BOONE COUNTY

Burlington, pop. 600 (1930 census) - County seat of Boone Co. 101-120 Burlington lies in hilly country 13 miles SW. of Covington, in county predominantly concerned with agriculture and dairying. The elevation is 848 ft. 400-416 Transportation - It is connected by state highway 18 to Florence, 6 mi. to the east, where the combined national highways 25 and 42 lead into Covington. 500 - Accommodations - Burlington has a post office, banking facilities, and both Postal Telegraph and Western Union **EXAMPLE (CONTECT**). There are four ohurches, and two small hotels.

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200-250 -690 - History - Burlington's history has been overshadowed by the more exciting past of the other sections of the county. <u>Site</u> first accupied by <u>Boswells' station</u>, settled by James B. It was incorporated in 1824 and has been the county seat since 1798, when Boone Co. was formed from the western portion of Campbell Co. Burlington could not have escaped Indian raids and skirmishes in its early days, for Boone Co. was the scene of much activity for many years, but it did succeed in escaping any event of importance, and it is consequently overlooked in favor of its more interesting neighbors.

Ten miles northeast of Burlington is <u>Petersburg</u>, built on the site of an aboriginal burying ground. When the cellars of the present town were dug, a number of earthen vessels and stone utensils were recovered.

A little above Petersburg, on the Ohio River, are the remains of an ancient fortification, an embankment about four feet high, extending from the river to the bank of Taylor's creak, and enclosing an area of twenty acres.

Originally, Petersburg was known as Tanner's Station, and was the pioneer settlement established by the Rev. John Tanner, the first Baptist preacher resident in north-eastern Kentucky. Here was the first clearing in Boone Co., in 1785.

In 1790, the Rev. Tanner's son John, 9, was captured by Indians and in the next year another son, Edward, 15, was also captured. Edward escaped in two days, but John was not heard of for twenty-four years. In 1828, he was in Sault St. Marie, acting as an interpreter for the government. He spent his life among the Indians, and his account of his captivity is one of the most interesting in existence.

Boone county's most remarkable possession, from the standpoint of the historian and paleontologist, is <u>Big Bone Lick</u>, twelve miles west of south from Burlington, and a mile and abhalf from Hamilton on the Chio River.

This ancient salt lick has figured prominently in Kentucky's history and prehistory, and at one time was the most famous spot in the New World west of the Atlantic states. Long before Europe ever heard of Big Bone Lick, however, and long before Europe had ever heard of the New World, this spring-fed valley bog was important for miles around to the animals who came here, as to other licks thru the state, for salt.

For centuries it was important to animals, and for centuries to Indians, Traditionally - and wuite possibly - the first white man to visit it was the Sieur de la Salle, on his voyage of discovery down the Ohio. The first recorded visitor was another Frenchman, de Longueil, who stopped here in 1729.

In 1773, James Douglass, of Virginia, led by tales of the Indians, came here and found the valley, bare of trees and herbage, scattered with the bones of huge, unknown animals, some of them half buried, some lying in a heap where they had fallen as the skeletons disintegrated. These remains told of the visits of mastodons, polar oxen, and move recent bison, bear, and deer. Nearly every early visitor to Kentucky came to Big Bone at sometime or another, and most of them took away more or less complete collections. Thomas Jefferson became intensely interested in the remains, end at least two collections were made at his order. ^Benjamin Franklin, while in France, came into possession of a number of bones and formed a surprisingly accurate theory as to their origin. A great many of the bones were lost thru accidents of travel, but many of them reached England, France, and museums in the Eastern states. An indication of the number of surface bones may be found in the fact that, in spite of the constant collecting that went on, the last of them did not disappear until 1810. Numerous relics have been since recovered by excavation. Unfortunately, **x** very few of these interesting exhibits remain in Kentucky.

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This lick, aside from its prehistoric interest, figures frequently in pioneer history, both the Indians and settlers visiting it regularly as a source of salt.

The first white woman in Kentucky, Mr. Mary Ingles, was brought here on such an expedition by the Shawnee tribe that had captured her in Virginia. While here, in 1756, she escaped and made her way back to her home, after weeks of hardships from which she recovered so completely that she lived until 1813, and died at the age of 84.

A very interesting monograph of Big Bone Lick has been recently published by Dr. W. R. Jillson, of the state Geological service.

One of the most disasterous Indian encounters in this part of the state occurred a few miles above Grant, on the Ohio, about 6 miles west of Burlington. In 1781, Col. Archibald Longbrey, from Westmorland Co., Pa., raised a force of 120 men to jion Gen. George Rogers Clark for an expedition against the Britist at Detroit. Five men, sent ahead, were captured by the Indians and used as decoys to lead the main force into an ambush at Longbrey's creek. During the skirmish, 42 men, among them Col. Longbrey, were killed, and 64 were taken prisoner. The marines survivors, thru amaging foresight, had previously deserted.

In 1796, McCloy(s station was settled and fortified along the old Buffalo Trace between Big Bono Lick and Gunpowder creek.

630 - Commerce - Boone Co., is an agricultural community, the principal crops being white potatoes, apples, peaches, corn, tobacco, and dairy products.

Among Boone county's distinguished citizens may be listed John Uri Lloyd, of Burlington, novelist, chemist, and educator; Mrs. Gertrude King Tufts, movelist and editor; and Miss Julia Stocton Dinsmore, poet.

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