

THE POST OFFICES OF PENDLETON COUNTY

On December 13, 1798, the very day Boone County was formed by the Kentucky legislature, Pendleton County too was established. The latter was taken from Campbell and Bracken Counties and named for Edmund Pendleton (1721-1803) who had represented Virginia in the First Continental Congress (1774-75), was its governor (1774-76), and the presiding judge of its first post-colonial Court of Appeals (1779-1803). The county took up its present 281 square mile area when, in 1820, its western half was taken to form the new Grant County.

Pendleton County is largely drained by the main stream and branches of the Licking River. This 320 mile long waterway, heading in Magoffin County and entering the Ohio between Newport and Covington, is joined by its South Fork just north of downtown Falmouth, the county seat. Principal tributaries of the main Licking which figure significantly in the county's history are Mill, Willow, Blanket, Kincaid, Harris, Flower, Lick, and Grassy Creeks. The South Fork branches in Pendleton County include Fork Lick, Johnson, and Short Creeks.¹ In addition, some 3½ miles of the Ohio River border the county on its northeast.

Though there has been some manufacturing in the county's two longtime incorporated cities, Falmouth and Butler, Pendleton is still primarily a rural county with tobacco, beef, dairy, and alfalfa production its main farming activities. Industrial activities include the processing of its farm products, the rebuilding of car and trailer engines, and the fabrication of glass and metal goods. Most of the county's non-farm workforce, though, commutes to out-of-county jobs.

Some 12,000 residents were counted in the 1990 Census.

Post offices described below will be located by road miles from downtown Falmouth.

Pendleton County's seat, the fourth class city of Falmouth, is thirty five road miles south of downtown Newport and fifty six road miles north of downtown Lexington. According to an unconfirmed local tradition there was a settlement at this site as early as 1780 that was shortly thereafter identified by the Virginia Land Office as The Forks of the Licking. The town was chartered as Falmouth on December 10, 1793 on one hundred acres then owned by John Waller, John Cook, and William McDowell, and named by Waller for his Stafford County, Virginia hometown. The county's first post office was established here as Pendleton Court House at least by September 16, 1800 with town trustee and county court clerk James Lanier as its first postmaster. By July 1807, when Dixon Kennett became postmaster, the office was called Falmouth. The town had a ~~1900~~ population of some 2,400.

The county's second post office was established by Roswell Kittridge on December 30, 1820 as Grassy Creek for its site at the forks of the stream which joins the Licking River a mile north, where Campbell, Kenton, and Pendleton counties meet. The Grassy Creek church at the junction of the present Ky 17 and 467 still marks the approximate site. On August 29, 1854 Robert B. Jacobs moved the office to the river along which the new Covington and Lexington (later the L&N) Railroad was built the year before. Here a settlement is believed to have already been founded and named for the area descendants of Peter DeMoss (1753-1841), a Revolutionary War veteran

and one of the pioneer settlers at the Forks of the Licking. The post office thence took the name of the settlement, DeMossville [də/mahs/vɪhl]. On March 3, 1860 the town was chartered in this name and soon became a prosperous and attractive rail shipping point for a three county farming area. Now little remains but the active post office, a store, and some homes on the half mile stretch of Ky 467 between Ky 177 and the tracks, twelve miles north of Falmouth.

The late E.E. Barton who, in the 1960s, wrote about Pendleton County's communities and post offices,² suggested that its third post office, the shortlived Johnson (September 7, 1830 to mid June 1835) may have been in the vicinity of the future Morgan Station, probably on the west bank of Licking's South Fork, at the mouth of Fork Lick Creek. Robert L. Fugate, its only postmaster, is known to have lived in that vicinity.

Where the present Ky 330 crosses Fork Lick Creek, just above its South Fork confluence, storekeeper and tavern owner Jonathan Callen, with R.G. Stowers, founded a town they called Callensville. On September 12, 1846 Callen established its post office in this name which operated till February 1860. This community, however, could not compete with the new town of Morgan Station that was founded half a mile southeast on the newly arrived Covington and Lexington (L&N) Railroad in the South Fork valley.³ Shortly after the arrival of the railroad and the opening of the local Morgan post office by Benjamin F. Hume (Callen's brother-in-law) on January 3, 1856, Callensville businesses began to move to the rail station site. Callensville lingered, a store^{or} two at a time, into the twentieth century while Morgan continued as a fairly prosperous milltown and rail

station (eight miles southwest of Falmouth) through the middle of the present century. Morgan's decline came with the decline in rail traffic and the closing, in 1957, of its post office. Only a church or two, a store, and some homes survive. Morgan's name origin is not known. It is only possible that it was named for one or more of the four Pendleton County Morgan families listed in the 1850 Census.

For some obscure reason Flower Creek, believed to have been named by early explorers for the flowers along its banks, has, since its appearance in Lake's 1884 Atlas, been identified as Flour Creek. Just northwest of that stream's confluence with the Licking River (at or close to the junction of the present Ky 177 and the Flour Creek (sic) Road, 11½ miles north of Falmouth), Walter Fryer built his home and founded what, for a while in the 1830s, may have been known as Flower Town. This centered at his Flower Creek post office that operated between February 16, 1832 and March 1874.

From February 9, 1833 to April 8, 1842 Robert Rawlings operated a post office inexplicably called Travellers Rest just north of Richland Creek in the southeast corner of the county. On the latter date, its new postmaster, Robert Havilland, moved the office about a mile east to his store where the creek crosses the Harrison County line (a mile above the main Licking River but in Harrison County), and it and the community that grew up around it took the name Havillandsville.⁴

Another early post office name as yet unaccounted for is Brass Bell given to an office somewhere in northeastern Pendleton County. It was operated between May 27, 1837 and early June 1842 by James and Barney P. Bonar.

Almost nothing but a nearby rock quarry remains of a trading center and Ohio River landing called, variously, Barker's Landing, Stepstone, Stepstone Landing, Motier, Carnes, and Carntown. This was in the northeast corner of the county, just below the mouth of Stepstone Creek, some sixteen miles nne of Falmouth. Its post office was established on July 5, 1839 as Motier [mawt/ə/yər] with Francis Chalfant, postmaster, but the source of this name also remains unknown. However, one cannot but wonder if it could have honored the Marquis de LaFayette whose real name was Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roche Gilbert du Motier. LaFayette was the name of his family's estate in the Auvergne. The office closed in early 1872 but was re-established in early June of the following year by Hiram J. Carnes, a storekeeper. Jacob H. Carnes (1836-1908), a local miller and tobacco dealer, became postmaster in 1884 and had the name changed, in 1891, to Carntown. At this time the community and landing with three stores, a mill, hotel, and other businesses was called Stepstone and Carnes. The post office closed for good in April 1920. The resemblance of the creek bed to a series of stone steps is said to have suggested to early surveyors the name Stepstone for the local creek.

Several homes and the Concord Church are all that remain of a small village where Ky 159 crosses Kincaid Creek, four miles north of Falmouth. According to Barton, the first post office to serve this vicinity was Licking Grove, maintained by Alexander L. Pepper between March 12, 1840 and late April 1843. This was re-established the following March as Ash Run, named for the local ash trees. George J. Hitch was the new postmaster. The office closed again in mid July 1857.

The next post office to serve this community, that by then was called Concord, was given the name Penshurst, for Concord was already in use by a Lewis County office. Penshurst operated between July 21, 1887 and mid July 1903 with Perry Ingram, the first of its three postmasters. It seems fairly likely that Penshurst was named for the small village near Tunbridge in Kent County, England, the site of one of that country's great homes and show places, but this has not been confirmed and no reason for it has been found. After the office closed the community took the Concord name. The local store failed to survive the depression, and now only some homes and the church mark the site.

Knoxville, for a village and post office on the present Ky 467, half a mile from the Grant county line and thirteen miles wnw of Falmouth, is another name that defies explanation. Its first postmaster, William R. Fisk, had the office established in his store on July 19, 1848. Though it closed after only ten months, it was re-established in March 1860 and operated through November 1906. A couple of stores and the local church continue to serve this community.

On March 15, 1851 Grenberry Sharp established the post office of Doudsville [dowdz/vihl] which operated intermittently till mid August 1880 on the present Ky 22, just yards from the Grant County line, and thirteen miles west of Falmouth. On April 25, 1883 cross-roads storekeeper Robert M. Crist re-established the office but as Doudton. It was undoubtedly named for a family of Douds but according to the 1850 Census, the only such family^{y1??} then lived in neighboring Harrison County. Doughton on current maps, is an obvious error.

Several stations on the Covington and Lexington (later the Kentucky Central and L&N) Railroad that followed the Licking River through the center of the county gave rise to post offices shortly after the line was completed in 1853. The first of these offices, DeMossville, has already been discussed.

The next was Meridian, ten rail miles north of Falmouth, which was established on February 14, 1855 with Heber Shoemaker, postmaster. With a name that remains unexplained, Meridian served a place that was little more than a store and a source of wood for the line's wood-burning locomotives. On March 27, 1860, however, this post office was moved one mile south to the site of Boston Station that had recently been opened to serve the Licking River Lumber and Mining Company's new sawmill. With William B. Roberts, postmaster, it assumed the name of the station which had been named for the Massachusetts home town of most of the company's stockholders. In 1872 the town that had developed around the mill, station, and post office was incorporated also as Boston Station. Around the turn of the century, excessive flooding led to the sale of the mill to W.A. Bradford and Christopher C. Hagemeyer who moved it to Butler.

By the late 1890s the station was known as Lynn though the post office and community remained Boston Station till the office closed in late January 1922. Over the next few years the community moved about half a mile west to the highway (soon to become US 27) and has been known simply as Boston. Its last business has since closed and only some homes remain. The source of Lynn is also unknown.

Two miles south of Boston-Lynn station was Wright's Station. Or at least this was the name given to its post office which operated

from September 15, 1855 through March 1860. David Hardman was its first postmaster. Actually the station itself was better known in its earlier years as Irving Station, and was later called Menzies Station [mehn/zəs]. The vicinity is still identified as Menzies on published maps though there is no longer anything there.

Wright's Station was probably named for Matthew Wright, resident and landowner. Elisha and Sallie Irving, landowners, are considered the source of that name. John W. Menzies, the late nineteenth century judge of Kentucky's Twelfth Judicial District, which included Pendleton County, also lived in this vicinity.

The Morgan post office serving the Morgans Station-Callensville area between 1856 and 1957 has already been discussed.

Butler, Pendleton's other incorporated community, is a fifth class city with an active post office and a ~~1990~~ population of ~~625~~. It too is on the river, just below the mouth of Lick Creek, and three rail miles northwest of the Boston Station site. The community can be traced to 1837 when the Ham brothers opened a store there and construction began on a lock and dam in what turned out to be an unsuccessful effort to make the Licking navigable. The settlement growing up around the construction was first called Fourth Lock. The town itself was established when the railroad was built through and, with the station, was named for former Congressman and Mexican War veteran William Orlando Butler (1791-1880) of Carrollton. Since Butler was then in use by a Fulton County post office, the Pendleton County office, established on March 10, 1857, with Richard M.J. Wheeler, postmaster, was called Clayton. This was for one or more county families whose progenitor, Coleman Clayton, is known to have

been living in Falmouth in 1815. When John A. Shaw became postmaster on July 31, 1860 the office was renamed Butler. The town was incorporated as Butler on February, 1868 and soon became an important mill town and tobacco processing center.

Also on the Licking River bottom, across from the mouth of Kincaid Creek, and four rail miles north of Falmouth, was the community, station, and post office of Catawba [kə/^htāh/bə]. This community was laid out in 1858 on fifty acres owned by Thomas L. Garrard and Charles Iliff and it and the station, on what by then had become the Kentucky Central Railroad, were given the name of a county, town, and several streams in North Carolina that had been named for an early Indian tribe of that state. Why that name was given to this place in Pendleton County, though, is not known. Pendleton's Catawba post office was established on September 22, 1858, with Richard T. Pettit, postmaster, and its community, like the others on the rail line, became a fairly prosperous mill town and tobacco processing and shipping center till the end of the century. The office closed in 1933, and when the station later closed, the other businesses did too, and now only a few homes mark the site.

The last Kentucky Central station to have its own post office was Levingood on the east side of the South Licking Fork, four miles southwest of Falmouth. The post office was established on July 3, 1866 with William H. Scott, the first postmaster. Late the following May he was succeeded by Peter Levingood for whose family the station and post office were named. In 1906 Charles Broderick, then postmaster, had the office moved half a mile north to what was then known as Hayes Station. By the late 1880s Irish-born Timothy Hayes, a

Cincinnati distiller, had settled his family on land he had acquired in the South Fork bottoms where he built and operated another distillery. Since then some 800 acres of those bottoms have been known as Hayes Valley. However, the post office, which closed in mid January 1909, remained Levingood.

Half a mile north of Peach Grove on the present Ky 10, only a mile from the Campbell County line, was the old Aspen Grove post office. This served Nicholas Pettit's recently opened Aspen Grove Seminary from May 5, 1856 till July 1862, with Pettit and Nicholas T. Rouse as its only postmasters. On July 16, 1871 it was re-established by Joseph H. Dicken probably at the Peach Grove site where it continued to operate till July 1873. Meanwhile, Jacob H. Carnes opened another office at the Seminary site, calling it Aspen, but this operated only from February 7 through September 1872.

On January 27, 1875 the Peach Grove post office, named for the local peach orchards, was established by John Jones at the junction of Ky 10 and 154, 14½ miles north of Falmouth. It closed in March 1907. This viable community still has its store, garage, and church, and some nice brick homes.

The hamlet of Gardnersville, at the junction of Rts. 491 and 3184, 14½ miles northwest of Falmouth, was named for the local Gardner families. Its post office, operating from February 16, 1858 through October 1908, served several stores, a hotel, saloon, sawmill, wagonmaker, and other businesses. Stephen T. Price was its first postmaster, and in 1861 William Gardner also served in this capacity. A grocery, church, and Bowen's farm equipment store remain.

Elizabethville, which once had three stores, a post office, school, and flour mill, was on the Williamstown Road (now Ky 22), five miles wnw of Falmouth. The post office, established on July 19, 1862 by Willis Lovelace and probably named for one of several Elizabeth Lovelaces in the area, was just across the McGraw Road from the present Turner Ridge Church. The post office closed in mid May 1903. The area now known as Turner Ridge may also have been called Modock for the local school, and Oakhill (ca. 1860). Only the church survives.

Then there was the hamlet and post office of Dividing Ridge, probably in the vicinity of the Pleasant Ridge Church on Ky 467, 9 3/4 miles wnw of Falmouth. Here a steam-powered mill, store, and cooperage were served by the post office between November 25, 1862 and sometime in 1896. James Stith was its first postmaster. There's nothing there now but the church.

Somewhere on Willow Creek, 3 1/4 miles south of the Licking River and 6 1/4 miles southeast of Falmouth, was a shortlived post office (from March 6, 1867 to September 1869) called Flynnville (according to the Post Office Registers) or Flinnville (according to the Site Location Reports and Census records). In either case it was probably named for its only postmaster John B. Flinn.

Nothing but homes remain of the one time village of Batchelors Rest, about a mile and a half east of the (main) Licking, and six miles ese of Falmouth. This place, which had three general stores, two groceries, and a couple of flour mills, is said to have been named for the bachelors who used to sun themselves on benches in front of a local store. At least this name in the above spelling

was given to the post office established by Robert A. Stanly on May 16, 1870. On more recent maps the name has been spelled without the "t". But one cannot rule out a family name origin; though there were no such families in either spelling in Pendleton County during the nineteenth century, the 1870 Census did list several Batchelors for neighboring Campbell, Kenton, and Boone Counties.

While the community was always Batchelors Rest, its post office was known as Mains between April 13, 1887 and its closing in mid May 1903. This honored the family of Laban C. Mains (ne 1802), a Virginian who settled early in Bracken County. His son, Laban Mains, Jr., and Sarah S., who married one of the local storekeepers, N.D.C. Mains, were postmasters in the late 1870s and 80s, and undoubtedly were behind the name-change.

The shortlived post office of Greenwood Hill (May 28, 1878 to April of the following year) and the later Greenwood School were at the junction of the present Ky 17 and 3185, seven miles nww of Falmouth. Jasper N. Yelton was the first of its two postmasters. Whence the name is not known; no such families are listed in nineteenth century county records. There is nothing at the site now though it is still identified as Greenwood on published maps.

In the summer of 1879, John B. Pribble, a local tobacco dealer, requested a post office to serve what by then was the village of Pribbles Cross Roads, at the junction of the present Ky 10 and 159, eleven miles nne of Falmouth. But the office was named Mount Auburn, for reasons as yet unknown, and operated from August 18, 1879 through January 1902. Authorization to re-establish the office as Pribble in late October 1902 was rescinded the following year. There is still

a small community at this site with one or two stores though its county school closed in the early 1970s. The cross roads was named for the family whose Pendleton County progenitor, James Pribble, a Marylander (1762-1851), had settled there in 1817.

Goforth [goh/fawrth] was never more than a store, post office, church, and school on Ky 22, nine miles west of Falmouth. Now with only some homes and the Short Creek Church it continues to be one of Pendleton's onomastic enigmas. Was it named for one or more persons or families of this name? Some recall a William Goforth of Cincinnati who was early involved in efforts to develop Big Bone Lick as a tourist attraction. Families of this name were found in several sections of Kentucky in the nineteenth century, but not in Pendleton County. Or could the place have been named for a slogan "Go forth and do battle" or something equally incitive? This, it has been said, may have been the origin of the family's name. Some family historians have referred to their progenitors in Cromwell's army as always being in its front line of offense or, as messengers, always relied upon to go forth on their missions. Anyhow, the local post office, established by Clarence E. Quick, operated from April 27, 1881 through September 1907.

A mile south of what is now called Kincaid Creek, in an area then called Double Beech, (probably on the present Ky 22, six miles east of Falmouth), storekeeper Charles Daugherty established a post office on March 2, 1882. Instead of his preferred name Lantry, for a local man, Thomas Lantry, it was called Kinkead instead, and it operated till mid May 1903.

The orthographic discrepancy in the above can be traced back to the nineteenth century spelling of the stream's name which was also spelled Kincade and Kinkade. The stream, which heads some four miles into Bracken County and joins the Licking at Catawba, is said to have been named for a late eighteenth century hunter and trapper who had once visited the area. The original or proper spelling of his name and thus that of the stream is not known. Modern day families of this name spell it Kincaid, and this was the spelling of the stream's name on Munsell's 1818 map of Kentucky. In 1943 the U.S. Board on Geographic Names legitimized this spelling.

The first Portland post office and the later Schuler post office were at the junction of the present Ky 467 and the Greenwood-Portland Road, 10½ miles northwest of Falmouth. Alexander Orr, the local doctor, established the Portland office on August 6, 1884, but his choice of name has not been explained. In early 1891 William T. Stith moved the office a mile or two south, and it may have moved again, in 1897, closer to the Dividing Ridge whose postal responsibilities it assumed till it closed at the end of 1904.

In December 1891 the original Portland site got a new post office when Schuler was established by and named for John G. Schuler, its first postmaster. This lasted till the end of July 1905. What is now identified as Portland centers on a store on Ky 467, about half-way between its two post office locations.

To serve a community that was once known as Mago on the North Fork of the Licking, in the southeast corner of the county, Zeno Fisher established the post office he called Magoburgh. This was on October 20, 1885. On the 24th of the following month, however,

he had the name changed to Aulick for a local family, one of whose members, Adolphus, succeeded him as the office's only other postmaster till it closed in September 1893. On July 7, 1897 another office was established for this vicinity which its only postmaster, William R. Spicer, wanted to call Buda. Instead he operated it, but only till March of the following year, as Ernst.

One can only guess at Mago; this was the ancient Phoenician name for one of the Balearic islands off the northeast coast of Spain. But why it would have been chosen for a small Kentucky post office is a puzzle. One may also only assume that Ernst referred to William Ernst of Covington (1813-1895), who had been president of the Kentucky Central Railroad and whose son, Richard P., was later to represent Kentucky in the U.S. Senate.

Caddo was the second of Pendleton's post offices that, inexplicably, bore the name of an American Indian tribe. Actually, it was the name of a loose federation of tribes sharing similar languages which, in prehistoric times, lived in an area between the Red River and Brazos valleys in east Texas, western Louisiana, and southwestern Arkansas, and whose name was also given to communities in several other southern states. Kentucky's Caddo was on Rt. 10, 8½ miles northeast of Falmouth, and its post office, between August 27, 1887 and mid May 1903, served two mills, a store, and some other businesses. Henry B. Bonar was the first of its postmasters. Only the Pine Grove Methodist Church survives.

The Hightower family of northern Pendleton County gave its name to the post office serving a couple of stores in the old Fruit Hill community at the head of Blanket Creek in the southern part of the

county. First postmaster James B. Henry's preferred name Almont was replaced by Hightower and this office operated between May 1, 1890 and mid May 1903. Today there is nothing at this site, at the junction of the present Rts. 1053 and 3180, 8½ miles south of Falmouth. And it is not even identified on published maps.

Ossipee, Pindell, and Pleasant Hill are the names given to a vicinity around a one time store on Ky 159, eight miles north of Falmouth. No one knows how or why these names were applied. Robert Wallace Owen was running the store on Pleasant Hill when, on May 21, 1890, he opened the Ossipee [ahs/əp/ee] post office. In June 1902 he had its name changed to Pindell [plhn/dehl] and maintained the office till it closed in January 1905. To make matters more confusing, his choice of Pindell followed the preferred names of Canton, Coney, and Central which were apparently unacceptable to the postal authorities. Today the vicinity of just a few homes is still called Pleasant Hill, probably a commendatory name, but Ossipee and Pindell are virtually unrecalled.

Ossipee, an Algonquian name meaning "beyond water",⁵ was the name of an Alamance County, North Carolina mill town that was also founded in 1890 and that of the seat of Carroll County, New Hampshire. Pindell could have derived from Pendell or Pendle, the name of a hill in Lancashire, England, while Pendleton was originally a hilltop village in that same English county. Could Mr. Owen have known the ultimate derivation of his county's name?

A settlement with flour mill, store, and post office on the Licking River, eight miles southeast of Falmouth, was named for the many local McKinneys. The McKinneysburg post office was established on

December 3, 1890 with Jacob D. Doubman, postmaster, about the time A.J. McKinney was running the local flour mill. Orie D. McKinney, a later postmaster, moved the store and office several hundred yards west. Nothing there but homes now.

Back in the early 1890s four oak trees near Samuel Foley's store and sawmill on or near the present Ky 27, some three miles south of Falmouth, gave their name to Sallie Parker's new post office. Four Oaks closed in mid May 1903.

Serving the southwest corner of the county between June 23, 1891 and mid May 1903 was the inexplicably named Marcus post office. William M. Thompson was its only postmaster. This vicinity, on Ky 330, nearly five miles southwest of Morgan, was settled fairly early in the nineteenth century; the local Baptist church, now called Crooked Creek, for the nearby stream, was organized in 1834.

Wampum, another post office with an unexplained name, served a mill and postmaster Ulysses Grant Willis' store where the present Lenoxburg Road crosses Kincaid Creek, five miles northeast of Falmouth. It operated between August 27, 1891 and the end of March 1903.

The village and C&O station of Ivor [a:/vər], directly across the Ohio River from Moscow, Ohio and two miles north of Carntown, was named for a local farmer, David Ivor (ne England in 1832). John F. Rogers and Fred H. Thelke ran the post office there from January 12 to November 14, 1893. Ida Bell Gwynn re-established it on September 18, 1903 and ran it till mid May 1909.

A post office called Emery was established on January 17, 1894 by William LaFayette Dawson some 3½ miles south of Butler and three

quarters of a mile east of Grassy Creek's South Fork, perhaps in the vicinity of the old Greenwood Hill post office. In February 1895 James H. Moore had it moved two miles south to the present Ky 17, just southeast of the Mt. Moriah Christian Church, and five miles nnw of Falmouth, where it operated through January, 1903. Its name derivation is not known.

Instead of the preferred name Caro for their post office just above the mouth of Lightfoot Fork of the South Fork of Grassy (on the present Ky 1657, 7½ miles northwest of Falmouth), Mary J. and Henry C. Blackburn named their new post office Tur. The vicinity it served from July 2, 1895 through July 1905, which has long been unidentified on published maps, was sometimes called Blackburnsville. Although there is no verification of this, the name seems to have been derived from the Arabic Jebel et-Tûr, another name for the Biblical Mt. Tabor, the scene of Christ's Transfiguration.

Finally, we come to the post office of Ezra which operated from July 16, 1901 through February 1905. David Sargent, the local storekeeper and its only postmaster, had named it for his two year old son Ezra D. This vicinity, on the present Locust Grove-Gum Lick Road, just yards from the Grant County line, and thirteen miles wsw of Falmouth, was identified on the 1884 Lake map as Orange Grove, and is erroneously shown on current maps as Ezera.

Only three of Pendleton's forty one post offices are still in operation. Falmouth and Butler serve the county's only incorporated communities. The third is DeMossville. Fifteen discontinued offices were the center of onetime villages, while most of the others served

at least a country store, church, or school. One office--Records, named for a local family--was established by Robert W. Owen (later of Ossipee) on September 8, 1886 but is not known to have operated. Twenty five of Pendleton's post offices closed in the first decade of the twentieth century, twelve in 1903 alone.

Local or area persons/families accounted for sixteen office names. Six offices were named for distant places while two were taken from nearby streams. Three names were geographically descriptive. One (probably two) offices were named for famous non-local persons. Thirteen names have not been explained. Two offices have not been located.

Seven post offices bore names not originally intended for them. Twelve served places with other names. Twelve had name-changes.

FOOTNOTES

1. The main channel of the Licking River which joins the South Fork at Falmouth was early called North Fork and the Blue Lick Fork, but later it became simply the Licking. The present North Fork which flows through Mason and Bracken counties and joins the main Licking where Bracken, Harrison, and Pendleton counties come together is a more recent designation. The South Fork was first called Hinkston Creek, a name now reserved for one of its Bourbon County branches.
2. E.E. and Mary Louise Barton, Place Names of Pendleton County, undated manuscript in the vertical files of the Kentucky Historical Society Library; E.E. Barton, manuscript on Pendleton County Communities, ca. 1968; E.E. Barton, Railroad History of

3. In its earliest days, the Morgan Station site may also have been called Stowers Station or even Stowersville.
4. See Robert M. Rennick, Kentucky's Bluegrass, A Survey of the Post Offices, Vol. 2, Lake Grove, Or: The Depot, 1994, P. 64.
5. George R. Stewart, American Place Names, New York: Oxford University Press, 1970, P. 349.

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1. Barton, E.E. Pendleton County Communities, 1968 manuscript shared with the writer.
2. Ibid., Railroad History of Pendleton County, 1968 manuscript shared with the writer.
3. Barton, E.E. and Mary Louise, Place Names of Pendleton County, undated manuscript in the vertical files of the Kentucky Historical Society Library.
4. Bell, Ethel of Falmouth, Ky., interviewed by the writer on October 17, 1978.
5. "Early History of Butler, Pendleton County, Kentucky" typescript of an undated and unsigned feature article in the Butler Enterprise, in the Special Collections of the University of Kentucky Library.
6. Hartman, Margaret Strebek, "The Early History of Falmouth, Pendleton County, Kentucky", a series in the Falmouth Outlook, 1982-83.
7. Rennick, Robert M. Kentucky Place Names, Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1984.
8. Shonert, Genevieve of Falmouth, Ky., interviewed by the writer

on October 17, 1978

- 21 -

9. United States Post Office Department: Site Location Reports
--Pendleton County, Ky. Post Offices, National Archives
(Washington, D.C.)

PENDLETON COUNTY, KY. POST OFFICES

~~or Roswell Kittidge?~~

✓ 1. FALMOUTH (or PENDLETON C.H.)-- 4/1/1801, James Lanier; 4/1/1803, Wm. Clarks....

APO

✓ 2. JOHNSON- 9/7/1830, Robert L. Fugate; Disc. 6/13/1835; → 9

✓ 3. FLOWER CREEK- 2/16/1832, Walter Thiers; 2/23/1835, Richard Sharp.... 7/26/1866, Benjamin E. Yelton; Disc. 3/23/1874;

Friend or fairer Fryer?

Est Dec 30/1820, Roswell Kittidge (---)

✓ 4. GRASSY CREEK- 11/2/1832, Jonathan Dougherty; 2/5/1835, Benj. Hensley.... 2/16/1852, Richard Mullins; name changed to DeMossville, 8/29/1854, Robert B. Jacobs; 1/16/1855, Henry Bullock....

APO

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✓ 5. BRASS BELL- 5/27/1837, James J. Bonar; 7/15/1837, Barnett P. Bonar; Disc. 6/9/1842;

✓ 6. MOTIER- 7/5/1839, Francis Chalfant; 7/9/1841, George Lewis;10/13/1858, Jacob H. Carnes.... 4/10/1862, Henry H. Hutte; Disc. 10/23/1872; Re-est. 6/2/1873, Hiram J. Carnes; 11/11/1884, Jacob H. Carnes; name changed to Carntown (sic), 5/27/1891, Jacob H. Carnes; 5/27/1896, Robert A. Carnes.... 3/19/1910, Frederick W. Hutte; Disc. 4/30/1920 (mail to Foster);

✓ 7. LICKING GROVE- 3/12/1840, Alexander L. Pepper; Disc. 4/28/1843;

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✓ 8. ASH RUN- 3/13/1844, George J. Hitch; 10/24/1854, Aldred D. Moore; 4/14/1857, R.T. Houston; Disc. 7/16/1857; → Penshurst

2 → ✓ 9. CALLENSVILLE- 9/12/1846, Jonathan Callen; 4/25/185?, John W. Hume; 2/17/1858, Wesley M. Whitson; 12/28/1858, James O. Witson; Disc. 2/8/1860;

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✓ 10. KNOXVILLE- 7/19/1848, Wm. R. Fisk; Disc. 5/23/1849; Re-est. 3/20/1860, Abram G. Wileman; 8/30/1860, Lawson Race; 11/30/1870, Lewis Helmich.... 4/19/1899, Alvin H. Clifford; Disc. 11/17/1906, effective 11/30/1906 (mail to Dry Ridge, Grant Co.);

✓ ARNOLD'S (1820-1820) (P+9) [Grant Co.]

TRAVELLER'S REST (P+9) -? (1833-1842)
(see Havilandsv. - Harrison Co.)

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PENDLETON CO., KY. POST OFFICES (2)

- ✓ 11. DOUDSVILLE- 3/15/1851, Grennberry Sharp; 12/6/1852, Henry Fugate; Disc. 1/10/1853; Re-est. 5/3/1854, Wm. C. Wilson; Disc. 5/29/1855; Re-est. 5/17/1876, Henry Frakes; 12/27/1876, James L. Dougherty.... 4/6/1880, Armistead M. Ransom; Disc. 8/16/1880;
- ✓ 12. MERIDIAN- 2/14/1855, Heber Shoemaker; 9/18/1856, Wm. L. Barton;.... 3/1/1859, Mrs. Nancy Shoemaker; name changed to Boston Station, 3/27/1860, Wm. B. Roberts; 2/15/1861, Geo. W. Marston.... 8/20/1813, Harry Burlew; Disc. 1/31/1922 (mail to Butler);
- ✓ 13. WRIGHT'S STATION- 9/18/1855, David Hardman; 1/11/1856, John P. McCracken.... 10/4/1859, Joel Bonar; Disc. 3/30/1860;
- 2 → 9 → 14. MORGAN- 1/3/1856, Benjamin F. Hume; 5/14/1857, Jesse L. Henry; 1/8/1861, Nathan Dickerson; Disc. 4/12/1862; Re-est. 1/26/1866, Nathan S. Dickerson; 10/3/1866, Robert H. Dudley.... 12/23/1901, Henry E. Aulick....

Disc 1957

- ✓ 15. ASPEN GROVE- 5/5/1856, Nicholas Pettit; 6/29/1857, Nicholas T. Rouse; Disc. 7/11/1862; Re-est. 6/16/1871, Joseph H. Dicken; Disc. 7/21/1873;
- ✓ 16. CLAYTON- 3/10/1857, Richard M.J. Wheeler; name changed to Butler, 7/31/1860, John A. Shaw; Disc. 6/18/1861; Re-est. 7/9/1861, Richard B. Cowles; 3/31/1873, Mrs. M.M. Taylor....

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- ✓ 17. GARDNERSVILLE- 2/16/1858, Stephen T. Price; 8/23/1859, Wm. Oldham.... 9/13/1861, Wm. Gardner;.... 12/7/1875, Frederick Helmich.... 11/23/1906, James R. Ervin; Disc. effective 10/31/1908;
- ✓ 18. CATAWBA- 9/22/1858, Richard T. Pettit; 4/5/1859, George W. Harrington....

Disc 1933

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PENDLETON COUNTY, KY. POST OFFICES (3)

- ✓ 19. ELIZABETHVILLE- 7/19/1862, Willis Lovelace; 5/16/1866, Sam'l. C. Blackburn.... 1/7/1890, Wm. L. Fookes; Disc. 4/29/1903, effective 5/15/1903 (papers to Falmouth);
- ✓ 20. DIVIDING RIDGE- 11/25/1862, Jesse Stith; 1/31/1865, James Vastine.... 3/19/1867, Robert McNay; Disc. 8/18/1868; Re-est. 8/9/1869, Thomas Stephens; 11/3/1870, Louis Helmet....
disc 1896
- ✓ 21. LEVINGOOD- 7/3/1866, Wm. H. Scott; 5/29/1867, Peter Levingood; 11/4/1907, Maud Fornash; 4/16/1908, Evelyn Hayes, declined; Disc. 1/15/1909 (mail to Falmouth);
- ✓ 22. FLYNNVILLE- 3/6/1867, John B. Flynn; Disc. 9/21/1869;
- ✓ 23. BATCHELORS REST- 5/16/1870, Robert A. Stanly (sic); Disc. 9/7/1875; Re-est. 5/3/1876, Laban Mains; 3/15/1887, Sarah S. Mains; name changed to Mains, 4/13/1887, Sarah S. Mains; 2/9/1900, Charles Rigg; Disc. 4/29/1903, effective 5/15/1903 (papers to Falmouth);
- ✓ 24. ASPEN- 2/7/1872, Jacob H. Carnes; Disc. 9/30/1872;
- ✓ 25. PEACH GROVE- 1/27/1875, John C. Jones; 1/3/1876, Richard Drake.... 2/15/1894, Nicholas H. Houston; Disc. 3/6/1907, effective 3/15/1907 (mail to Butler);
- ✓ 26. GREENWOOD HILL- 5/28/1878, Jasper N. Yelton; 3/19/1879, M.J.A. Randin; Disc. 4/10/1879;
- ✓ 27. MOUNT AUBURN- 8/18/1879, John B. Pribble; 11/1/1886, Titus B. Wright.... 7/28/1897, John B. Pribble; Disc. 4/4/1900, eff. 4/14/1900 (papers to Caddo), rescinded 4/14/1900; Disc. 1/22/1902, effective 1/31/1902 (papers to Butler); → Pribble
- ✓ 28. GOFORTH- 4/27/1881, Clarence E. Quick; 2/25/1884, Benjamin F. Arnold.... 2/15/1894, Elmer E. Ewing; Disc. 9/7/1907, effect. 9/30/1907 (mail to Falmouth);

PENDLETON COUNTY, KY. POST OFFICES (4)

- ✓ 29. KINKEAD- 3/2/1882, Charles Dougherty (sic); 10/10/1882, Paten F. McClanahan; 12/6/1902, Maggie J. McClanahan; Disc. 4/29/1903, effective 5/15/1903 (papers to Falmouth);
- ✓ 30. DOUDTON- 4/25/1883, Robert M. Crist; 8/16/1901, Ashland Ewing; 5/4/1903, Harry Wallace; Disc. 9/4/1903, effective 9/30/1903 (papers to Williamstown, Grant Co.);
- ✓ 31. PORTLAND- 8/6/1884, Alexander Orr; 7/20/1887, Wm. Frakes; Disc. 9/19/1888; Re-est. 5/7/1891, Wm. T. Stith; 12/27/1899, Charles B. Stith; 2/23/1900, Wm. E. Blackburn; Disc. 11/29/1904, effective 12/31/1904 (mail to DeMossville);
papers to
Gardners-
ville
- ✓ 32. MAGOBURGH- 10/20/1885, Zeno F. Fisher; name changed to Aulick, 11/24/1885, Zeno F. Fisher; 4/5/1888, Adolphus F. Aulick; Disc. 9/28/1893 (papers to McKinnysburg);
- ✓ 33. RECORDS- 9/8/1886, Robert W. Owen; Disc. 12/3/1890 (no papers sent) (never in operation);
- PENSHURST
- ✓ 34. ~~PENSHURST~~- 7/21/1887, Perry J. Ingram; 2/17/1888, Ben H. Hitch; 7/31/1902, Richard M. Fields; Disc. 4/29/1903, effective 4/15/1903 (papers to Falmouth);
- ✓ 35. CADDO- 8/27/1887, Henry B. Bonar; Disc. 12/13/1887 (papers to Lenoxburgh); Re-est. 3/2/1888, Henry B. Bonar; 11/14/1890, Washington Shaver; 4/24/1893, Titus B. Wright... 2/24/1903, George Shelton; Disc. 4/29/1903, effective 5/15/1903 (papers to Falmouth);
- ✓ 36. HIGHTOWER- 5/21/1890, James B. Henry; 3/14/1896, Joseph P. Watson; 3/9/1899, Anna Henry; Disc. 4/29/1903, effective 5/15/1903 (papers to Falmouth);
- ✓ 37. OSSIPEE- 5/21/1890, Robert W. Owen; Disc. 4/4/1900, eff. 4/14/1900, rescinded 4/14/1900 (papers to Caddo); Disc. 1/22/1902, effective 1/31/1902 (papers to Butler); Re-est. 6/13/1902, Robert W. Owen; Disc. 12/13/1904, effective 1/14/1905 (mail to Butler);

as Pindell

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PENDLETON COUNTY, KY. POST OFFICES (5)

- ✓ 38. McKINNEYSBURG- 12/3/1890, Jacob D. Doubman; 5/14/1891, Beverly M. Colvin. Jr. (....) 6/4/1919, Orie D. McKenney (sic); 6/14/1924, Virgie Holmes; Disc. 10/23/1929, effect. 11/15/1929 (mail to Falmouth);
- ✓ 39. FOUR OAKS- 2/26/1891, Sallie Parker; 6/1/1895, Jesse B.F. Foley, declined; 3/14/1896, Samuel Shewalter; Disc. 4/29/1903, effective 5/15/1903 (papers to Falmouth);
- ✓ 40. MARCUS- 6/23/1891, Wm. M. Thompson; Disc. 4/29/1903, effect. 5/15/1903 (papers to Berry);
- ✓ 41. WAMPUM- 8/27/1891, Ulysses G. Willis; 9/27/1897, H.C. Record, rescinded 4/15/1898; 2/9/1900, Joel J. Thornberry; Disc. 3/19/1903, effective 3/31/1903 (papers to Falmouth);
- ✓ 42. SCHULER- 12/5/1891, John G. Schuler; 12/13/1900, Edward Yelton; 12/6/1901, Jacob Schreck; Disc. 7/8/1905, effect. 7/31/1905 (mail to DeMossville);
- ✓ 43. IVOR- 1/12/1893, John F. Rogers; 9/15/1893, Fred H. Thelke; Disc. 11/14/1893 (mail to Moscow); Re-est. 9/18/1903, Ida B. Gwynn; Disc. 5/15/1909 (mail to Carntown);
- ✓ 44. EMERY- 1/17/1894, Wm. L. Dawson; 1/24/1895, James H. Moore; 3/14/1896, Estella D. Bush; 6/13/1902, Stella M. Campbell; Disc. 7/27/1903, effective 7/31/1903 (papers to Butler);
- ✓ 45. TUR- 7/2/1895, Mary J. Blackburn; 7/25/1896, Henry C. Blackburn; 3/19/1898, Annie Lowell; 9/29/1900, Eliza Lowell; Disc. 7/11/1905, effective 7/31/1905 (papers to Falmouth);
- ✓ 46. ERNST- 7/7/1897, Wm. H. Spicer; Disc. 3/22/1898 (papers to Mains);
- ✓ 47. EZRA- 7/16/1901, David Sargent; Disc. 3/15/1905, effect. 3/31/1905 (mail to Morgan);
- ✓ 48. PRIBBLE- 10/29/1902, J.B. Pribble, order rescinded 8/4/1903 (sic); 5/13/1903 (sic), Claude Records, order rescinded 8/4/1903 (sic);

✓ 49. PINDELL (1902 - 1905)