

Northern Kentucky Views Presents:

Carroll County, Kentucky

from

A Series Covering All Counties.
Published by the Kentucky
Opportunities Department of
Associated Industries

c. 1928

www.nkyviews.com

CARROLL COUNTY

KENTUCKY

RESOURCES ATTRACTIONS OPPORTUNITIES

Series covering all counties, issued in alphabetical order. Published by the Kentucky Opportunities Department of *Associated Industries of Kentucky* (Incorporated), 76-77 Kenyon Building, Louisville. Series mailed free on request.

General Description. Carroll County is a unit in that long tier of Kentucky counties bordering the Ohio River. It is located about the middle of the tier. The shape, broadly speaking, is rectangular, with greatest length from east to west. It was formed out of Gallatin County in 1838 and was named after Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. A block house was erected at the mouth of the Kentucky River about 1789, and the post maintained at that point was laid out in 1792 as the town of Port William, now Carrollton, the county seat. Until about half a century ago remains of ancient fortifications were conspicuous in the district formed by the confluence of the Kentucky River with the Ohio.

There are only two counties in the state with less area than the 84,480 acres going to make up Carroll. At the mouth of the Kentucky River the elevation is 475 feet above sea level. The altitude increases somewhat on the ridges, winding through the interior of the county.

Population. Latest Census Bureau estimates give the county a population of 8,431, a slight increase over the figures for the 1920 census. The foreign-born whites numbered seven-tenths of one per cent of the total. In 1920 there were 1,527 males between 18 and 44 years old. The number of females within the same age-limits was 1,571.

Mineral Resources*. The hard surface rocks of Carroll County are composed entirely of limestones and shales of the upper Ordovician series. Alluviums and glacial till consisting of sands and gravels, and silts of Recent and Pleistocene age, are found in all of the flood-plain deposits of Eagle Creek, and the Kentucky and Ohio rivers. Upland glacial deposits are also

widely distributed, including an occasional Canadian quartzite boulder of large size. The normal regional structure of the county, situated on the northwestern flank of the Cincinnati Arch, is to the northwest.

The principal mineral resources of Carroll County are limestones, sands, and gravels; the first being obtainable from the bedded country rocks of the county, the latter as transported deposits along the Kentucky River and the Ohio River. Some upland glacial sands and gravels may eventually be found to be of commercial value. All of these resources are available in significant quantities. From shallow wells in the eastern part of Carroll County there is reported a production of both oil and gas in small quantities from upper Ordovician sands. A geographical map of Carroll County is available in connection with a similar map of Gallatin County. The region is not surveyed topographically.

Bonded Indebtedness. The total bonded indebtedness of the county in 1927 was \$195,000, issued mainly for road improvement.

Surface and Soil. The county is on the outer edge of the blue-grass region, with fertile soil in its river bottoms. Over 69,000 acres were in farm lands in 1925. Pasture lands aggregated 39,329 acres. Less than 2,000 acres were in woodland not used for pasture.

Water Supply. The Ohio River courses along the entire northern boundary. The deep waters of the Kentucky River flow northwardly across the county to join with those of the Ohio. Eagle Creek forms more than half the southern border, while Little Kentucky River and Mill Creek water the western section of the county.

Water Power. The Kentucky River is said to offer potentialities for water-power development within the county.

*Prepared by Willard R. Jilison, Director Kentucky Geological Survey.

Industries. While the chief industries of the county are classified as agricultural, Carrollton, the county seat and chief town, is widely known as a furniture-manufacturing center. A clothing factory and cannery are located at the same point. Tobacco-manufacturing is likewise one of the industries of the county.

Crops. The corn crop in 1925 amounted to 223,590 bushels, and the tobacco production was 2,340,989 pounds. The yield of white potatoes totaled 11,087 bushels. Estimated milk production for 1924 was 736,270 gallons, and dairy products brought \$76,619. Horses, cattle, and sheep were conspicuous in the livestock census returns for 1925. The total value of all cattle in the county that year was \$149,664, with the sheep-valuation about one-third of the sum.

Transportation. Worthville and other towns in the southern part of the county are served by the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. The Carrollton & Worthville Railroad connects the former city with the L. & N. at Worthville, where stops are made by all trains on the Louisville-Cincinnati Division of the latter railroad. Daily bus service is maintained between Carrollton and Louisville on the west, Lexington on the south, and Cincinnati on the east. Packet lines on both the Ohio and Kentucky rivers contribute to a general transportation service which is said to be rivaled by few territories.

Highways. Good gravel roads connect all points in Carroll County. The Louisville-Cincinnati "all-Kentucky" route now projected will wind its cement-surfaced way across the county, through Carrollton, and place the county seat within an hour and a half's motor distance of either city named. Surveys have been completed for a highway bridge over the Ohio River at Carrollton. With completion of this improvement the county seat of Carroll County would make a bid for Southern gateway distinction for motor traffic from Chicago and the Northwest.

Tourist Attractions. A point of interest for tourists is the home and grave of General William O. Butler, of Mexican War fame, in Carrollton. The little city also boasts of a mineral well widely known. Hills and valleys bordering the Ohio and Kentucky rivers give diversified scenic attractions to delight the motorist.

Educational. The county has 6 white high schools employing 15 teachers, and also 19 white elementary schools employing 28 teachers. There are 2 colored elementary schools with 2 colored teachers. An average of 1,215 pupils attended the public schools in 1926. The Carrollton High School is an accredited member of the

Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. There are no private schools or colleges located in the county.

Cities and Towns. Carrollton, the county seat of Carroll County, has a population of 3,200. Its chief industries are a furniture factory, a clothing factory, a planing mill, a canning factory, a laundry, an ice plant, and two tobacco factories, employing altogether an average of 375 employees. Carrollton is also one of the largest loose-leaf tobacco centers in the state. The city has 2 weekly newspapers and 2 banks. Other banking towns are Worthville, Ghent, and Sanders.

Opportunities. The strategic position of Carroll County, potentially the gateway to the South, industrially and geographically, on the Kentucky and Ohio rivers, midway between Cincinnati and Louisville, within two hours' access of both Lexington, Kentucky, and Indianapolis, Indiana, permits the district to offer many opportunities for investment and development. Rich deposits of limestone in the county await development. There are large deposits of high grade sand, highly adaptable to concrete work, which sand is produced locally at 50 cents per ton. The county's soil also abounds in clay, excellent for the manufacture of brick, and also in deposits of limestone, excellent for both concrete and road building. Surveys recently made indicate the presence of oil.

The labor supply, both male and female, of the county has always been in excess of the demand. The county is possessed of dependable facilities for financing, five banks being located within its borders.

The county is primarily an agricultural one, with a soil that is profitable for most agricultural pursuits. The chief agricultural product is tobacco, the quality of which is claimed to rank first in the state. However, agriculture is diversified in Carroll County, sizable crops of corn, wheat, oats, rye, potatoes, sorghum, alfalfa, apples, and peaches being raised each year. The farmers of the county are increasingly supplementing their agricultural pursuits with stock raising, especially the raising of sheep, the county now being one of the largest sheep-raising districts in the state.

References. Inquiries for specific information regarding the county may be addressed to:

Marvin Minish, Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Carrollton

George T. Howe, Corresponding Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Carrollton

Clyde Watts, County Agent, Carrollton

James G. Goslee, Cashier, Carrollton National Bank, Carrollton