

Bits and Pieces

of Hardin County History

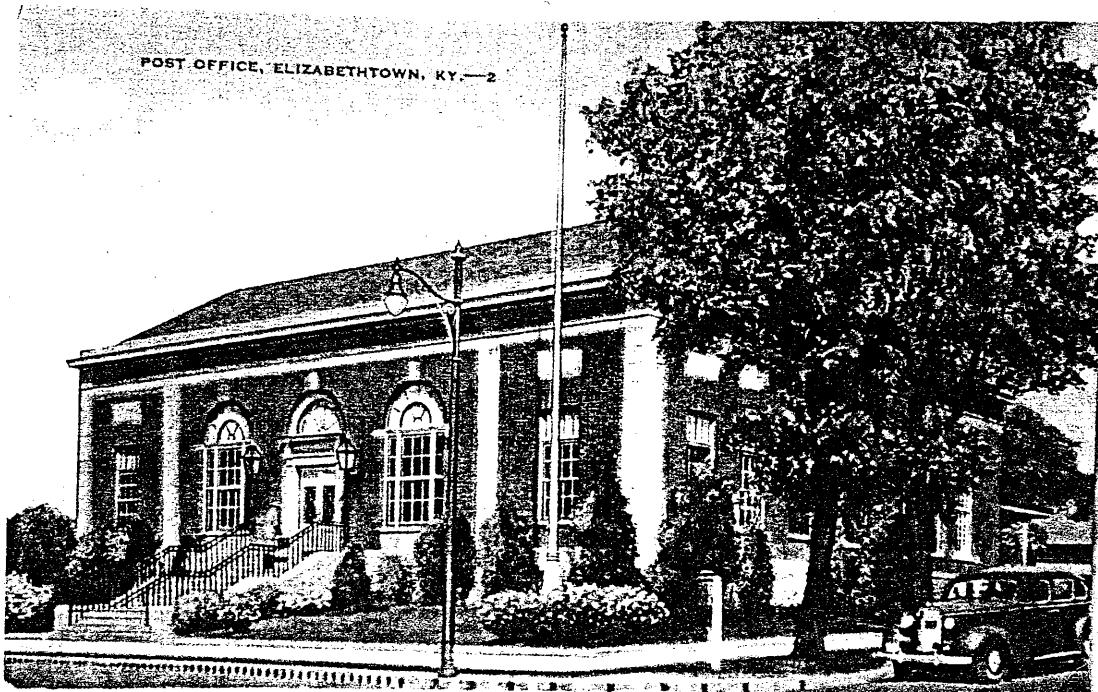
A PUBLICATION OF HARDIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOL XXII NO. 1

MARY JO JONES, EDITOR

SPRING 2003

HARDIN COUNTY HISTORY MUSEUM BUILDING



(From an old Postcard)

The building currently being restored for the Hardin County History Museum was built in 1931 for use as the Elizabethtown Post Office. It was built under the supervision of the United States Department of the Treasury. James Wetmore was the architect. The building has great architectural merit and fills a place in local and national history.

The floor plan is derived from the so-called "Taylor Plan" devised by James Knox

Taylor, who, with Oscar Wenderoth, designed post offices under the political administration of Woodrow Wilson (1912 - 1920). The Taylor Plan specified ample lobbies and major areas unbroken by internal partitions for expediting post office mail. Beginning with the Tarsney Act in 1893, post office construction was placed under the Department of the Treasury.

Taylor's buildings include the former main post office in Santa Barbara, California; a

similar building in Pasadena, California; and the Old Main Post Office in Buffalo, New York. Although all of these buildings are more than 60 years old, they still serve their respective communities.

Wetmore's works, besides the building in Elizabethtown, include the Federal Triangle in Washington and other Federal buildings on the Mall. He also designed the post office in Redlands, California, as well as one in Clovis, New Mexico. These buildings adhere to the Taylor Plan. Other post offices in Tucson (1929) and Memphis (1931) combine post office with courtroom space--again adhering to the Taylor Plan. Wetmore did most of his work under the presidency of Herbert Hoover (1928 - 1932).

Like the Taylor buildings, most of the Wetmore structures are still with us. They are, without exception, well-constructed and seek to place the Taylor Plan in architectural styles that

fit the regional environments. (The Redlands Post Office, for instance, is in the Spanish style, reminiscent of southern California in the years before 1900.) Like other Taylor and Wetmore buildings, it has survived at least one earthquake without damage. The Santa Barbara structure by Taylor survived two major quakes and is now the city museum.

It would be virtually impossible to match the equality of construction and the safety and attractiveness of any of these buildings today. The Hardin County History Museum building falls squarely into the midst of these noteworthy architectural developments.

Under the administration of Franklin D. Roosevelt, post office construction was taken away from the Treasury Department and placed under the Postmaster General. More "standardized" structures resulted.

M. J.J.

(From notes given the editor by John Cranston in December, 1984)

Hardin County Historical Society Budget 2003

	ESTIMATED INCOME
Book Sales	\$3,300.00
Dues (250 @ \$8.00)	\$2,000.00
Revenue sales tax	\$60.00
Interest Income	\$600.00
<u>Revenue book sales, postage</u>	\$100.00
TOTAL	\$6,060.00

	ESTIMATED EXPENSE
Marketing and printing of books	\$3,000.00
Printing and Mailing of Bits and Pieces	\$1,000.00
Programs	\$500.00
Cemetery Maintenance	\$200.00
Computer software and supplies	\$150.00
Professional Dues	\$150.00
Registration, workshops, etc.	\$300.00
Postage, printing, supplies	\$200.00
Sales Tax	\$60.00
Mileage, phone	\$50.00
Post office box rent	\$45.00
Safety Deposit box - FCB	\$30.00
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<u>\$375.00</u>
TOTAL	\$6,060.00

HOMINY HOLES



L.A. Stiles of Howevalley on his ancestral farm which formerly was an Indian camping and hunting ground. Hominy holes, of which there are ten, are a distinctive feature of the large stones in the foreground. These "Indian rocks" may well be the oldest objects in Hardin County.

(Elizabethtown Examiner, Nov. 22, 1976)

For many years writers depicted Kentucky as uninhabited prior to European settlement. They believed that the Indians considered the land unhealthy and came to the region only to hunt and make war. However, almost three thousand years before Kentucky pioneers encountered such tribes as the Shawnee, Cherokee and Chickasaw, the area had been inhabited by prehistoric Indians.

By 7500 BC, large game animals had died out, leaving only the smaller white-tailed deer and the elk, and the Archaic Indians had to depend upon fishing and efficient gathering of wild foods in

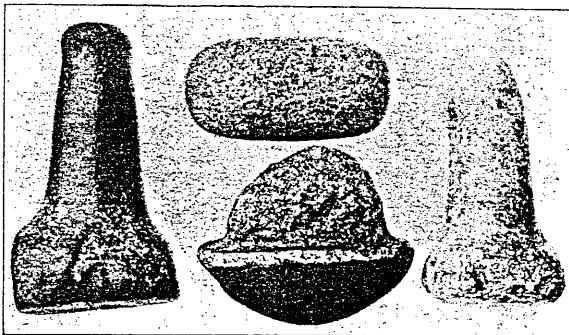
addition to hunting. Stone tools, ground to the desired shape, appeared, and artifacts, such as grooved axes, conical and cylindrical pestles, bone awls, and cannel coal beads, have been found. A unique feature of this period was the "hominy hole," a particular type of depression worn in sandstone by grinding or pulverizing. Despite its name, the hominy hole was probably used for grinding nuts or seed; corn (from which hominy is made) was not grown in Kentucky until a later period. These hominy holes appeared along with rock shelters and ledges.

Professors W. D. Funkhouser and W. S. Webb of the University and several other interested persons visited the Howevalley section in 1923. George Pirtle, a native of the area and then a student at the university, guided them in exploring the cliffs where they discovered many rock shelters and "hominy holes," mute testimony of the occupancy by a little known race of men.

In their book, *Ancient Life in Kentucky* published in 1928 and a pamphlet "The So-Called Hominy Holes of Kentucky," which was published the next year, the authors, Webb and Funkhouser, wrote of their extensive exploration and study of the first inhabitants of Kentucky. Long before the Indians claimed this part of Kentucky as their hunting grounds, an ancient race of people lived in the western part of Hardin County. They came from no one knows where, lived here for no one knows how long and disappeared, no one knows how or when.

The Indians who came later and whose word is somewhat less than reliable, called these people "white Indians." Extensive investigations by Funkhouser and Webb and others prove the unknown people were far more advanced in their culture than the Indians.

They point out in their book that these peoples lived in the area confined to that part of Kentucky which is drained by the Green River and the streams flowing into it. In fact, this is the only area in the state where hominy holes were found. Since they were always found near established cliff



Pestles

The left, bell-shaped with flat base, was found in Hardin County

shelters, hominy holes, ground out in huge boulders, were obviously vital to the existence of these people. They were used as a receptacle in which to grind corn or other grain and often the stone pestle used in doing this was found in or near the hole.

When a hominy hole became too deep to empty without difficulty, another was started nearby.

Funkhouser and Webb, found that Hardin County abounded in hominy holes. Two sites, only a few miles apart, were located about nine miles southwest of Vine Grove. The larger one was in a line of cliffs averaging 90 feet high and extending over a mile in roughly a northeast by southwest

(Source: Webb and Funkhouser, *Ancient Life in Kentucky*, 1928; *Ibid.*, pamphlet, "The So-called Hominy Holes of Kentucky"; Interview with Meranda Caswell.)

curve across the area. Two shelters were found in these cliffs, each of which had a hominy hole. One was about 8 inches in diameter and 2 1/2 feet deep. The other, around a curve in the cliff, was 7 inches in diameter and 26 1/2 inches deep. A few miles away was Bone Cliff with the hominy hole in a large rock at the edge of the shelter under the overhang. A sinkhole was in front of each of these rock shelters.

Another rock house with its accompanying hominy hole was discovered at Solway, but the largest concentration of them is located at or near Howe Valley. At Cow Cliff, four miles southwest of Howe Valley, many rock shelters and five hominy holes of varying sizes were found. Two other locations in this area also had hominy holes. At least one old timer living in the area reported seeing, as a boy, ten of them in his rambles over the hills and valleys of this area.

They still remain and it is nice to know these ancient relics, by their very nature, are relatively safe. They cannot be picked up and carried away as souvenirs. And it is interesting to speculate about the life and times, thousands of years ago, of the first Hardin countians.

HISTORY/GENEALOGY BOOK FAIR

Ancestral Trails Historical Society will hold its first annual Genealogy/History Fair and Book Sale on May 10, 2003, 10 AM to 4 PM, at the Nolin RECC Building in Elizabethtown. Various historical and genealogical societies as well as local authors will be present with books for sale.

A special display will depict the history of the land that is now the Fort Knox Military Reservation. Authentically costumed reenactors (frontier and Civil War periods) will be present. Food will be available for purchase.

CLAYSVILLE

Claysville was Elizabethtown's first suburb. It was located about a mile north of the courthouse, generally along and to either side of what is now West Dixie Avenue. The southern edge of the hamlet was generally what is now Sycamore Street, and it extended as far north as the Helm mansion and present-day Hardin Memorial Hospital. The community included areas several hundred yards on either side of the highway. The center probably was the bridge over Freeman Creek, popularly known for many years as the "Claysville Bridge," and the location of various places within the area were reckoned in relation to that bridge.

Why the settlement was called "Claysville" was long a subject for conjecture. The most likely explanation is because of the red clay soil which was present in abundance. The clay was raw material for a brick furnace which made bricks for many houses built in the neighborhood. It was operated for some time by Ben Rohr. Rohr also supplied bricks from this kiln for the Hardin County Courthouse built in 1872, which was destroyed by fire in 1932.

The Louisville and Nashville turnpike, a hard-surfaced road opened in the early 1830's, bisected Claysville. A toll-gate was located there, to extract a small sum from those using the road. A number of homes and businesses were located along that thoroughfare. The Thomas H. Duncan home was located just north of Sycamore Street, and the farmland extended back to include the area now known as Houchens Plaza Shopping Center. The Duncan family cemetery, surrounded by a brick wall, is located adjacent to Houchens' grocery.

At one time Claysville was the home of two future governors of Kentucky. John L. Helm who served as the state's chief executive 1850-1851 and in 1867 resided with his family in the Helm Mansion which still stands today. John Young Brown, the first of that name to be Governor of Kentucky, was born in Claysville in 1835 in a brick house that stood approximately on the northeast corner of West Dixie and Sunset Drive. He was educated in the schools of Elizabethtown and at Centre College, and began the practice of law in Hardin County in 1857. He removed to Henderson, Kentucky, at the time of his marriage in 1860 and never returned to live in

Elizabethtown. He was elected governor in 1891 and at the expiration of his term of office in 1895 resumed the practice of law. A Kentucky historical marker along West Dixie near Sunset Drive marks the site of his birth.

Charles Ehret, a German immigrant, came to Claysville about 1875 and set up a blacksmith shop. He was said to be a fine workman and could fashion almost anything made of metal. He was believed by many to be the best wagon and buggy maker of the town. Many residents of Elizabethtown eschewed a factory-made buggy for one made by Charlie Ehret in his shop at Claysville. Ehret died in 1939 and left his blacksmith shop in the capable hands of his son Herman. Winn-Dixie Marketplace now occupies the former Ehret shop.

Another noted industry in Claysville was a tannery, operated in the 1820's by Washington Whitaker. After the untimely death of Whitaker in 1833, the tannery was operated for some years by men named Howard and Thomas. It was conducted in a large brick building that was some years later used as a brewery. A beer storage cellar was built across the road. The entrance to this cellar looked much like a cave. I remember it well but never knew until recently what its purpose had been.

Christy Bush, Jr., a son of pioneer Christopher Bush, was a tavern keeper at Claysville during the years 1836 through 1841. The two-story red brick building in which he ran the tavern stood for over a century.

In 1898 John Woelpert bored a well near his home in Claysville. To his dismay, the water from the well, instead of being pure and clear, was dark and brackish, with a very disagreeable water, which became crystal clear when allowed to settle. The water was tested and believed to be very beneficial. Great crowds visited the well. The daily pilgrimage of local residents was a familiar sight in the early 1900's. A group would gather at the courthouse at six o'clock in the morning to walk to the well, with others joining en route, until there were often 100 persons. They returned home for breakfast and got on with the day's work. Whether they benefitted more from the walk or the water is



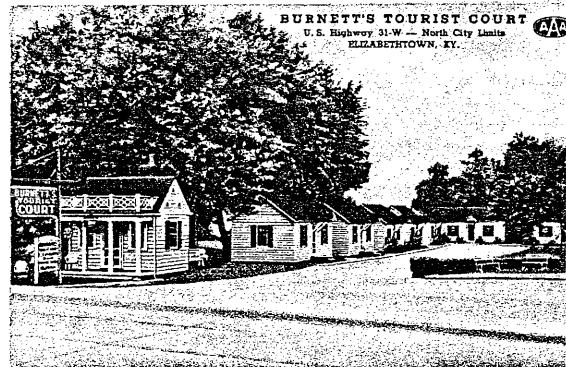
(From an old postcard)

BURNETT'S HOTEL

debatable, but judging from the number who participated, most seemed to believe it was the water. Its reputation for curative properties spread, and many persons from other parts of Kentucky came to "take the waters." Highway 31-W now covers the well site.

With the coming of the automobile, the character of Claysville changed. The highway was relocated and resurfaced to accommodate the new "horseless carriage." Service stations to serve the traveling public replaced other businesses. The most striking change, however, was made by Hays Burnett, a progressive businessman who acquired a large tract of land adjacent to Highway 31-W, extending back from the roadway several hundred feet and abutting a short distance along St. John Road. The first tourist hotel built in this area as such was opened by Burnett on 31-W. It included a very popular restaurant. This building, located at 540 W. Dixie, is now occupied by Duplicator Sales and Service. Because of the success of this endeavor, in 1935 Burnett also built several tourist cottages to the south, between his home and the hotel.

An old post card advertises Burnett's Hotel and Tourist Cottages: "Located at north entrance to Elizabethtown on U. S. Highway 31-W, forty-seven miles south of Louisville. Swimming pool and golf course free to guests. Rates: \$1.00 to \$2.50 per



(From an old postcard)

BURNETT'S TOURIST COURT

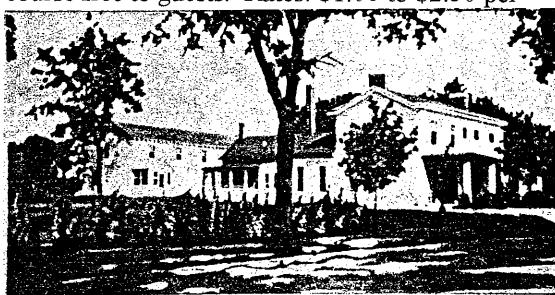
room. Free storage. Excellent cafe, featuring fried chicken, country ham and hot biscuits."

The swimming pool near the hotel accommodated not only hotel guests, but also the residents of Elizabethtown. When I was growing up, it was patronized heavily by teen-agers who could manage the few cents' admission during the Great Depression. The golf course Burnett built was the first in this vicinity, the Walnut Hills Golf Course, a nine-hole course, on land across the creek behind the hotel. He later abandoned the golf course and leased the land to the Federal Government. Buildings housing a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp were constructed on a portion of the former golf course. During World War II the CCC program was phased out and the buildings were removed. Today, modern homes of the Rolling Acres subdivision, consisting of Pinecrest and Walnut Hill Road, now fill most of the acres of the former golf course.

Dick and Annie Wathen converted the old Duncan house into a large tourist home to accommodate the traveling public. They enlarged the house and also added other overnight accommodations in a large building behind the house. It was interesting to note that overnight accommodations for tourists, in addition to a bed and a bath, likely down the hall, sometimes included a garage or carport for the car.

As so many other landmarks of Elizabethtown, Claysville remains only in history books and in the memory of a few older residents.

(Source: Notes of Lila Dykes and Margaret S. Richerson; personal recollections.)



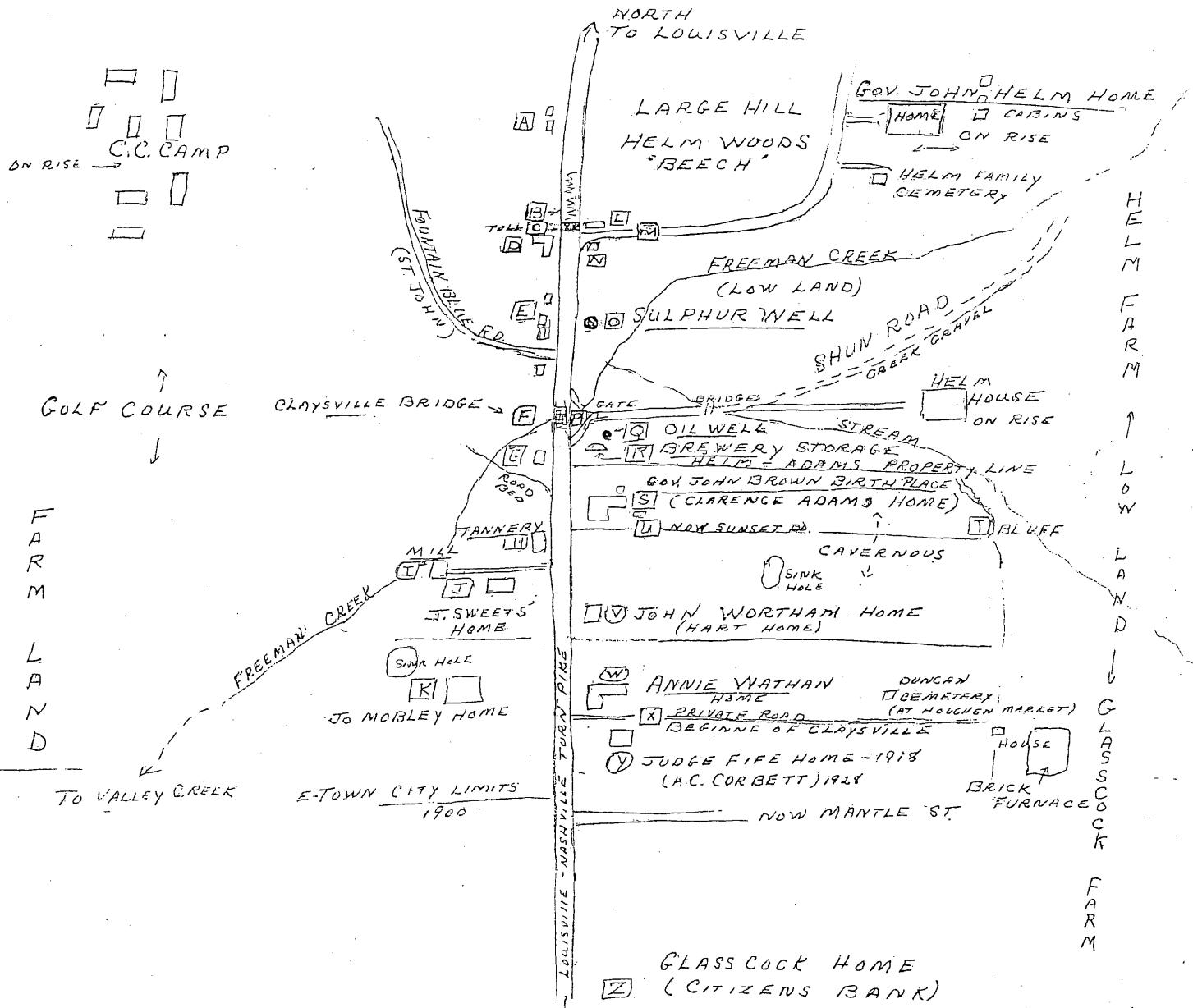
(From an old postcard)

WATHENS' TOURIST HOME AND SUNSET LODGE

M. J. J.

CLAYSVILLE

AS IT WAS THROUGH THE EIGHTEEN HUNDREDS AND INTO THE
EARLY NINETEEN HUNDREDS



- A - Whittaker negro cabins
- B - Steep Hill - north of toll gate
- C - Toll Gate
- D - Stage Coach Rest Station
- E - Charlie Ehret home & Blacksmith Shops
- F - Claysville Iron Bridge
- G - Ruins - open land - gypsy camp
- H - Tannery. Later Brewery
- I - Mill
- J - James Sweets Home.
- Later George Patterson Home.
- Later Hays Burnett Home
- K - Joseph Mobley Home (First Ford dealer. Later Ham Ryan Home)
- L - Toll House; two-room brick
- M - Early Road; circled Helm Woods near site of first Dixie Highway

- N - One-room brick; owned by no one.
May have been second toll station.
- O - Sulphur Well; visited daily by many
- P - Road around Bridge; place to water horses
- Q - Oil well; not a dry hole, but capped at once
- R - Brewery Storage; built into hillside
- S - Gov. John Young Brown's Birthplace later Adams
- T - Bluff
- U - Now Sunset Road; leads to bluff
- V - John Wortham Home, early 1900's
- W - Duncan, Dodge, Percefull, Wathen; Beginning of Claysville
- X - Now Sycamore Street; original road to brick works
- Y - Built by Judge H. B. Fife; now McDonalds
- Z - Glasscock Home; now First Citizens Bank

Map drawn from Memory by Lila Adams Dykes, who was born at Claysville in the Brown house, in 1904.

April 1, 1975

A TALE OF TWO LAWYERS

Ben Hardin, according to Haycraft's *History of Elizabethtown*, who was sworn in at the July term, 1806, was the twenty-first lawyer sworn in the court in Hardin County. Bardstown had been established by the Virginia Assembly in 1784, and the county of Nelson a few years previously, and thus had courts and attorneys some time before Hardin County was established.

Ben Hardin resided in Elizabethtown for about two years. The story is told that a man named William Bray, living in the upper end of Hardin County, killed a man and was charged with murder. Some friends of Bray came to town and employed Mr. Hardin to defend Bray and in doing so informed him that they wished him to take charge of the case until the "big lawyers" could "come down from Bardstown." Mr. Hardin immediately made plans to move to Bardstown, for he never would be called a great lawyer until he did so. Before Bray was indicted at the spring term, 1808, Mr. Hardin was a resident of Bardstown, and remained so until his death.

He did become a great lawyer, serving in the state legislature in both the House of Representatives and the Senate, and served his district in Congress for a number of years.

James Buchanan of Pennsylvania, who was elected President in 1856, came to Elizabethtown in about 1813 to practice law.

Buchanan's father had purchased as an investment some property near Elizabethtown. Giving it to his son, he sent him to the new land of promise to grow up with it. Buchanan, then twenty-three and a college graduate, had little fitness for the rough sides of frontier life. Attending the first term of court after his arrival, he noticed among the visiting lawyers the celebrated Ben Hardin, in a suit of unbleached tow-linen, ill-fitting and badly built, giving its gifted wearer a clownish appearance. Buchanan felt surprised to see this ungainly looking person take a seat among the lawyers.

A case was called in which the pleadings were very intricate and according to the highest authority of the day. Buchanan was astonished to see Hardin carry forward this case with astonishing skill and force. His arguments were masterpieces of learning, logic and clearness. After that experience, young Buchanan resolved that where such ill-favored looking lawyers possessed so much learning and power, there was little chance for a young man from Pennsylvania. He returned to the Keystone state.

Meeting Mr. Hardin later in Congress, 1821-1823, Mr. Buchanan declared that he went to Kentucky expecting to be a great man there, but that so many lawyers he came in contact with were his equals and many his superiors that he gave up.

Thus Ben Hardin's ill-fitting suit of unbleached tow-linen may have changed the whole course of American history.

M. J. J.

HARDIN COUNTY'S FIRST COURT HOUSE

Kentucky, formed wholly from Kentucky County, Virginia, was admitted to the Union as the fifteenth state on June 1, 1792. Hardin County was created by the first session of the Legislature of the new state of Kentucky wholly from Nelson County. It was named for Colonel John Hardin, a veteran of the Revolutionary War and early resident of the state, who was killed in 1792 while on a peace mission to the Indians in what is now the state of Ohio.

The first term of the county court in the new county of Hardin was held at the house of Isaac Hynes on July 22, 1793. At that meeting, county officials were named. Andrew Hynes laid off a tract of 37 acres of land on the edge of his plantation for the building of the public buildings of Hardin County and for division into town lots for the erection of homes and business buildings.

By August, discussion was taken up on the building of a jail, a poor house and a county court house. A stray pen or pound was also deemed necessary, as few pastures were enclosed, and cattle and horses found plentiful food in browsing on cane brakes which grew in abundance on all rich lands and particularly along water courses. Isaac Hynes was directed to build such a pen for the purpose of keeping strays. It appears from the records that the building of the jail was considered next most urgent. At that time the sheriff was directed to contract for the building of the jail "to the lowest bidder." Contract for building the first jail was let at that time to Isaac LaRue for 12 pounds and 16 shillings. Apparently some kind of building, satisfactory for a time, was constructed.

At the January term of court, 1795, held at the house of John Vertrees, the building of a court house was on the agenda. The minutes read: "*Ordered that the Court House be let to the lowest bidder at the March Court, agreeable to a plan that will be published on that day and that the sheriff advertise the same.*"

The court had fixed the location of the courthouse as on land given by Andrew Hynes.

However, the settlers around Hodgen's Mill wanted it there. In order to give every place an equal chance, the court at the March term, 1795, entered the following order: "*Ordered that it be advertised that the Court have no objection to the public buildings for Hardin county being erected in any convenient place where the largest superscription may be made for, provided a sufficient superscription be made up by next May Court.*"

At the May term of court, no superscription being presented to the court, the court proceeded to let out the building of the court house to the lowest bidder. This was auctioned at the court house door and the successful bidder was John Crutcher for 66 pounds, to be built agreeable to a plan which was read there at that time. It is not exactly certain where the "court house door" was since there was no court house at that time, but it is generally considered to have been at the door of the house of Capt. John Vertrees.

Crutcher set to work locating a site and assembling his crew of workmen. The exact location of this building is not specified in the records. The late Judge George K. Holbert, in a biography of Colonel Andrew Hynes appearing in *Who was Who in Hardin County*, states: "The first courthouse was built before there was an incorporated town. It was built of logs cut and hewed from the surrounding forest and the 'raising' took place on August 14, 1795. It stood on Haycraft land and on what is now the L & N railroad tracks and about 70 yards from the site of the residence of the late Dr. F. P. Strickler. Dr. Strickler's residence was on the north side of East Poplar Street, adjacent to the L&N Railroad tracks.

The courthouse was located in the woods, where there were trees all around. The Kentucky axe could fell the trees, the broad axe could hew, the whipsaw could cut the plank, the froe and drawing knife could make the shingles (to be put on with wooden pegs), all within one hundred yards of the site. The site, according to Haycraft in his *History of Elizabethtown*, was near enough to his father's cabin, generally a little north of the present-day

intersection of East Poplar Street and the railroad tracks, for the workmen to go there for their noon meal.

On the date of the raising, about forty strong workmen were on hand, with numerous women and children making up the audience. Inside the Haycraft cabin preparations were being made to feed the crew at noon. Haycraft, the historian, gives an account of the goings-on there: *"My mother and older sister, with some younger ones, to hand things and bring water, got the dinner in the style of those halcyon days. Large loaves of bread from the clay oven, roast shoats, chickens, ducks, potatoes, roast beef with cabbage and beans, old-fashioned baked custard and pudding, and the indispensable pies, pickles, etc., etc. Well, the dinner was set, all hands had their fill, the men back to their work, the table cleared off, the crumbs shook out to the dogs, the*

dishes, pewter spoons, knives, forks and pewter basins wiped and stowed away on the shelf of the dresser--that brought nearly three o'clock p. m...."

Shortly thereafter, Mrs. Haycraft gave birth to a lusty youngster, who grew up to be Samuel Haycraft, Jr., historian.

In 1804 action was taken to replace this first court house with one of brick, to be located on the Public Square in downtown Elizabethtown.

(Sources: Haycraft's *History of Elizabethtown*; *Who Was Who in Hardin County*; public records of Hardin County.)

M. J. J.

THE ELIZABETHTOWN CANNING COMPANY

In 1886 the Elizabethtown Canning Factory was established here, operating in what is known as the "Old Wholesale." The company was organized by citizens taking a sufficient amount of stock to buy the required amount of machinery. George Lemon, of Baltimore, an "old hand" in the canning business, was secured to operate the plant. There was no difficulty in finding sufficient hands to work, and about 150 men, women, and children were secured. Our farmers produced an abundance of tomatoes, corn and peas of the best quality, but somehow the enterprise was not a success.

In about 1889, Mr. Lemon was dismissed as superintendent and C. L. Barnes, one of the directors, who had learned the business, took his place. The company did very well under Mr. Barnes until the panic of 1893 when the price of canned goods dropped below the cost of production and the company went to the wall. In the effort to help the enterprise, the board of directors endorsed its paper at the bank, and it cost each of them individually \$2,500. The directors were Taylor Watkins, John L. Helm, C. Hotopp, C. L. Barnes and H. A. Sommers.

(From *Elizabethtown and Hardin County, 1869 - 1921*, by H. A. Sommers)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Progress continues on the Hardin County History Museum. The ceiling and walls have been painted. It really looks good! Fiscal Court is in the process of building an ADA Compliant Restroom. Larry Gream has designed a preliminary architectural drawing of how the museum pieces will be exhibited. The Collections Committee is in the final stages of adopting a collections policy. Larry Hall is heading up the fund-raising committee. But, without the continued support of the Hardin County Fiscal Court all of this will be for naught. We are the closest we have ever been to having a History Museum for Hardin County. Across the country, it is not uncommon for local governments to support museum projects.

West Point is planning a big festival on October 25-27. A replica of the keelboat that Lewis and Clark used on their expedition will pull into West Point the same date two hundred years later. The reason for Lewis and Clark to stop in West Point was to pick up John Shields, a gunsmith who played an important role on the expedition. Three semi-trailer trucks with Lewis and Clark exhibits will be on hand. The West Point Community will need volunteers and financial assistance in order for this to be a successful event. Since this will be such a big event, the Society should donate some money to this endeavor.

The Ancestral Trails Historical Society will hold its first Genealogy/History Fair and Book Sale on May 10, 2003 at the Nolin RECC Meeting Room from 10:00 to 4:00. The Hardin County Historical Society will participate in this sale.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our next meeting April 28, 2003.

**Kenneth L. Tabb
President**

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMING EVENTS

The Hardin County Historical Society will meet Monday evening, April 28, 2003, at the Commonwealth Lodge, 708 East Dixie Avenue, Elizabethtown. Dinner will be at 6:30 PM. The meal will be served buffet style; the price is \$6.50, including tax and tip. Following dinner, there will be an intermission of fifteen minutes to allow clearing of the tables. The program will follow.

Dr. John A. Boyd, Assistant Professor of History at the University of Kentucky, will present the program. His subject will be "Kentucky in the Secession Crisis of 1861." This talk will sort out the details of Kentucky's struggle, as the Civil War began, over how to respond to the pressure of secessionists on the one hand and unionists on the other, and the efforts of Governor Beriah Magoffin to maintain the state's neutrality.

For dinner reservations, call Meranda Caswell (765-2515) not later than Sunday, April 27th. Membership in the Society is open to all interested persons. Annual dues are \$8.00 per person.

FIELD TRIP, May 17, 2003 - Members are invited to join those of Ancestral Trails Historical Society to visit the annual Bucksnort Rendezvous at the Bucksnort Campgrounds, to see how families on the 18th century American frontier lived, dressed, ate, and hunted. This is a living history demonstration of interest to all history buffs. Meet at 1:00 PM, Saturday, May 17, at the N. Main St. parking lot near the Brown-Pusey House to share transportation.. The camp is near the Pearl Hollow Landfill. The visit to the camp will last about one hour. Dress for walking in a campground and bring your camera.

ELIZABETHTOWN, KY 42702
POST OFFICE BOX 381
HARDIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY