, a community center, and a nearby church continue to serve area residents. [(1) Jas. R. Holman, pm, Provo, Ky., letter to me, 5/9/1980; (2) Geo. R. Stewart, AM. P.N., P. 389]
Pryorsburg (Graves Co.): [Frah/yərз/berг] (Mayfield). A fairly prosperous town with extinct post office and some 250 residents on US 45 and the Illinois Central Gulf Railroad, just e of the Purchase Parkway and 3 air miles sw of Mayfield. The post office was established as Depot April 3, 1855 with Melbourn Saxon, postmaster, probably in anticipation of the arrival of the New Orleans & Ohio Railroad 2 years later. By that time the community may already have borne the name of its most influential landowner, Jonathan Pryor, a Virginian who had settled there by 1840. In its early years the community may also have been known as Boggy or Bogey for wheeled vehicles would often bog down in the poorly drained roadbed. The post office, renamed Pryorsburg on May 14, 1860, had a fairly long though intermittent career until it closed in 1960. Old Pryorsburg on the railroad has since been largely bypassed by the new settlement on the highway where most of the businesses are now located. In the vicinity also are a rendering plant and the plant of the Kentucky-Tennessee Clay Co. (1) Lon Carter Barton, interview, 8/5/1977; (2) Beulah Morgan Smith, "Pryorsburg Founder Friend of Andrew Jackson" Purch. Ed. of the Mayfield Mess, 12/27/1969, P. 110:5-6.
PRYSE (Estill Co.): [Prahs] (Cobhill). A hamlet with an active post office and a defunct L&N Railroad station in the Kentucky River bottoms, 5 air miles ese of Irvine. It is not known when David Pryse, a Welsh immigrant, arrived there but he is known to have purchased several hundred acres of choice farmland between the L&N tracks and the river and built one of the county's first brick homes. On March 9, 1904 he established and named the Pryse post office. A thriving company town grew up around a Texas Oil Co. refinery there by 1926 and was called Texola or Texola Station. When the company pulled out in 1945, selling its property to the Ashland Oil & Refining Co., the community returned to its previously rural status and is once again known only as Pryse. Though there are still operating wells in the vicinity, the oil must be shipped elsewhere for processing. Only Tucker Taylor's store is left to serve the 100 residents of this area. [1] Kathryn Carter, Place Names of Estill Co., unpub. ms., 1978 [2] Ibid., interview, 2/11/1978}
COUNTY:

PULASKI 653 sq. miles, Kentucky's 3rd largest. Pop. 45,697. Seat: Somerset. Established in 1798 from parts of Lincoln and Green Co's. and named for Count Casimir Pulaski (1748-1779), Polish patriot who gave his life to the American Revolutionary cause at the Battle of Savannah.
PULASKI (Pulaski Co.): [Pyu/laes/kee, Pyu/laes/kee] (Science Hill). This hamlet with an active post office on KY 1247 (old US 27), 6 air miles N of Somerset, probably occupied the site of an old stage coach stop called Higgins Station, likely named for Aaron Higgins, local teacher and farmer. The post office was established April 18, 1828 as Adams' Mill for the mill built there and operated by Alexander Adams (1799-1849) who was also the first postmaster. The post office was renamed Pulaski Station in 1879 for the station on the Cincinnati Southern (now Southern) Railroad, and became simply Pulaski in 1880. [Mary Weaver, interview, 3/23/1979]
PUNCHEON (Knott Co.): [Puhneh/an] (Kite). This active post office, 3/4 mile up Puncheon Branch of the Right Fork of Beaver Creek, 10 air miles ese of Hindman, was established April 4, 1900 with John Franklin, postmaster. It is said to have been named for the puncheon flooring of the building in which it was located. However, if the stream bore this name before 100, it may well have been named for a local industry, the splitting of poplar logs for the floors of early cabins. [Tom Sutton, interview, 6/18/1979]