THE POST OFFICES OF PULASKI COUNTY, KENTUCKY

Authorized by the Kentucky legislature on December 10, 1798, the state's twenty seventh county was taken from Lincoln and Green Counties and named for Count Kasmierz (or Casimir) Pulaski (1748-1779), the Polish patriot who gave his life in the American Revolutionary cause at the (October 7, 1779) Battle of Savannah.[1] From Pulaski's original 1,280 sq. mile area came parts of five other Kentucky counties.[2] Today Pulaski's 660 square mile area supports some 58,000 residents (an eighteen per cent increase over its 1990 population.)

As with much of the area south of the Bluegrass, Pulaski's terrain ranges from fairly rugged in the southeast, a section of knobs or small hills, to undulating farmland in the west. Much of the southeast and central part of the county is characterized by such subterranean drainage features as sinking creeks and springs and sinkholes reflected in several post office and settlement names.[3]

Pulaski has been one of Kentucky's best watered counties. Most of the eastern part of the county is drained by branches of the Rockcastle River (e.g. Bear, the Troublesomes, Beech. Turkey, Lick, Big and Little Clifty, and Line Creeks) which forms part of Pulaski's eastern boundary. The main branches of the Cumerland River, which crosses the southern part of the county, are Buck (with its Whetstone, Flat Lick, Brushy, Briery, and Caney Creeks), the South Fork River, Pitman Creek, Fishing Creek (with its Coldweather, Pointer, the Cliftys, and [another] Rocklick Creeks), White Oak, Faubush, and Wolf Creeks. Each figures significantly in the county's settlement history, and several gave their names to communities, neighborhoods, and post offices. The 50,250 acre Lake Cumberland, created in 1952 by the river's impoundment and the

construction of the Wolf Creek Dam downstream, gave rise to tourism as a major industry for Pulaski and neighboring counties.

Pulaski County's first settlement was in the wooded area early called Flat Lick. Pioneer families of Adams, Burtons, Dicks, Goggins, Hansfords, Mayfields, Newells, Owens, Richardsons, Tarters, Trimbles, and Weddles, many of them sired by Revolutionary War veterans, still populate the county.

Until the arrival of the Cincinnati Southern Railway (later called the Queen and Crescent, and now a part of the Norfolk Southern System) in 1876, the county's economic base was primarily subsistence farming, livestock raising, and some coal mining. Shortly after the Civil War, coal from several outlets in the eastern part of the county was being barged down the Cumberland to Nashville. This pretty much ended with the sinking of several barges in the treacherous Smith Shoals above Burnside. The Cincinnati Southern (then owned by the city of Cincinnati) crossed the county north to south, spurring the growth of towns in its right-of-way and providing freight service to Chattanooga by the spring of 1880.[4]

With successful coal, logging, and sawmill operations, the county's population peaked in 1920, then began a decline with outmigration. But in 1960 this was reversed with economic diversification, especially the rise of small business producing clothing, mobile homes, houseboats, air conditioner compresses, fiberglass satellite dishes, auto headlight lenses, and wooden pallets. Much of the recent population increase came with the return of many families on their retirement from jobs in the north. Extensive road improvements and the opening of I-75 and the Cumberland Parkway have made it one of Kentucky's most strategically located counties and a regional business, educational, and medical center.

Pulaski's 154 operating post offices will be considered below chrono-
logically by their locations in the several stream valleys and main roads
of the county. They'll be located more precisely by road miles from down-
town Somerset, the centrally located county seat, seventy six road miles
south of downtown Lexington (via US 27), or from older or larger offices
in the same areas.

SOMERSET AND TWO SHORTLIVEO NEIGHBORING POST OFFICES

The third class city of <u>Somerset</u> (with a 200~~2~~ population of ~~11,788~~)
is on US 27 and Ky 80, 39, and 1247 (old US 27), and at the east end of
the Cumberland Parkway. It was created as the county's seat in 1801 on
forty acres donated by William Dodson and, according to local tradition,
was named for the home county of a group of New Jersey settlers as con-
solation for not getting the seat located on their land just north of the
present city.[5] The local post office was established as <u>Somerset</u> on
January 1, 1803, with Archibald M. Sublette, postmaster (though from 1806
to 1818 it was also known as <u>Pulaski Court House</u>). The town received its
charter on January 6, 1812, was incorporated on February 18, 1846, and
incorporated as a city in February 1888.

The arrival of the railroad in the 1870s and the establishment here
of its division headquarters ushered in a building boom and gave rise to
the city's industrial development and prosperity. Nineteenth century
factories produced household furniture, buggies and carriages, and woolen
products. What became Ky 80, completed in the late 1930s, linking
Somerset and Pulaski County with its Laurel and Russell neighbors,
afforded local businesses lucrative markets and supply sources. Though
the railroad's influences on Somerset's economy declined after the Second
World War, the city's development continued with diversification (fuel

oil production, agricultural processing, tourism, a University of Kentucky community college, a regional hospital, and a daily newspaper). In the 1980s its central business district was revitalized and the six miles between the city and Lake Cumberland became the mecca for most of the county's retirees.

Some 2½ miles ssw of downtown Somerset, on the future US 27 and just south of the city's present limits, was the shortlived Bourbon post office. Though officially established in May 1901 it didn't open till May 14, 1903, with John C. Wait, postmaster, and closed after only six months. It was probably named for the inexplicably named Bourbon Precinct, though early twentieth century maps have identified the site as Burbon. It was near the site of the Daniel Boone National Forest headquarters.

From October 29, 1909 to mid September 1913 Andrew S. Frisbie and Hattie E. Lorton ran the Branch post office just north of Bourbon. Its name may refer to the local Allen Branch of Sinking Creek, a Pitman Creek tributary.

POST OFFICES ON THE MAIN CHANNEL OF THE CUMBERLAND RIVER

The extinct town of Waitsboro was at the river's head of navigation, less than six miles south of the court house. In 1844 it was established as Waitsborough and named for Cyrenius [seye/reen/əs] Wait (1794-1868) who arrived in Pulaski County from Chester, Massachusetts in 1818 and became a prominent businessman and the county's then largest landowner.[6] By the mid nineteenth century the town had become a prosperous shipping center for area farmers and processors. Its post office was established as Waitsboro on March 2, 1846, with William L. Wait, Cyrenius' brother, as postmaster. On January 5, 1864

Joseph B. Newell moved the office some 2½ miles southwest to a site on the south side of the river, just over the Wayne County line. He renamed it Clio and by this name it operated till December 2, 1885.[7] Sometime between the Civil War and 1880 Joseph Newell's Clio post office was moved about a half mile east to a site within Pulaski County, just above Alexander Chapel.[8]

Not to be confused with the Sloans Valley post office (see below) was Robert Mercer's Sloan post office, one fourth of a mile above (east of) Alexander Chapel, which succeeded Clio on February 19, 1898. The Sloans, an early Pulaski family, included William, Warder, and James Washington who had acquired land in the Cumberland valley in the 1830s and 4Ds.

Following Sloan's closing in late January 1905, the Waitsboro post office was re-established (on August 19, 1905) at its original site on the north bank of the river, with Samuel Owens Cowan, postmaster, but closed for good in mid April 190B. The town of Waitsboro declined predictably when more economical rail and motor traffic shifted trade away to other area locations. By the Second World War all that remained of the place was the local ferry. Now the site, one mile north of 8urnside, is under the lake and is overlooked by a small U.S. Corps of Engineers park and picnic area.

On March 26, 1828 the Rev. William Dickson, a Presbyterian preacher, established the Pulaski Church in Somerset. It was soon moved some four miles south to a site donated by Richard Goggin, about a mile north of Waitsboro on the river. In July 1830 it was renamed the Pisgah Presbyterian Church. It's said that the early Goggin settlers may have been inspired by a comparison of their first view from the top of the local hill to Moses' view of the Promised Land from the Scriptural Mount Pisgah. Before the return of the Waitsboro post office this area was served by

an office first called Stigall's Ferry just below the Waitsboro site.
This office was established by William L. Anderson on June 30, 1864
and named for the local ferry service begun around 1800 by William
Harvey Stigall. On July 1, 1867 Samuel R. Owens had the office moved
to the Pisgah site and renamed Garden Cottage for the aptly named
manse built for the Rev. James Barnes on Goggin family grounds. Since
the closing of this office in late February 1884 the Pisgah name has
identified the residential area around the church.

The area just above the mouth of the Cumberland River's South
Fork[9] was first settled around 1800. Less than half a mile below the
South Fork-Cumberland confluence was an elevation called The Point.
By the Civil War its location below the treacherous Smith Shoals had
given rise to an important regional trade center and shipping point
for area timber, livestock, and farm produce. According to contemporary
records the vicinity may have been called Point Isabel as early as 1832-
1833 when the first Cumberland River steamboats arrived here, and
certainly by 1859 when the Leslie map of eastern Kentucky showed this
name for the area just above the mouth of South Fork. Its name may
refer to the local legend of a maiden who, disappointed in love, jumped
off the bluff to her death, or (less likely) to an otherwise unidenti-
fied man named Isobel who allegedly ran a pioneer ferry here. During
the Civil War a detachment of General Ambrose E. Burnside's (1824-1881)
Union Army commandeered a section of this land (specifically the James
Ballou farm) for a "troop rendesvous and supply base" that soon came to
be known as Camp Burnside and later Point Burnside.

. The first post office to serve this area was Cumberland, established
on June 19, 1874, with Oliver W. Chafee, its only postmaster. Six
months after it closed in December 1876 it was re-established by Henry

Beaty as Point Isabel. It closed again the following year but was re-
authorized in 1879 as Point Burnside but opened on January 5, 1880 (with
Frederick S. Wallace, postmaster) as simply Burnside. By now, and
certainly when the community was incorporated on March 6, 1890, it had
also become an important rail shipping point for area timber products.
By the First World War the town had several stave mills and crosstie,
pencil, and faucet factories.

Prior to the impoundment of the river the Federal Government relo-
cated almost the entire town to the adjacent highlands to the south.
Now the town caters almost exclusively to the area's tourist trade.
Just south of/ in the South Fork embayment, is the 430 acre General
it,
Burnside Island State Park. Opened to the public in 1958 this had
been the pre-impoundment Bunker Hill, part of the Civil War fortifi-
cation. Today (2002) the fifth class city of Burnside on US 27 (and
Ky 90), 8½ miles south of Somerset, has an active post office and a
population of 637.

Extending along Ky 790, east from Ky 90 to the lake, the resident-
ial community of Bronston (a contraction of Browns Town) is focused
on an active post office named for Nicholas "Nix" Brown in whose store
it was established on February 6, 1882. Thomas C. Brown was its first
postmaster. Until the impoundment it was one mile below (west of) the
mouth of South Fork and Burnside, and nine miles south of Somerset.

Just north of the Pulaski-Laurel-McCreary Counties convergence, at
the mouth of the Cumberland's Rockcastle River branch, James Buchanan
Craig would establish the Roberta post office. But since Meade County
already had such an office, his was called Bird when it opened on April
27, 1906. It was discontinued in January 1918, re-established on
August 25, 1923 (with Robert L. Bolton, postmaster), and closed for
good in 1941. Neither name has been derived.

The Hargis [hahr/ghəs] post office, occupying several sites just south of the river, near the mouth of Buck Creek, was established on June 28, 1906 by its probable name source Sidney M. Hargis. His first name choice was Barnett for the office would serve the Barnetts Bend locality just above the Buck Creek confluence. When Hargis declined the appointment as postmaster, William T. Hyden was given that position. The office may have been in the newly created McCreary County from 1912 till its return to Pulaski by Ila M. Walker in the late spring of 1917. The neighborhood it served till it closed in 1959 is still called Possum Trot.

At the end of a side road in Haynes Bend (hence its name), half a mile north of the river and some fourteen miles southeast of Somerset, the Omega post office operated between July 2, 1927 and 1948. Storekeeper James M. Meece was its first postmaster.

POST OFFICES ON THE CUMBERLAND RIVER'S SOUTH FORK

The first of the four post offices in Pulaski's South Fork watershed, the inexplicably named Elcany, operated only from February 1, 1899 through April 1901, with George A. Hollers, its only postmaster. According to his Site Location Report, it would serve a locality called Freely, half a mile west of the Fork, 2½ miles south of the Cedar Sinking Creek, and three miles east of Wayne County's Kidder post office. An attempt by William H. Neely to re-establish it on April 15, 1904 was unsuccessful. That's all that's known of it.

One mile below (north of) the mouth of Cedar Sinking, also half a mile west of the South Fork, James P. Thompson established the How post office on March 3, 1900. Its name too is underived. It closed in mid July 1904 but was re-established by John A. Simpson as

Quinton on February 24, 1908. This office was probably named for one or more of the several nineteenth century Quinton families in Pulaski County (rather than, as has been suggested, for then President Roosevelt's son Quenton). When it closed in 1967 the office and hamlet it served were on Ky 790, 2.7 miles south of Bronston.

Not to be confused with the two Reno post offices, which it has been (see below),was Keno. It was established on May 1, 1902 by William Moses (called "Mose") Wilson whose first proposed name Wilson was then in use in Henry County. Keno was then selected, it's said, for Mose's favorite card game. From its first site, less than a mile east of South Fork and a mile north of its Indian Creek branch, it was moved in 1923 to the south bank of Indian. Ten years later it was returned to a point near its first site, at the end of (the present) Ky 751 where it closed on December 30, 1963.[10]

POST OFFICES IN THE CUMBERLAND RIVER'S BUCK CREEK WATERSHED

Buck Creek heads in a spring half a mile southeast of Halls Gap in Lincoln County, and after a sixty three mile run roughly south joins the river opposite Barnett Bend, north of Hargis. Like many streams so identified by eighteenth century travelers its name origin is in question. It may have referred to a Col. Buchanan, who may have accompanied Thomas Walker's first exploration party of 1747. But there's also an account of hunters having come across two buck deer fighting on the creek's banks. As described by Dr. Will N. Craig in his manuscript history of the Wilderness Trail in Lincoln County, "their antlers were so interlocked they couldn't separate themselves and thus were easy prey to the hunters."[11] According to another county tradition, one of the hunters took aim with one shot and killed both bucks together.

The first Buck Creek area post office, one mile east of the stream, and thirteen miles northeast of Somerset, was Dallas. It was established on March 2, 1846 with John Bobbitt, postmaster, and possibly named for John Tyler's vice president George Mifflin Dallas (1792-1864). It closed on February 28, 1905.

To serve this locality, but probably a mile or so east, William Price established another office on January 24, 1906. Instead of his first preferred names Price and Dallas, he and Perry Taylor operated it as Cress (probably named for a Pulaski County family) till mid May 1910.

Back at the Dallas site, Oscar Catron operated another office Catron between May 18, 1910 and December 15, 1915.

Finally, from June 1, 1916 to 1964 the Dallas area was again served, by Robert L. Bales' Dahl post office, said to have been named for his wife Dahla (called Dahl).

The 3.4 mile long Jugornot Hollow, which joins the river across from Dixie Bend, and the area around it were served by four post offices. In one popular account of its offbeat name, a local store, back in the 1880s (if not earlier) sold spirits but charged differently if customers brought their own containers. So each would be asked "jug or not?"[12] It might, though, stem from juggernaut, the Hindi term referring either to blind devotion or a big whaeled vehicle, for this was the spelling applied to that locality in an 1886 Site Location Report for the Thompsonville post office. However, from October 20, 1857 to mid January 1894 James P. Modrell (alone) served this office, named for Buck Creek landowners since the 1840s, just west of the creek, half a mile below Hound Hollow and about a mile and a half from the river, nearly two miles east of what we now know as the Jugornot Hollow.

Then there was the Meece post office at two neighboring sites on (the present) Rte. 1643, just east of the head of Jugornot Hollow. J.S. Cooper is said to have applied for this office as Simpson (in use in Breathitt County) but Charlie M. Hail was its first postmaster when it opened on June 13, 1908. Fourteen months later he was succeeded by Henry B. Meece of the family for which it was named. In 1936 it was moved by Edward Hail one fourth of a mile west to the north end of the old Jugornot Road, less than one fourth of a mile from Ky 769. Here it closed in 1959.

Adolphus B. Haynes' namesake post office opened on June 6, 1909 several hundred yards up Buck Creek, probably in (the present) Bolton Hollow. On June 25, 1921 John Berry Edwards had it moved 1½ miles north to his store which, according to his June 15 Site Location Report, was serving the Jugornot vicinity on (the present) Ky 769. It closed in 1933.

Finally, on September 15, 1909 George S. Gregory established a post office, probably at the head of Pumpkin Hollow, in the vicinity of the Zion Church, 2½ miles north of the river and about 8½ miles southeast of Somerset, where it's shown on a 1935 topographic map. Instead of his preference Barney it opened as Northfield (equally inexplicable). In 1943 Charles Edwards had it moved 1½ miles south to a site in Jugornot Hollow, on 796, a mile north of Haynes' final location, where it closed in 1957.

Somewhere west of the Bent (see below), according to several small scale ca. 1870s-80s maps, was the Ourham post office. Since postmaster-designate Linville W. Edwards' preferred Cold Spring was then in use in Campbell County, he renamed his new office for descendants of pioneer William Ourham. The office operated between

June 19, 1874 and July 18, 1883, one mile west of Buck Creek and eleven to twelve miles ene of Somerset.

The 8ent, applied to a precinct (aka Nunnely Springs) by 1900, was a large, relatively wide bend in Buck Creek, some 12½ miles ene of Somerset. To serve this area at a site on (the present) Rte. 1003, at the west end of the bend, was the 8ent post office. This operated from August 20, 1898 through July 1929, with Henry Wiser its first postmaster.

O.K. [oh/kā], one of Kentucky's nine two-letter named post offices[13], was also one of the state's few two county offices. According to local tradition, when John L. McMullen's several proposed names had been rejected by the Post Office Department he submitted an apparently resigned "o.k." which was interpreted as another offered name. Thus the O.K. post office was established in Lincoln County on February 2, 1882, one mile west of Buck Creek and one mile north of its Hurricane Creek branch. In 1888 James Allen Acton had the office moved two miles to the west bank of Buck, just below the mouth of Hurricane, where it remained till the spring of 1899. Then Nancy J. Estes had the office moved 1½ miles down Buck Creek to a site half a mile within Pulaski County. From 1917 till it closed in 1942 it was just east of Buck Creek, three fourths of a mile below the mouth of its Glade Fork and two miles from Lincoln County (on the present Ky 328.)

The Estes families of the Buck Creek valley, descendants of Stephen, Elisha, and Solomon, had their own post office. This was at the head of the one mile long Short Branch of Buck's Briary Creek tributary, some fourteen miles north of Somerset. Established as Estesburgh on June 10, 1886 in postmaster William H. Warren's store, it became Estesburg in 1894, and closed in July 1907. What remains of the community it served, which also had its own school, is still so identified on published maps.

On May 14, 1891 Josephine Reynolds established a post office half a mile east of Buck Creek, perhaps at what would be the last site of O.K. It would be called Troy (then in use in Woodford County) but instead was named Small. In 1905 John Rogers had the office moved nearly one mile east to an unknown site where it closed in June 1907. Neither Troy nor Small have been name derived.

Another family whose name was given to a Pulaski post office was Dykes. They were descendants of Greenbriar County, Virginia (now West Virginia)-born Elijah who settled in Pulaski County in the mid 1820s. To serve the family sawmill and a local store on the east side of Buck Creek James Lee Andrew Sears established a post office he would call Durham (by then in use in Christian County) or Sears but it opened, on July 10, 1888, as Dykes. By 1939 the office had moved to a site in Long Hollow, one mile west of the creek, on (the present) Ky 192, just east of Malvin Hill, and eleven miles east of Somerset. It closed there in 1964.

To serve a store, Thomas Hail's flour mill, and some other Buck Creek businesses, Andrew Marion Mounce applied for a post office. Among his proposed names Emma, Bell, Venus, and Hail, only the last was then not in use elsewhere. Thus, on June 19, 1890, with local storekeeper and hotel owner George S. Gregory as postmaster, the Hail post office was established about half a mile north of the Cumberland River's Barnett Bend. The Hails were the local descendants of another Virginia-born pioneer Stephen Hail. When James M. Hail became postmaster in the spring of 1914 he moved the office one mile east to (the present) Rte. 3269 (formerly 1097), half a mile south of the creek, where it closed in September 1942, reopened on June 20, 1946, and closed for good in 1953.

What is considered the shortest surface stream in the country has appropriately been called Short Creek. It runs for 150 feet between two caves, then flows underground to Buck Creek. Over the years this stream, roughly eleven miles northeast of Somerset, powered three mills. The first, at one end of the creek, was built in the mid 1880s and operated for a number of years by John Sears.[14] The creek is now owned by Elwood Taylor who runs a grocery store half a mile away.

The first of the two post office serving the Short Creek vicinity was established one mile east of Buck, with Eli Farmer its first postmaster. He would call it Mize for his wife Mary's family, descendants of W.R. Mize (1801-1881), a Buck Creek landowner since the 1830s. But as Mize was already a Morgan County office it was opened on April 18, 1891 as Lincoln (probably for the president). On March 15, 1892 James P. Sears had the office moved one mile northwest to Short Creek to serve the locality of this name, and here it closed at the end of 1913.

The other office to serve this locality, still called Lincoln or Short Creek, was established as Stab by James A. Mize on November 7, 1922. The story goes that when Mize was asked to choose a short name for his office (his first choice Goldleaf was apparently not acceptable and Mize was still in use in Morgan County) he came up with Stab but no one knows why. After several vicinity moves, ending just south of (the present) Ky 80, just east of Buck Creek and north of Short Creek, it closed in mid July 1994.

The Clarence post office, named for a local school teacher Clarence McQueary, was established by Jasper Newton Thompson on January 25, 1892 at some point (as yet unknown) 2½ miles east of Buck

Creek. Thompson's proposed name Osceola was then in use in Green County. In 1913 it was moved 1½ miles southwest to a point on (the present) Ky 865, half a mile north of Ky 70, and one mile east of Buck Creek. Here it closed in 1942.

To serve the aptly named Poplar Hollow locality, a mile east of Buck Creek, Lawrence Sears established the Poplarville post office on March 11, 1903. When it closed in 1984 it was on Rte. 1097 (now 3269), 15½ miles southeast of Somerset (via Ky 192 and 1097).

Roughly midway between Meece and Hail, at the south end of Hound Hollow, half a mile from Buck Creek, were the two vicinal sites of William F. Jones' Ahab post office. This Biblical name he attributed to the suggestion of a friend. For sixteen years, from June 2, 1917, the office served the 2½ mile long hollow said to have been named for the early hanging of a hound dog which had been tried and convicted for killing a local sheep.[15]

From May 6, 1925 through April 1964 Robert L. Hail and his wife Amanda Ellen ran the Ula post office one fourth of a mile east of Buck Creek and just south of The Bent. Since Robert's first proposed name Sears was already in use (see below) he replaced it with the name of his baby daughter Eula. For some reason it was spelled Ula in the application and this name was officially recorded and never changed. Eula later married Charles E. Meece and for years owned a Somerset hardware store.[16]

POST OFFICES ON BUCK CREEK'S BRUSHY CREEK BRANCH

The aptly named Brushy Creek heads in Rockcastle County, just east of the Lincoln County line, enters Pulaski County just east of Walnut Grove, and extends for 16½ miles to join Buck Creek, half a mile south of Elrod.

On August 1, 1890 Christopher G. McQueary established the LeRoy post office at some (as yet unknown) site between Buck Creek and its Brushy Branch. On March 8, 1895, as Leroy, his successor Mrs. Louise Pointer had it moved 1¼ miles east to a point up Brushy, near or at the mouth of Clifty Creek, thirteen miles northeast of Somerset. It closed on November 30, 1912.

One mile east of Buck Creek and just west of Brushy, Madison G. DeBord established the Elrod post office in the winter of 1897-98. He named it for the family of his wife Martha, the daughter of Rowan and Martha Elrod. Sometime later the office was at or near Leroy's final site. Elrod continued to operate till 1966.

Clifty Creek may have had two more post offices. Not precisely located but believed to have been on this stream was Thomas J. Earls' shortlived (February 1, 1892 to November 22, 1893) Isaacs. Since his proposed Earls was in use (as Earles) in Muhlenberg County, he named his office for one or more local families.

One of these families, John Lincoln Isaacs and his wife Stella, ran the Ocala post office [oh/kael/ə] just east of Clifty, 2½ miles north of Elrod, 3¼ miles southeast of Woodstock, and 2½ miles southeast of Elgin. This may have been the site of Earls' office. John Lincoln is said to have named his for the town in Florida where he had earlier worked. Pulaski's Ocala operated between March 3, 1908 and 1943.

FIVE POST OFFICES ON BUCK CREEK'S FLAT LICK CREEK

Flat Lick Creek heads just south of the old Bull Road, half a mile west of the White Oak Gap post office site on Ky 39. It extends for nearly eight miles, then sinks one fourth of a mile short of Buck Creek between Timmy Knob and Brushy Point.

Its first post office, the shortlived (April 6, 1837 to April 2, 1838) Flat Lick was off (the present) Ky 80,nine miles northeast of Somerset, near the site of the county's oldest Baptist church (organized on January 4, 1799), also named for the stream. Thomas J. Smith was its only postmaster.

On Ky 80, 2½ road miles west of Buck Creek and just below (east of) the site of the Flat Lick post office, were the several vicinity sites of the long lived (April 8, 1865 to July 1997) Shopville. It was named for first postmaster William Hargis' blacksmith shop, then a very popular meeting place for area residents. By the 1880s it was serving a rather important village with stores, a mill, a cooperage, wagonworks, and other businesses. Until recently it was also the site of one of Pulaski's six high schools.

A local landowning family of Dabneys may have given its name to a post office established at an unknown location on September 21, 1853, with Joel Hubbel (sic) its first postmaster. It closed in December 1862, and was re-established on April 28, 1868, with John Hubble, postmaster, closing again after only four months. It was re-established again , by James Doolin, on January 25, 1875 at the Davis Crossroads in the Flat Lick valley, eight miles north of Somerset, and moved in December 1928 to its final site on the Crab Orchard Road (now Ky 39) at its junction with Rte. 1317, half a mile west of the creek, and seven miles nne of Somerset, where it closed in 1965.

When it closed in 1934 the inexplicably named Coin post office. established on April 14, 1902 with Walker E. Gastineau, postmaster, was one third of a mile up Flat Lick's Salem Branch, 3¼ miles ese of Dabney's final location.

The Mark post office, said by some (but doubted by others) to have been named for the writer of the Gospel, was established on June 8, 1908 by Thomas A. Hail and operated till 1942 a short distance up the Big Spring Branch of Flat Lick, on (the present) Ky 461 (old Ky. 80), 7½ miles northeast of Somerset.

TWO POST OFFICES IN BUCK CREEK'S LONG HOLLOW

The probably aptly named hollow is 5 to 5½ miles long, extending from Pine Grove to Buck Creek, one mile southeast of Dykes.

The first of its two post offices Drum was established on November 2, 1903 with James Charley Barber, postmaster. The first names proposed for it were May for an area family, and Pine Grove for its locality, but it was named, it's said, for a large kerosene drum provided for the customers of a local store, or for an old drum near the store from which lady customers mounted their horses. It closed in 1975, nearly ten miles east of Somerset.

Two miles down the hollow from Drum, storekeeper Everett Lee Mounce opened a post office on February 15, 1929. Instead of his first proposed name Mounce it bore the name of his son Glyn till it closed in 1933.

OTHER BUCK CREEK WATERSHED POST OFFICES

On April 7, 1898 Harvey Pleasant Welborn [wehl/bərn] established a post office in his family's name one mile up Rocklick Branch of Buck. It closed in 1955 after several short distance moves in the 1930s.

Thomas P. Hays established the Albia post office on January 21, 1892 between Buck Creek's Caney Creek and Long Branch, fifteen miles

north of Somerset. Within a few years it was serving three area flour mills, a distillery, and several other businesses, and a community of some 200 residents. After several vicinity moves it was discontinued in 1942 when it was half a mile west of (the present) Rte. 1012 (the Goochtown Road). Its name has not been accounted for.

POST OFFICES IN THE CUMBERLAND RIVER'S PITMAN CREEK WATERSHED

Pitman Creek, so identified by late eighteenth century travelers, now heads in a pond just west of the Southern Railway tracks, about one mile south of the Floyd Station (Newell post office) site. It extends for at least thirty five miles to the river, one mile north of Bronston. It's not known for which, if any, of several area families it was named. Some say it honored Long Hunter William Pittman.[17]

To serve his rural store, on the west side of the creek, six miles ese of Somerset, Matthew (Mathy) Warren established a post office which would bear his family name. But for some reason it opened , on July 19, 1888, as Juno. Whence Juno has never been learned. Could it, like several other such named places elsewhere have been named for Jupiter's consort? Less likely was it named for the recently named (in 1881)city of Juneau in Alaska which honored the French Canadian goldminer Joseph Juneau. When it closed in January 1896, Pulaski's Juno had been serving several stores, R.S. "Doc" Keeney's saw and grist mill, a distillery, and other businesses, and the nearby Clay Hill Baptist Church that had just been organized.

On September 2, 1908 local storekeeper and coal mine operator Rufus J. Ashurst reopened the office, naming it for his daughter Ruth, and Warren again became postmaster.[18] When Ruth was suspended on January 3, 1985, it was still on the west side of Pitman and Ky 192, 5½ miles ese of Somerset.

According to sole postmaster Charles A. Bishop's Site Location
Report for his Gertie post office, it was 1½ miles east of Pitman
Creek, midway between Science Hill and Oabney, but it's not other-
wise precisely located. Neither his first preference Casky nor
Gertie have been name derived. It wasn't, as some have suggested,
named for Bishop's wife who was Mattie. It operated from June 20,
1902 through March 1914.

For most of its existence the Alcalde [ael/kaeld/ə] post office
was on Pitman Creek and (the present) Ky 769, 4½ to 5 miles south-
east of Somerset. To serve the Enterprise locality (around a church
of that name) 8enjamin F. Hamilton, a Spanish-American War veteran,
established a post office. Since Enterprise was then in use in
Carter County, he named his the Spanish word for mayor, and it
opened on May 22, 1907. A short time before its suspension on Novem-
ber 3, 1988 it was moved two thirds of a mile up the road (southeast)
to a site just beyond the New Enterprise Church.

Also on Ky 769, a mere three tenths of a mile southeast of
Alcalde's final site, was the Strawberry [straw/bə/rea] post office.
It was established on April 24, 1900 with William E. Kelly, post-
master, named for the many local strawberry patches, and closed after
forty years.

Grundy, an intermittently operating office, between April 28,
1847 and 1943 (with Robert Graves, its first postmaster), was named
for Felix K. Grundy (1777-1840), an early chief justice of the
Kentucky Court of Appeals (1807-08) and later Congressman (1811-1814)
and U.S. Senator (1829-38 and 1839-40) from Tennessee. When its town
was incorporated on March 10, 1854 it had stores, two hotels, carding
and shoe factories, a school, and a church. When the office closed
it was on (the present) Ky 692, at the head of the 2.7 mile long

Rocklick Creek of Pitman, six miles northeast of Somerset.

POST OFFICES IN THE CUMBERLAND RIVER'S FISHING CREEK WATERSHED

This forty mile long stream, so identified by eighteenth century travelers and shown on 8arker's historic 1795 map, has never been name derived. It heads two miles northeast of Kings Mountain in Lincoln County, forms the Lincoln-Casey Counties line for about 5½ miles, and extends through Pulaski County for twenty six miles (the lower thirteen miles in Lake Cumberland).

The earliest post office in Pulaski's Fishing Creek valley, the inexplicably named Shermansville, was established just within Casey County on August 16, 1871, with John Overstreet its first postmaster. His successor James M. Adams (May 1872) had a flour mill there, and nearby was John Adams' shingle mill. In November 1885 James' successor George M. Adams had the office moved to a Pulaski County site within forty yards of the Casey line, one hundred yards west of the creek, half a mile southwest of the Casey-Lincoln-Pulaski Counties convergence, and thirteen miles north of Somerset. Here it closed on January 29, 1896.

Instructed to select another name for his proposed Wesley post office to serve that locality at the mouth of Fishing Creek's Buncombe Branch (four miles sse of Shermansville and nine miles nnw of Somerset), Ansel L. Wood (1835-1890) submitted his own name, and Ansel opened on June 18, 1886. 8y the time it closed (in 1968) the Ansel name had also been applied to a nearby church, school, and cemetery.

After oil was discovered about the mouth of Fishing's Coldweather Creek, area residents named their proposed local office Oil Centre. It opened on June 30, 1891 with Quaries M. Cooper, postmaster. Two years

later it became Oil Center. Though the anticipated boom never materialized, the post office retained its name, and moved from the west to the east side of Fishing. It closed in 1950 and its site is now three fourths of a mile north of the Cumberland Parkway, in Lake Cumberland's Fishing Creek embayment, and 6½ miles west of Somerset.

Also on June 30, 1891 Thomas D. Dick established the Pointer post office some five miles up Pointer Creek. The 8.7 mile long stream which heads about one mile east of the Casey County line and joins Fishing three fourths of a mile above (north of) the mouth of Coldweather, was named for several related Pointer families. By 1915 the office had moved a mile south onto the aptly named Hickory Nut Ridge where it served that neighborhood (between Pointer and Coldweather), fourteen miles wnw of Somerset, till it closed in 1985.

On (the present) Rte. 1642, half a mile east of the Fishing Creek embayment (and 8½ miles southwest of Somerset), was the Shafter post office. In operation from June 15, 1899 through June 1917, it was named by its first postmaster Spanish-American War veteran Reuben Otho Jones for General William Rufus Shafter (1835-1906), the commander of Cuban land operations in that recent conflict.

According to sole postmaster Richard Walter Lester's Site Location Report, his proposed Lawton post office (in use in Carter County) would be 1½ miles east of Fishing and its Clifty Creek branch, 4½ miles northeast of Oil Center, five miles southeast of Ansel, and five miles southwest of Science Hill. It operated, though, as Kincheon between April 9 and August 15, 1900. Its brief existence has not been explained, and neither name has been derived.

To serve the Center Post locality just above the mouth of Fishing's Rocklick Creek, Hugh Frank Taylor established a post office he named for

a recent arrival W.P. "Pete" Hogue. From January 31, 1908 to 1983 Hogue occupied several sites on both sides of Fishing, most recently at the junction of Rtes. 1676 and 1246 (now 3264).

Imprecisely located one mile west of Fishing Creek (about three miles northwest of Shafter and six miles southwest of Somerset), the Traylor post office operated from April 24, 1908 through November 1913. Robert Hudson and Wilmuth Brown were its only postmasters. Traylor family(ies), the office's likely name source, lived at several sites in the Cumberland valley.

Some 300 yards west of Fishing Creek, probably just west of the pre-impoundment old Ky 80 bridge (three miles east of Nancy, 3½ miles south of Oil Center, and five miles west of Somerset), Vincent L. Gossett established an office he would name for his family but operated it, only between April 30 and mid September 1908, as Fishing Creek.

Sometime in the 1920s a Mr. Gouley dammed a natural drainage area leading to a creek, creating a ninety acre shallow pond he named for himself. In the winter of 1930-31 Oscar Muse established in that vicinity the Gouley post office which, on March 12, 1931, he renamed Mendel for a friend. This office, midway between (the present) Ky 235 and Fishing Creek (one mile east) lasted only a year. Shortly thereafter the Gouley Pond was drained and its site became farmland.

ROCKLICK CREEK'S TWO OTHER OFFICES

Fishing's ten mile long Rocklick Creek heads in Casey County, about one mile north of Joyce. The Nora post office was probably at the mouth of Little Rocklick, 3¾ miles above Fishing, near Hogue. The first name proposed by its only postmaster William P. Hogue was Schley [shleye] for Admiral Winfield Scott Schley (1839-1911), the hero of

the Spanish-American War battle of Santiago (July 1898). Since a Logan County office had already pre-empted that name, Hogue may have chosen Nora for a nineteen year old neighbor Nora A. Marcy. The office operated for only elevan months, from September 9, 1898. It was re-established on June 13, 19D8 as Velber (name underived) with John D. Compton, its only postmaster, and operated through February 1927.

TWO SHORTLIVED CLIFTY CREEK OFFICES

Given as Big Clifty on recent published maps this thirteen mile long stream joins Fishing Creek one mile east of the Oil Center site. The aptly named Cliffdale operated at two sites in the Clifty valley from August 17, 1903 through June 1907. Mattison E. Ellison was the first of its three postmasters.

The Mount Zion post office, named for a nearby church and school, was on Rte. 1676, just north of the 2 3/4 mile long Little Clifty Creek, three miles west of Science Hill,and three miles northeast of Hogue. Mitchell C. Wesley ran the office for three years from June 2, 1930.

POST OFFICES IN THE ROCKCASTLE RIVER WATERSHED

The seventy five mile long Rockcastle River heads at the confluence of its Middle and South Forks in Jackson County, drains northwest Laurel County and southeast Rockcastle County, and forms Pulaski's eastern boundary with Laurel. It was first called the Lawless River for a member of Dr. Walker's 1750 exploration party, but was renamed in 1767 by Long Hunter Isaac Lindsey for a huge shelter-providing overhang some four miles south of Livingston (in Rockcastle County), one of a number of natural formations pioneers referred to as "rockcastles".

The Langford post office at the mouth of Lick Creek, 15½ air miles east of Somerset, was named for one or more area families descended from Stephen Langford who had acquired land in Rockcastle valleys in the 1830s and 40s. It was operated by Francis B. Linville, an early county assessor, only between March 16 and August 9, 1883.

A shortlived post office (July 13, 1901 through December 1902) no one recalls or can explain is Gulf located, thus far, only on the Rockcastle River. Could it have been in the vicinity of what's shown on recent topographic maps as Gulf Ridge between Bear Creek and Pole Bridge Branch, about 1½ miles north of Rockcastle's Cumberland River confluence? James T. Littrell was its only postmaster.

Six post offices served the watershed of the Rockcastle River's Line Creek. This 9¼ mile long stream heads just south of Kincade Ridge in Rockcastle County, parallels the Rockcastle-Pulaski counties line, and joins the river less than half a mile below (south of) the Pulaski-Rockcastle-Laurel Counties convergence.

Its first post office was Line Creek. This office, established on May 4, 1848 by Charles Warren, operated intermittently at several Line Creek locations, including a stretch in Rockcastle County in the late 1880s. When it closed on September 30, 1913 it was on the creek between its Buffalo and Elkhorn branches, half a mile from the Rockcastle County line, and 21½ miles ene of Somerset.

Some three miles above the Line Creek post office (when it was one mile from the river) was Madline. This office was established on March 25, 1891 by Jackson Price whose preferred name Noble was in use in Breathitt County. Neither name has been derived. The office closed in mid March 1894.

From September 27, 1897 through March 1903 John W. Whiteaker and Sallie V. Speaks operated the Deboe post office one mile up the Lacey Fork of Line Creek, at the junction of (the present) Ky 80 and 1956 (old 80), nineteen miles ene of Somerset. Since there were no such families in the county then, one wonders if the office could have been named for William Joseph Deboe (1849-1927), a member of the Kentucky Senate from Crittenden County (1893-97) and a U.S. Senator between March 4, 1897 and March 3, 1903.

On September 4, 1903 Jesse J. McDonald reopened the office as Rulo (name source also unknown). In 1904 he moved it 2½ miles southeast to a site three fourths of a mile west of the river and three fourths of a mile east of its Big Clifty Creek branch where he continued it through March 1914.

On February 24, 1923 Deboe's Lacey Fork vicinity was given another post office by Louis H. Cress just south of the mouth of Lacey's Sugar Camp Branch. While residents were considering what to do after several names, including Deboe, had been rejected by the Post Office Department, Henry Whiteaker, a young fellow whose nickname was Squib arrived on the scene and inspired someone to suggest his name. It was submitted and accepted. It continued to serve the Lacey Fork vicinity till 1975.

The Conrard [kahn/ərd] post office, established on September 16, 1899, was just above the head of the 1½ mile long Lovins Branch of Line Creek when it closed in May 1975. As first postmaster William R. Burdine's own name was in use in Letcher County he named it instead for Charles A. Conrard (1866-1918), then secretary to the Fourth Assistant Postmaster General and later (1901-09) Chief Clerk of the Post Office Department.[19]

TWO POST OFFICES NEAR THE ROCKCASTLE RIVER'S BIG CLIFTY CREEK

Somewhere between Big Clifty and its Dry Fork, Amos Chaney established, on October 19, 1891, the Skip post office. In August 1923 it was moved one mile northeast to a point half a mile north of Big Clifty, two miles south of Squib, and (what would be) two miles northeast of Ano, where it closed in 1934. Its name has not been explained.

Near the head of Dry Fork were the several sites of the Ano post office (name also underived). It was established on September 15, 1906 with William M. Vanhook, its first postmaster. For some time after June 1907 the office and a store were in Amos Chaney's home. Till it closed in 1964 it was in Harvey and Laura Whitaker's store, 4½ miles south of Squib, and 3½ (stream) miles north of the river, where it served the Clifty Grove Baptist Church, half a mile east.

SIXTEEN POST OFFICES IN WESTERN PULASKI COUNTY (EVERYTHING WEST OF A LINE BETWEEN THE WAYNE-RUSSELL-PULASKI COUNTIES CONVERGENCE AND THE LINCOLN-CASEY-PULASKI COUNTIES CONVERGENCE

The inexplicably named Waterloo was the earliest post office in western Pulaski County. Established by Josiah W. Duck on September 27, 1839 at site unknown it lasted only till mid November. It was re-established in February 1846 by John M. Weddle also at a site unknown. By 1885 it was two miles southeast of the (then) Cains Store post office, five miles north of Faubush, and some fifteen miles west of Somerset. By the mid nineties it was serving a village with several stores and other businesses. Several area moves later brought it, by the time it closed in mid April 1917, just south of the Charlie Branch of Coldweather Creek, four miles northwest of Nancy and four miles northeast of Faubush (half a mile northeast of [the present] Ky 80

Interchange with the Cumberland Parkway.)

The Cains Store post office was named for Smith W. Cain's store in which it was established on March 30, 1863. Christopher C. Gossett was its first postmaster. By the turn of the century the name Cain-town had been applied to the community it continued to serve at several sites just west of the head of the Cumberland River's Wolf Creek. By the early 1960s the post office had been moved to its final site just east of the junction of Ky 80 and 837, at the north end of Tick Ridge and 15¼ miles west of Somerset. Here it closed on March 31, 1977. Nothing now marks the original post office-store site.

At or near the junction of Ky 196 and 1664, twelve miles west of Somerset, where the Burnetta post office closed in 1955, is the site of (Old) Harrison, the first settlement in the western part of Pulaski County and an early contender for the county's seat. It was founded and laid out in 1841 by its landowner, Wythe County, Virginia-born John Milton Weddle and named for his son Harrison. A once prosperous town, incorporated the following year with some 300 residents, it soon boasted several stores, a saloon, tannery, mill, and the Mount Pisgah Baptist Church.

For reasons I'm not aware, sometime after the Civil War, the town's businesses began to move half a mile west to a big spring just north of the head of Pierce Branch of Faubush Creek. On May 6, 1879 Hugh Frank McBeath, a Harrison storekeeper, established by the spring that area's first post office which he named Faubush [faw/boosh]. Sometime later it was moved about a mile west to the junction of (the present) Ky 196 and 3262, where it was suspended on October 2, 1992.

The Faubush post office and the two sited community that grew up around it were undoubtedly named for the nearby creek, but why was

the creek so named? It's more commonly accepted that the creek had

been named sometime before the Civil War for an Indian word meaning

"falling waters", referring to several small area waterfalls. It's

less likely to have been named for a Forbes or Forbis family as some

others have suggested, for no such families are listed in any mid

nineteenth century county records, or to be a corruption of fallbush

for a fallen bush said to have been a pioneer landmark. Yet, several

mid and late nineteenth century maps identify the stream as Forbushers

Creek, and on a 1911 topographic map it's spelled Forbush.[20]

Burnetta, at or near the site of old Harrison, was established on

November 9, 1886 with James S. Weddle, its first postmaster. It closed

in mid April 1913, was re-established on December 3, 1921 with Thomas

Wesley Pierce, local millowner-storekeeper, as postmaster, and closed

for good on February 15, 1955. County historians have offered at least

two possible name derivations. It may have been named for one or more

area Burnett families or for a 8urnetta Duck (1884-1916) who was later

to marry Christopher C. Gossett. Nothing about her, though, is confirmed.

Fr. Leon Hughes, in giving the land for a school between the head of

Faubush Creek and its Pierce Branch (about a mile and a half south of

Faubush) requested it be named for his friend Dr. Lorenz, a Louisville

surgeon. As John Milford Wilson's preferred name Millville for the post

office he would establish at that site was in use in Woodford County,

he also called it Lorenz. The office served a small settlement of some

sixty residents from May 8, 19C3 through May 1912.

Imprecisely located between Cains Store and Waterloo, and about

fifteen miles west of Somerset, was Retta. Named for Ooretta "Retta" C.

Barker (1870-1918), daughter of local storekeeper Ebeneser T. "Dock"

Barker, this office operated from June 30, 1890 through December 1910,

with Marshall Dick and "Dock" Barker its only postmasters.

Somewhere on Wolf Creek, between Faubush and Tick Ridge, Aaron Wilson (1861-1938) maintained the Aaron post office from November 27, 1893 through August 1894.

Naomi (or Naoma) Tarter (1860-1898), daughter of C.W. Trimble, Sr., was the name source of her storekeeper husband Samuel Tarter's July 9, 1897 to September 1962 post office. The office was variously located--most recently at the junction of Ky 761 and 1664, six miles ssw of Nancy--and its name was variously pronounced nee/oh/mee, nā/ohm/ǝ, and nǝ/yoh/mǝ. Naomi herself is said to have actually maintained the office for her husband though he was its first postmaster-of-record.

Another shortlived, little known, and inexplicably named office Fonda was operated from August 3, 1904 through June 1905 by Claborne Anderson "Anse" Madden. It's only known to have been somewhere between (the present) Ky 80 and Coldweather Creek, roughly midway between Nancy, Oil Center, and Waterloo.

The Rev. James W. Ingle, who was associated with two Pulaski post offices, gave his name to Ingle, which he established on August 4, 1905. According to his Site Location Report it would be one mile west of Wolf Creek, four miles southwest of Cains Store, and nearly four miles northwest of Faubush. When it was suspended on June 1, 1990 it was on Tick Ridge and Ky 837, just north of the Cumberland Parkway and thus about seventeen miles west of Somerset.

After he left the Ingle post office in 1907 James W. started another office, three miles northwest. Since his first proposed name Viola was in use in Graves County, he named it Reno and opened it on April 21, 1908. (For the record, an earlier Reno post office was in operation in Pulaski County from June 20, 1899 through August 1907 with William A. Gregory, its only postmaster. This was probably in Hound Hollow, 1½ miles west of Buck

Creek, two miles northwest of Hail, and 4½ miles ese of Strawberry.)
Could either or both of these offices, like the city in Nevada
and several other U.S. places, have been named for Major General Jesse
Lee Reno, a Wheeling, W.Va. native, who was killed in the Battle of South
Mountain, Maryland in 1862? Pulaski had no Reno families at that time.
When the second Reno closed on November 30, 1916 it was 400 yards from
the Casey County line and three miles west of Cains Store.

The Oorena post office, from May 1, 1906 through February 1950, served
the Pulaski-Russell Counties border that had earlier (1903 to 1905) been
served by Russell County's Duly post office. When it closed Dorena (name
as yet unexplained) was 0.2 miles within Pulaski County and half a mile
west of Wolf Creek's House Fork. Fountain W. Ray was its first postmaster.
(For several months in 1929 Oorena may even have operated fifty yards with-
in Russell County.)

On August 1, 1906 Rufus Tarter established a post office somewhere
west of White Oak Creek, which he named for Wyatt Norfleet, M.D. (1836-
1906) whose family ran the local store and who gave the land for the local
school. Several subsequent moves brought Norfleet to (the present) Rte. 1664,
two miles north of Naomi and 2½ miles south of Burnetta, where it was dis-
continued in 1962.[21]

To serve the Shady Grove locality (name then in use by a Crittenden
County post office) on (the present) Rte. 1676, midway between Velber and
the Casey County line, George Cleve Gifford, on August 31, 1908, estab-
lished the Mangum post office which he named for his former residence,
the seat of Oklahoma's Greer County. It closed in 1980.

Ray was the first name Oscar Oick proposed for his post office
serving the Kingbee Ridge locality on Rte. 1676, midway between Hogue and
Mangum. But he opened it on November 27, 1922 as Kingbee, the name also

applied to the local church and school. A possible clue to the name's derivation comes from the late Missouri place names scholar Robert Lee Ramsey, at least as applied to a Ripley County, Missouri post office. He characterized Kingsbee as an "Americanism in the sense of supreme ruler, master, aristocrat."[22] The Pulaski County office closed in 1983.

Lucy (Morris) (Mrs. 8rent) Norfleet named a post office for her young daughter Uma to serve the Cooks Chapel locality on (the present) Ky 196, 2½ miles southwest of Faubush. It operated for only two years from February 3, 1931.[23]

POST OFFICES ON THE SOUTHERN RAILWAY'S RIGHT-OF-WAY

By 1880 the Cincinnati Southern Railway had been extended north-south through Pulaski County on its 336 mile run from Cincinnati to Chattanooga, Tennessee. In September 1881 the line owned by the Ohio city was leased to the Cincinnati New Orleans and Texas Pacific Railway Company and soon became a part of Baron d'Erlanger's Crescent City system which, by 1894, had become the Southern Railway Company. In 1982 this system merged with the Norfolk and Western Railway to become the Norfolk Southern.[24]

Pulaski County's second post office, Adams' Mills, was established on April 18, 182B by Alexander Adams (1799-1849)[25] whose mill was first located in Dumpling Cave, at the head of Dumpling Hollow (just west of Cave Hill), and about one mile east of Fishing Creek. Sometime before 1B38 the mill, and probably the post office, were moved to the creek. By June 1876 the Adams Mills post office was serving the Buncombe locality two miles east of the creek and five miles north of Science Hill.[26] In 1879, with the arrival of the Cincinnati Southern

Railway, the office was moved to the site of an old stage coach stop (on what became US 27 and is now Ky 1247) called (Aaron) Higgins Station near the tracks. With Mack Newell, postmaster, it was renamed, on April 4, 1879, Pulaski Station for the county, and became simply Pulaski the following year. Here, some 8½ rail miles north of Somerset, it was suspended on November 30, 1984.

In apparent sympathy with the expansionist sentiments of the so-called "Ostend Manifesto" which would force Spain to yield, by sale or, if necessary, by force, its claims to Cuba, several American places assumed the name of that Caribbean island. One was the Cuba post office established by Armstrong Adams on October 5, 1855 on Pulaski County's Briary Creek (a Buck Creek tributary). It closed on April 23, 1857 but was re-established, on April 17, 1858 (with John V. Higgins, postmaster). Since Cuba had by then been assumed by a new Graves County office, it was inexplicably named Cato. After a non-continuous existence it was moved, on August 29, 1877, two miles northwest to the new railroad and renamed Eubanks Station for the area landowner Wesley Eubanks. On October 6, 1880 the post office became simply Eubank and the town growing up around it was incorporated in that name on January 18. 1886. Today the sixth class city of Eubank (with an active post office and a 2000 population of 358) centers at the junction of Ky 70 and 1247, half a mile west of (new) US 27 and five rail miles north of Pulaski.

Six rail miles north of Somerset has been the rail station, active post office, and sixth class city of Science Hill. It's said to have been named by William J. Bobbitt, a scientist who spent much time in that vicinity collecting and analyzing rocks.[27] By the time the Science Hill post office was established by William B. Gragg on June 19, 1874

the vicinity had a flour mill and was an area farm trade center. (The
post office is said by some to have been anticipated by the shortlived
[January 2, 1855 to April 15, 1859] but unlocated Dobbsville, named
for its first postmaster William F. Oobbs.) The town, incorporated on
April 8, 1882, still provides basic services to its 2000 population of
634, mostly commuters to Somerset jobs.

Shortly after the turn of the nineteenth century Major Samuel
Bracken Tate (1775-1861) acquired land in the area east of the Cumber-
land River's South Fork. Sometime after the Civil War a descendant
opened a store some two miles southeast of Point Isabel-Burnside and,
on June 19, 1874, (with T.G. Smith, postmaster), a post office was
established here as Tate's Store. Only three weeks later its name
was changed to Tatesville, and in 1894 the medial "s" was dropped. By
the turn of the twentieth century it was serving a fairsized village
with several stores and mills, a Southern Railway station, and a large
lumber operation. The office continues to serve a village with char-
coal ovens, a quarry, other businesses and homes centered on both
sides of the tracks and US 27.

Some 2½ miles southeast of Tateville was the first site of the
Sloans Valley station and post office. They and the small village
they served (with two stores, stave and sawmills) were named for
Benjamin Sloan, a Virginian, who, attracted by the local saltpeter
deposits, sugar trees, and wild game, had settled there before 1800.
The office was established on February 5, 1879, with George P. Lester,
postmaster, and the station soon became a rail shipper for area timber.
After the railroad was rerouted to the west the office and a store
were moved about a mile east on US 27, and from 1984 to June 1997 the
office was a Burnside CPO.

To serve a rapidly growing village along the/road, two miles south
of Science Hill, James M. Clark, a local sawmill operator, established,
on February 24, 1880, the Norwood post office which he named for the
town north of Cincinnati whence he came.[28] The Pulaski County office
closed in 1933.

Several related Govers acquired land in the Pitman valley before
the Civil War. To serve the locality by then known as Gover's [ghoh/vərz]
on the railroad, east of the creek, three miles north of Burnside, and
five miles south of Somerset, the Gover post office was established on
July 19, 1880. William Henry Humble, its first postmaster, was succeeded
by Wesley Bruce Gover in March 1883. It closed on the first of February
1887 and its site later became a part of the aptly named Cedar Grove
neighborhood.

Soon after the arrival of the railroad in the area between Somerset
and the Cumberland River, storekeeper Elihu Taylor petitioned for a post
office just north of Pitman Creek and half a mile east of its Sinking
Creek branch. Since Pitman was in use in Taylor County and several other
proposed names were rejected by the Post Office Department, he submitted
his own, insisting that it be pronounced, as his name was, ehl/ah/hyū.
From May 7, 1883 Elihu served a flour mill, railroad station, several
stores, and other businesses three miles south of Somerset. It closed in
1984.

Serving Floyd's (rail) Station, two miles south of Eubank, John W.
Floyd, the local storekeeper, and others operated the Newell post office
from June 11, 1883 through 1907. It was named for the Newell family
whose Pulaski progenitor was Samuel, a Revolutionary War veteran and the
county's first sheriff. Contemporary maps identify this site as Floyd.

On the old railroad routeway, two miles southeast of Sloans Valley, the small coal town of Happy Hollow got a post office of this name on February 15, 1888 (with Irvin Williams, postmaster). On February 16, 1892 it was renamed Alpine, a name apparently thought more suited to the area's high rugged terrain and many pine trees. By the First World War the mines were all but worked out and residents had begun moving about a mile north onto the new highway (that became US 27). In January 1925 the post office moved too and stayed at its highway site till 1976.

The fifth class city of Ferguson, with a 2000 population of 881 and an active post office, adjacent to the southern limits of Somerset, was founded just north of the Cincinnati Southern shops (built in 1906) as a residential community for the workers. It was named for Edward A. Ferguson, the Cincinnati attorney, who helped established the railroad in 1869.[29] On February 23, 1911 the local post office was established and named Luretha for the daughter (nee 1910) of George A. Wynn, the first postmaster,[30] for the Ferguson name was already in use in Logan County. The closing of the latter in 1943 allowed the Pulaski office to officially assume the town's corporate name in 1947.

POST OFFICES ON OR JUST OFF THE COUNTY'S MAIN HIGHWAYS: KY. 80

Long the trade center for much of western Pulaski County the village of Nancy extends west for over a mile along Ky 80 from its junction with Ky 235, 10½ miles west of Somerset. The vicinity was first called Logan's Crossroads for the family of local landowner William Harrison Logan (1811-1884), but its first post office was established by him on June 27 1865 as Lincolnville for the late president. It was discontinued on August 20, 1875 and re-established on September 4, 1884, not as Logan, the preferred name, but as Nancy for William Harrison's wife Nancy Sally (1834-1896), daughter of Vincent Lester. Nancy was its first postmaster,

but a month after she assumed that position she was succeeded by her son Voluntus K. The still active post office occupied several sites within a one mile radius serving one of the county's five high schools, till it closed in 1981, and the nearby Civil War battlefield of Logan's Cross Roads.

Some 3½ miles west of Somerset, on what would be Ky 80, was the Saline locality, a name applied to the local school and church. Though this name was the first proposed for the local post office it was established, on April 5, 1906, as Ernst. It was named for Richard Pretlow Ernst (1858-1934), a Covington lawyer and later (1921-1927) U.S. Senator from Kentucky, a close friend of Pulaski judge John Sherman Cooper, Sr. Until it closed in April 1911 George Leroy Johnson was its only postmaster. On May 18, 1922, with DeForest N. Young, postmaster, it was reestablished at a site one mile east and would have been given that locality's name West Somerset but was called Ernst instead. In May 1924 the post office became West Somerset. By 1939 it was on Ky 80, less than one mile west of Sinking Creek and 1.7 miles west of downtown Somerset (just east of its junction with the present Rte. 3263 and just south of the present Cumberland Parkway). When it closed in 1972 the office was at the western edge of Somerset.

On Ky 80, just south of the 1400 foot high Sugar Hill Knob and four miles northeast of Somerset, was the Sugar Hill post office. Hepsa E. Barnes and Mrs. Ira Sears operated it between December 24, 1924 and 1933.

On what's shown on contemporary maps as East Somerset, at the northeast edge of that city, at the junction of Ky 80 and the Corbin Road (now Ky 192), Hoy McClure established the Woodmont post office on October 6, 1925. This was 1.3 miles nne of Somerset and three miles southwest of Sugar Hill. The name is said to have been chosen by McClure's wife Zena (nee Reid) for the local trees. It closed in 1934.

One of Kentucky's many coined names Shepola was applied to a post office one fourth of a mile south of the later rerouted Ky 80, 7½ miles southwest of Somerset. To serve what was then the Crackers Neck locality, local storekeeper Edd Shepperd's nickname "Shep" was submitted for the post office along with those of Ola 8urton and several other residents. Postal authorities are said to have combined "Shep" and "Ola" to form the name and appointed Shep's wife Grace (nee Barker) as the first postmaster. The office operated between February 10, 1926 and 1951.

Other Ky 80 post offices already described in this survey are Waterloo, Cains Store, Lincoln-Stab, Shopville, Mark, and Squib.

POST OFFICES ON OR JUST OFF KY 39 (THE CRAB ORCHARD ROAD)

The once incorporated (January 17, 1866) milltown of Woodstock is centered at the junction of Ky 39 and 934, 14½ miles nnw of Somerset. This vicinity may have been settled around 1820 by a Mr. Griffin who, by the end of the decade, had sold his holdings to a Mr. Freancy of Lexington, the local storekeeper. No one seems to know when the Woodstock name was first applied and there's little agreement about its source. Some say the place was named for an English town whence an early settler had come; others contend it was for the seat of Shenandoah County, Virginia, the former home of another resident, which had been named for the English town; still others have opted for a stone house in the vicinity, also named for the town in England; and others for John F. Woods (1777-1857), an early settler from Virginia who is said to have stocked many useful goods in his local store. It may also have been named for the woods through which local people ran their livestock. The local post office was established on September 21,

1853 by Reuben Elkins who had acquired Freancy's holdings. After a non-continuous existence the office closed for good in 1942.

The Bee Lick post office, in the vicinity of the Lincoln-Rockcastle-Pulaski Counties convergence, was established in Lincoln County on January 29, 1861 by John Bobbitt. It was named for the local creek which had earlier been named for the many honey bees along its banks. M.J. Reynolds had the office moved to Pulaski County in 1887 where it closed in February 1910.

Neither of the two alleged sites of the White Oak Gap post office have been precisely located. Though shown on contemporary state maps as on Ky 39, it may not have been, and certainly not where it's been shown. It was established on March 1, 1867 with John McHargue, its first postmaster. According to a successor Charles H. McKinney's 1885 Site Location Report it was half a mile east of Flat Lick Creek, 2½ miles northwest of Shopville, three miles southwest of Valley Oak, 2½ miles north of Grundy, and four miles south of Dabney. By the turn of the century it was serving a store, a corn and saw mill, a livestock business, and other activities 2½ miles southeast of Dabney and 7½ miles northeast of Somerset. In 1900 John E. Bryan petitioned for a move 2½ miles southwest to a point only 4 3/4 miles northeast of the Somerset post office, but it's not known if this move actually occurred. In any event, the office closed in mid May 1905.

According to George B. Brown's Site Location Report, a post office would be established at the junction of Ky 39 and 70, three miles south of Bee Lick and 2½ miles north of Woodstock. It would be called Dandy. But for some reason it opened on February 23, 1901 as Bandy and this remained, till the office closed in 1942, uncorrected. According to a local tradition, it was named for a girl popular with local men who had been asked to leave by the local women.

Another Pulaski County name as yet unaccounted for is <u>Bobtown</u>. It was applied to an office established on April 26, 1905, with Lucinda E. Thompson, its first postmaster, somewhere one mile south of Buck Creek and 3½ miles north of Dabney. In 1911 it was moved to the Crab Orchard Road (later Ky 39), and in 1936 was moved half a mile north on that road to a point just north of 8urgin Knob (perhaps back to where it had been), and here it closed in 1966.

Another post office on Ky 39 was <u>Dabney</u>, already considered.

POST OFFICES ON KY 192

The first of the three Pulaski post offices on Ky 192 (extending between the site of the old Woodmont post office and London) was <u>Sears</u>. It operated first from June 13, 1894 through September 1907 by store-keepers Laurence and Henry M. Sears and may have been named for "Black Jesse" Sears. It was reopened by Charles H. Bolton on Oecember 24, 1924, two miles east of 8uck Creek and Dykes, three miles wnw of Mount Victory, 2½ miles nne of Poplarville, and 13½ miles ese of Somerset, and closed for good in 1935.

Several accounts have been offered for the naming of the hamlet and post office of <u>Mount Victory</u> just south of the junction of 192 and 1003. It may refer to a victory over renegade Indians by a small patrol headed by Lt. Nathan McClure in May 1788. Assigned to escort early settlers to Kentucky, this Revolutionary War veteran was fatally wounded on a ridge between the Rockcastle River and Buck Creek.[31] Or it may have been named by Ella P. Darr, wife of the Rev. Timothy Darr, a Methodist minister, who had arrived in the area in the 1890s. She and her colleagues considered it a religious victory that they were able to establish a church abd school there.[32] Or it may have been named for a

successful revival once held there.[33] Finally, the tale has been told though usually discredited, about two local teachers who agreed to carry the mail free for one year if they could get a post office. They succeeded and the office was named for their achievement.[34] In any case the post office was established on March 5, 1900 with John B. Edwards, postmaster, and closed in 1967.

James S. Hines offered his name for a post office he established on a steeply graded road west of Malvin Hill (that became part of Ky 192). But from July 14, 1920 to 1936 he operated it, near the old White Lily School, as Grade.

Other offices on 192 were Juno-Ruth and Dykes, also described above.

POST OFFICES ON KY 461

Two post offices served residents on this road between Mt. Vernon and Ky 80, half a mile east of Mark.

The first was the aptly named Valley Oak which operated at several sites for one hundred years from August 15, 1866 when it was established by James L. Bobbitt. For most of its tenure it served the Flat Lick locality, half a mile north of the church and just east of the Flat Lick Knob, eleven miles northeast of Somerset.

Somewhere in the vicinity of the Sunnyside Church, one mile east of Brush Creek, was Pumpkin Center, named by its first postmaster George W. Shiplet for the many locally grown pumpkins. It operated between February 9, 1929 and 1948.

POST OFFICES ON KY 934

This road extends from Ky 461 (at the Mount Pleasant Church) west to Ky 39 (at Woodstock).

The Walnut Grove post office, which was suspended on September 27, 1992, began on August 9, 1888 when storekeeper-gristmill operator John G. Riddle established a post office, half a mile west of Bee Lick Creek and seventeen miles northeast of Somerset, as The Glades. This descriptive name still applies to the flat swampy area between the head of Dicks River (in Rockcastle County) and Buck Creek's Caney Fork, and extends into part of Lincoln County as well. It's characterized by numerous caves, sinkholes, and sinking streams.[35] On June 15, 1889 Riddle had the name changed to Walnut Grove for the local trees. For many years the office was just south of Bee Lick Creek, half a mile north of 934, and half a mile from the Rockcastle County line.

Where 934 crosses the Watson Branch of Clifty Creek, 3¼ miles wsw of Walnut Grove and 1¼ miles east of Woodstock, was the Watson family's Elgin post office. This name, allegedly for the city in Illinois, was given instead of the preferred Watson, then in use in Adair County. John Adrian Watson and James A. Watson were its first postmasters. It operated between December 31, 1901 and 1942.

THREE POST OFFICES ON KY 235

Three offices served settlements on 235, between Ky 80 (just east of Nancy) and a point about one mile from the Wayne County line. The first, Trimble, was established on February 6, 1882 by storekeeper John C. Ford and named for the local descendants of Revolutionary War veteran William Trimble.[36] By the late 1890s Trimble was a fairly substantial community with several stores, a couple of mills, C.W. Trimble's wagonworks, and other businesses. For a long time it was at this site nearly six miles south of Ky 80, thirteen miles southwest of Somerset, but sometime before it was suspended on June 1, 1983 it was moved 1¼ miles north of 235 to a site just south of the road to Mendel-Gouley.

The Delmer post office occupied several sites on what became 235 from its original location, serving a village called Vola, 2½ miles south of Nancy and 4½ miles north of Trimble. It was established on June 23, 1903 and named for the one year old son of its first post-master William Sherman Burton. When it closed in 1962 it was by the Okalona Church, half a mile south of the Timmy Branch of Clifty, 1 1/3 miles north of Trimble's last site and about one mile south of its own first location.

Hislope [hah:/slohp], named for area descendants of (perhaps) James and Mary Hislope, was established on July 30, 1924 by Ethus Burton to serve a settlement then known as Stableson, Ethus, and Tarter. Until it closed in 1933 it was half a mile south of Oelmer.

POST OFFICES IN OR NEAR THE SINKING VALLEY

The aptly named Sinking Valley extends roughly south from Rock-castle County for some seven or eight miles almost to Ky 80 in the eastern part of Pulaski County. Its name was given to the post office maintained from June 20, 1930 to 1935 by John Logan Price on Rte. 1677, 2½ miles east of Dahl. According to Collins' 1874 history[37] this valley is governed by a "sinking stream", one that flows under-ground, with several surface openings, but which flows on the surface after heavy rains. Earlier Sinking Valley post offices were Plato, Eaton, Public, and Vanhook.

Plato was established on August 15, 1866 by David O. Gibson who is said to have named it for the Greek philosopher though it's not known why. It was probably first on what's now Ky 461, three miles south-west of Level Green, at the head of a Sinking Valley prong between the Cash and Plato knobs, and fifteen miles northeast of Somerset. Several

moves brought it onto Ky 1727, 1.3 miles southeast of the latter's junction with 461, where it closed in 1972.

Eaton, which may have been a little under a mile east of the later Sinking Valley post office, was established on July 2, 1895 by store-keeper Perry Rash who probably named it for his wife Nancy's Eaton family. He was succeeded in June 1897 by James V. Carroll, and the office closed in mid April 1902.

One half to one mile east of Eaton was the inexplicably named Public which William Taylor opened on July 19, 1895 and which closed in 1981.

Eastern Pulaski County's Vanhook family gave its name to another valley post office, established on January 5, 1898, with Samuel W. Vanhook, its first postmaster. It closed in mid February 1915 and was re-established on February 18, 1926, with Everett Harper, post-master, two miles from Rockcastle County and 2½ miles southeast of Plato. Here it closed in 1963.

TWO POST OFFICES ON RTE. 1675

The first of the two offices on this road, between Ky 80 and Ky 1003, was Acorn [ā/kɜrn. Āk/rɜn, and now ā/kawrn]. It was established somewhere south of the Burdine valley (through which old 80 and now 1675 extends) on March 20, 1896. According to one of several accounts of its name, Jacob N. Mayfield was struck by a falling acorn while con-sidering possible names for his new post office. In another, he was feeding acorns to his hogs when the name occurred to him. In yet a third, a stranger noting the large number of acorns on the ground and the unusually large oak trees that had produced them suggested the name. Mayfield's wife Mary was the first postmaster. In 1900 Mary had the

office moved one mile south. By 1939, with G.M. Mayfield, postmaster, it was serving the Burdine locality (named for several related families), 3½ miles southwest of Squib. The office was suspended on February 16, 1990.

Three miles south of Acorn was Azof. Ruby, the first name proposed by Willie F. Edwards, was replaced by the name of the shallow Ukrainian Black Sea arm and the town of this name at the mouth of the River Don. Both (pronounced aez/ahf) are said to have been named for an eleventh century ruler, but why this name was given to a Pulaski County post office operating for ten years from December 9, 1927 remains a mystery.

OTHER PULASKI COUNTY POST OFFICES

William Green Todd, a descendant of early nineteenth century Buck Creek settlers William and Elizabeth Todd, established the Todd post office on March 13, 1894. It would serve a store and flour mill, probably on what's now the Charles Elgin Road, between Buck Creek and its Barney Branch, 2½ miles northwest of Woodstock. It was discontinued in 1942.

No one knows why the local Etna Church of Christ was so named (if, in fact, it was so named for the famed Sicilian volcano). But this name was given to Valentine T. Allen's post office when his family's name was then found in use in Magoffin County. The Etna post office served residents of (the present) Ky 452, between Buck Creek and the railroad, from June 22, 1899 to mid April 1913.

Referring to the large amount of coal taken from the area some eight miles southeast of Somerset, a post office to be called Coalville, Mudville, or Rex was established on April 1, 1902 with Hays Meece, postmaster. It opened somewhere between Buck and Pitman Creeks as Colo [koh/loh]. By 1917 it was at the head of one of the upper forks of Baker Hollow (of Buck), but by 1952 (until it closed in 1968) it was on Rte. 1643, 3¼ miles south of Ky 192.

Belle (Mrs. Miller) Hansford's shortlived (January 22, 1907 to November 15, 1908) Mound post office served the residential neighborhood later (and still) called Blue John, on the Blue John Road, by the Bethel Church, one mile from the McCreary County line. Neither Don, the first name proposed for the office, nor Blue John have been derived, while Mound, suggested by Mr. Hansford, can only be assumed.[38]

Some 2¼ miles up Whetstone Creek of Buck Creek, at the mouth of its 2½ mile long Snell Prong, was the Snell post office. It was established on April 20, 1908 with James F. Hale, its first postmaster, who named it for an area family. From 1913 till it closed in 1935 it was maintained at two neighboring sites by Louis J. Snell about a mile up the Snell Prong (paralleled by the present Rte. 1003), most recently at the mouth of its Vanhook Branch (what's shown on current topographic maps as Whetstone).

The crossroads settlement of Ringgold on the Liberty Road (now 3263, that ends at the east end of the Fishing Creek embayment), one mile north of the Cumberland Parkway and 3½ miles wnw of Somerset, was once an incorporated town (February 5, 1848) named for Major Samuel Ringgold, the first American officer killed in the Mexican War (at the May 8, 1846 Battle of Palo Alto). It was not until April 10, 1914, however, that the Ringgold post office was established, with George R. McKinney, postmaster. It closed in 1934.

Serving the locality of Cabin Hollow, 1½ miles north of the Cumberland River and about the same distance east of Pitman Creek, would have been the Loves post office (in use in Butler County). But it operated between October 13, 1922 and 1935 as Cabin. Henry G. Barnes was its first postmaster. The Loves may have been descendants of William Love (ca. 1809-1890) and owned much land in the Cumberland watershed. Whose cabin is referred to in the name is not yet known.

UNLOCATED PULASKI COUNTY POST OFFICES

Wightsville was established on October 20, 1857 with James P. Colyer, its first postmaster, and operated till late September 1868. There may have been a mid nineteenth century Wight family in the county, but the only memorable countian of that name was Fr. 8.J. Wight, the resident pastor of St. Mildred's Catholic Church in Somerset (ca. 1901).

John W. Eubanks had a post office between March 23 and October 5, 1858 called Cartersville. This office, if it operated at all, may have been in the vicinity of the future Newell (or Floyd Station) for, according to Pulaski's 1860 Census, John was then living near several related Floyd families.

All that's known of the shortlived (September 3, 1862 to February 14, 1863) Hargisville post office (not to be confused with Hargis, above), comes from the Site Location Report of its only postmaster and probable name source George Hargis. Therein he locates it ten miles north of the Cumberland River, 10½ miles west of the Sublimity post office (before the latter was moved to Rockcastle Springs), and eight miles southeast of Grundy.

On July 15, 1899 Jesse P. Randall established the Randall post office two miles east of 8uck Creek, three miles east of the 8ent post office, four miles west of Skip, and four miles north of Dykes. It thus might have been a forerunner of Snell (at the latter's first site). In 1905 Oavid J. Snell (a future Snell postmaster) had it moved one fourth of a mile, and in 1906 H.W. Edwards moved it three fourths of a mile east to a site five miles northeast of Dykes and five miles north of Mt. Victory (about where Snell was in 1918.) Here it closed at the end of May 1907. But the above is problematic.

Oriole, location and name derivation unknown, was operated from September 4, 1908 through November 1911 by Christopher C. Randolph somewhere between Vanhook, Plato, and Leroy.

William J. Girdler operated the Boland post office from March 2, 1911 through January 1913. His Site Location Report placed it 1½ miles northwest of the Cumberland River, three miles south of the Branch post office, and two miles northeast of Shafter. It may have been named for the Rev. B.J. Boland, another St. Mildred's pastor, or for Jess and/or Alexander Boland, otherwise unidentified.

Charley M. Latham's Kenwid post office (between April 28, 1931 and 1934) was named for the young son of Pulaski Court clerk Onie P. Hamilton. It was somewhere in the area half a mile north of Buck Creek, and between Elrod, Vanhook, and Dahl.

Nine post office authorizations were rescinded and thus these offices, at unknown sites, never operated. (Some may have been in what became McCreary County.)

The U.S. Postal Service has no record of an operating Addleman post office authorized for B.P. Addleman on May 19, 1890.

Joseph B. Hardwick's order to operate Eldorado on April 30, 1895 was rescinded shortly thereafter, as was James P. Littrell's June 15, 1901 for Frisco, Miles G. Adkins' May 8, 1903 for Guyon, J.W. Flynn, Jr's October 8, 1906 for Flynn, and General T. Morrow's February 14, 1907 for Keith. Vincent L. Gossett's July 16, 1901 authorization for Gossett was rescinded on September 16 when he was ruled "ineligible" (with no reason given). Caville would probably have been somewhere in the Harrison Precinct where Daniel J. Weddle (ne January 1857), its postmaster-designate, lived with his wife Roda E. His December 22, 1905 authorization was rescinded on March 16, 1906. After Robert L. Haynes, authorized to operate the Harvest post office on May 19, 1906, declined, it never opened.

Only eight of Pulaski County's 154 post offices (Bronston, Burnside,
Eubank, Ferguson, Nancy, Science Hill, Somerset, and Tateville) are
still active. Five (Somerset, Ferguson, Burnside, Science Hill, and
Eubank) still serve incorporated communities. At least twenty four were
the foci of settlements with definable boundaries and concentrated
populations. The others, as elsewhere, served only one or two local
stores, one or more mills, perhaps a rail station, a church, a school,
and the rural families depending on them.

Sixty three offices were named for local and area persons or families
while thirteen honored well known/local persons. Eight were named for
distant places, while to nineteen were transferred the names of local
or nearby features (eight streams or valleys, five localities, two pre-
cincts, two churches, one elevation, and one gap.) Twelve bore geogra-
phic, descriptive, or locative names. Local economic or other activi-
ties accounted for three names. Eight had miscellaneous name sources,
and two had several possible name derivations. The names of twenty six
offices have not yet been derived and seventeen offices have not been
precisely located.

Forty five post offices bore names that were not the first ones
proposed for them while thirty two served communities, neighborhoods,
rail stations, mining camps, etc. with other names, and eleven had name
changes in the course of their operations.

FOOTNOTES

1. The county's first sheriff, Nicholas Jasper, a Revolutionary War
   veteran, whose brother William was also killed at Savannah, is said
   to have suggested the Kentucky county's name, one of seven in the
   US named for the Polish patriot.

2. In 1801 Pulaski lost 310 square miles toward the creation of Wayne County; in 1810 it lost twenty toward the creation of Rockcastle County; in 1818, in an exchange with Wayne County, it gained twenty square miles (the future Quinton and Bronston areas); in 1826 it lost eighty to Whitley County; in 1831 it lost ten to Wayne; in 1840 it lost ten to Russell County; and finally, in 1912, it gave up 150 square miles toward to creation of McCreary County.

3. Preston McGrain and James C. Currens, Topography of Kentucky, Kentucky Geological Survey, Series X, 1978, Pp. 63-65

4. In 1881 the Cincinnati Southern was leased to and renamed the Cincinnati New Orleans and Texas Pacific (CNO & TP) Railway, and later still was leased by, and then became a branch of, the Southern Railway System which, in 1982, combined with the Norfolk and Western Railway to become the Norfolk-Southern.

5. The New Jersey county had been named for the English county of Somerset.

6. Wait, best known for his attempts to develop a silk industry in Pulaski County, was also an early saltmaker with a well on his Fishing Creek farm known as the Salt Well Farm. He later owned a store and wharf in the community bearing his name, and for several terms represented the county in both houses of the Kentucky legislature.

7. Having acquired a thousand acres on both sides of the river in 1795-96, Col. Samuel Newell, Joseph's father, a Revolutionary War veteran, and future presiding justice of the Pulaski Court, built his home at this site in 1797 and called it Clio [klee/oh]. Here the first Wayne County post office of Clio was established on April 19, 1834 by the Rev. Walter Emerson who, with his son Thomas F., ran it till November 1861. According to Pulaski historian Alma Tibbals (A History of Pulaski County, Kentucky, Bagdad: Grace Owens Moore, 1952, P. 75),

its name, for one of the classic muses of song and poetry, was aptly inspired for the view from its hilly site was "certainly song inspiring".

8. Alexander Chapel, organized in 1837 to serve area Methodists, was named for its first pastor William Alexander who had secured a deed for it from Rev. Emerson. The building, on Old Ky 90, one fourth of a mile within Pulaski County, was erected in 1852.

9. The South Fork of the Cumberland River, noted today as the Big South Fork or the Big South Fork River (and in pre-settlement times as Flute River) heads where the Clear Fork and New Rivers meet in Scott County, Tennessee and extends roughly sixty eight miles north to the Cumberland at Burnside. In March 1974 a Congressional act established the 105,000 (now 119,000) acre Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area (mostly in Tennessee) to be managed by the U.S. Corps of Engineers. In 1986 this joined the National Park System.

10. Keno, for the literary minded, was the setting of local resident Harriet Simpson Arnow's famed novel Hunters Horn, published in 1944, the year she and her husband left for a new home in Michigan.

11. The Wilderness Trail in Lincoln County, a manuscript submitted to the Filing and Lending Bureau of the DAR by Mrs. Craig of Stanford, Ky., 1941. The reference to Col. Buchanan also appears in this manuscript which was published serially in the Stanford Interior-Journal and The Richmond Register, February and March 1941. A copy of the manuscript is in the Lincoln County vertical files of the Kentucky Historical Society library.

12. Joe Creason, feature writer for the Louisville Courier Journal, once reported (June 23, 1971) another oft told story, with little historic credence, about a local election when nobody produced the re-

quisite jug of whiskey to entice voters. When someone said we can't

hold the election since there's no jug, he was told that the election

would go on, jug or not.

13. Ax, Ed, Ep, Ep, OK, Oz, UZ, and Vi.

14. Fred W. Luigart, Jr., "Pulaski Countians Claim 'Shortest Creek in
    the World'" Louisville Courier-Journal, November 23, 1960, P. 81

15. From an account in the Somerset Commonwealth, cited in the
    Louisville Times, December 28, 1932

16. According to Eula ~~Hale~~ Hail Meece in her sister Verna (Mrs. Woodrow)
    Allen's undated manuscript history of Ula.

17. On pre Civil War maps it's labeled Pitmans Creek.

18. Ruth Ashurst later married R.A. Peyton and was, for years, a teacher
    in the Louisville, Ky. city schools. This and other information on
    the Ruth post office and the hamlet it served were furnished by Mrs.
    Pearl Allen, Rufus' niece, through her son Eugene Allen, a lifelong
    resident of Ruth, in letters to the author, March 20, 1969 and Feb-
    ruary 9, 1970.

19. According to a January 30, 1980 letter from Charles A. Conrard of
    Holmes Beach, Florida, his father was a Highland County, Ohio native
    who arrived in Somerset in 1893 to work in its Southern Railway
    office. In 1895 he moved to Washington to work in the U.S.
    Patent Office before transferring to the Post Office Oepartment.

20. The main channel of Faubush Creek heads one mile south of the
    most recent Faubush post office site and flows through a rather
    steep valley for 2 3/4 miles until it empties in a Lake Cumberland
    embayment, some 1.9 miles north of the Wayne County line. It then
    proceeds sse, then southeast, then southwest for about five miles
    till it empties into the river between Panhandle and Cumberland
    Point.

21. Wyatt Norfleet was a descendant of John Norfleet who had acquired land on White Oak and Faubush Creeks in the 1840s and 50s.

22. OUR STOREHOUSE OF MISSOURI PLACE NAMES, Columbia: University of Missouri, 1952, Pp. 13B, 111

23. The first name proposed for Uma was Anderson for the nearby school.

24. Paul A. Tenkotte and Charles B. Castner entries in The Kentucky Encyclopedia, Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1992, Pp. 191, 835-36

25. The Pulaski County Adamses were descendants of Irish-born (1751) Robert Adams who had arrived in the upper Fishing Creek valley following service in theRevolutionary War.

26. This locality above the head of the Buncombe Branch of Fishing, along with the local school and church, had been named by its residents for their earlier Buncombe County, North Carolina home.

27. The Science Hill name was applied sometime before the shortlived teacher-training academy opened there and thus the school could not have been the community-post office's name source.

28. Norwood, Ohio, with a 2003 population of some 20,800, is a Cincinnati suburb aptly named for its being north of the North Woods. It was incorporated as a city in 1903. (According to Larry L. Miller, Ohio Place Names, Bloomington, Ind: University of Indiana Press, 1996, P. 177

29. Ferguson drafted the enabling act passed by the Ohio legislature on May 4, 1869 to allow the city of Cincinnati to build its own railroad south to Chattanooga.

30. Luretha Wynn later became Mrs. John Cross.

31. Robert F. Collins "Daniel Boone National Forest Historic Sites" Filson Club Historical Quarterly, Vol. 42, 1968, Pp. 26-48 (43-45)

32. Vern Wright, a descendant of one of the namers, through Mary Weaver, interviewed by the author on March 23, 1979

33. Mrs. W.8. Jones, DAR manuscript on Pulaski County place names, 1941, P. 2

34. James L. Tarter, "Name Places" in Local Historical Research, issued by Somerset Community College (University of Kentucky), 1966, n.p.

35. Willard Rouse Jillson, Pioneer Kentucky, Frankfort: State Journal, 1934, P. 132

36. Ford's first proposed name may have been 8arnsford for the locality.

37. Vol. 2, P. 683

38. James C. McDowell, Jr. of 8urnside, Ky., in a February 11, 1981 letter to the author, thought that Blue John may have honored someone called John Ballou. T.W. Reynolds, the North Carolina writer, in his Born of the Mountains (1964, P. 163), refers to a Blue John Creek in his state that's said to have been named for the color of locally consumed skimmed milk, or for the color of a local clay.

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