

A BRIEF HISTORY OF
BOONE COUNTY, KENTUCKY

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Chapter I. Settlement of Kentucky

Kentucky, once a part of Virginia, formed a vast hunting ground for the Indian tribes of the north and south. The Creeks, Cherokees, and Catawbas of the south encountered the Shawnees, Delawares, and Wyandotes of the north on the "Dark and Bloody" land. These hostile tribes kept the pioneer from making any permanent settlements for some time.

Hunters from the colonies east of the mountains wandered over the mountains in search of game, which was plentiful. They brought back tales of this fruitful land to the other settlers. Land companies were organized and surveyors were sent to stake out claims. Thomas Walker and Christopher Gist were representatives of the Loyal Land Company and Ohio Land Company, respectively. Their expeditions for land were a failure, but they paved the way for future exploration.

Daniel Boone, inspired by John Finley, who made the trip in 1767, traversed the northern and middle regions of the state in 1769. He stayed two years, during the time James Knox and his Long Hunters were in the area. They never met, though they were in the country together.

After Boone and Knox returned, bounty was to be given to Virginia troops for service in the French and Indian War. Thomas Bullitt led a party of surveyors to the falls of the Ohio in 1773, but no permanent settlement was made. Other parties of surveyors and hunters followed in 1774 when James Harrod erected a cabin on the spot where Harrodsburg now stands. It has the distinction of being the oldest settlement in Kentucky. Closely following in 1775, Boone laid the foundation of Boonesborough.

From this time on Harrodsburg and Boonesborough became the nucleus for settlement in Kentucky. (1) Pioneers came over the mountains and followed the watercourses to their new home sites, but stayed close to the forts for protection from the Indians. Life was hard and sacrifices were heavy. Indians were determined to drive the white man from their hunting ground and the settlers were just as determined to make this land their home. Thus a constant fear of the Indians existed. The settlers came with their family cow, a few chickens and hogs and a home was started.

One might ask just why the settlers left their homes in Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Pennsylvania to brave

the hardships of the wilderness in order to make Kentucky their new home. The foremost reason was search for land. Settlers followed the rivers and creeks to places of settlement, planted their crops of corn and tobacco, grazed their cattle and other stock.

Rivers had a great deal to do with the settlement of Kentucky. An important internal river is the Kentucky River. It flows across Kentucky from three diverse sources, emptying into the Ohio River at Carrollton. (2) Other rivers of importance are the Licking, Barren, Green, Cumberland, and Tennessee.

Important both to industry and settlement of Kentucky is the Ohio River, which forms the northern boundary of the state from Boyd County to the Mississippi River at Ballard County. The present form of the Ohio River was achieved 40,000 to 50,000 years ago due to the drainage of glaciers into old divides.

The Iroquois appropriately named the river "Ohio" or "The Beautiful." (3) Beginning at Pittsburg, the river formed a means of transportation for French fur traders and Priests bringing faith to the Indians.

Boone County is bounded on the north by the Ohio River and river aided early settlement. The Ohio and Big Bone Springs were the main attractions for early settlers.

As early as 1736, a Frenchman by the name of de Longueil was sent down from Canada to rid the French settlers of trouble with the Indians. On his way down the Ohio he came to a little stream now known as Big Bone Creek. On ascending the stream he discovered Big Bone Lick. (4) Because of the salty water found at the lick, mammals would gather there, feast, love, and die. Thus, the name "Graveyard of the Mammals" is given to the lick.

We find record of Robert Smith visiting the lick frequently and removing the best of the huge bones in 1744-1751. Before 1780, Christopher Gist, John Finley, Mary Inglis, and George Croghan visited Big Bone Lick. Mary Inglis was the first white woman in Kentucky. No settlement was made until after 1774, when a survey was completed by John Floyd and Wm. Preston. A grant of land was given by Thomas Jefferson, Governor of Virginia, in 1780, to an American soldier who fought in the American Revolution. This grant included Big Bone Springs. (5)

In 1785 a company from Pennsylvania came down the Ohio and cleared 30 to 40 acres on the land of John Tanner, the first Baptist minister in this part of the state, on the site

of present Petersburg. (6) From these two nuclei the area which is now Boone County was settled.

Chapter II. Formation of Counties

Before 1776, Kentucky territory was a part of Fincastle County, Virginia.

On December 6, 1776, Fincastle County was divided into three counties, one of which was called Kentucky County. This act entitled Kentucky to a separate county court, two justices of the peace, a sheriff, constables, coroner, and militia officers. Law existed in Kentucky for the first time. (7)

On November 1, 1780, Kentucky County was subdivided into three counties of Jefferson, Lincoln, and Fayette. Jefferson County had Colonel John Floyd, Lieutenant William Pope, and George May, surveyor, as officers. Lincoln County had Benjamin Logan, Stephen Trigg, and James Thompson. Fayette County had Colonel John Todd, Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Boone, and Thomas Marshall as officers. (8)

As the population increased, the counties were subdivided again and again. By, 1792, when Kentucky was admitted to the Union, there were nine counties: Mason, Bourbon, Madison, Woodford, Mercer, Jefferson, Nelson, Lincoln, and Fayette. (9)

Division took place before the state was admitted to the Union. The year 1785 showed Bourbon being organized out of Fayette. Mason was formed from Bourbon and Woodford out of Fayette in 1788. During 1792, Scott was formed out of Woodford and in the next year, Harrison out of Scott and Woodford. Campbell County was organized in 1794 out of Harrison, Scott, and Mason Counties. Boone County, the thirtieth in order of formation, was formed from Campbell County in 1798.

Chapter III. Early History of Boone County

The history of Boone County should begin with the earliest settlement and continue to the present day industrious county.

Shortly before 1790, John Tanner, the first Baptist minister in this part of the state, settled on the spot now known as Petersburg. A company from Pennsylvania cleared the land of Mr. Tanner and made the first settlement in Boone County. The settlement was called Tanner's Station in honor of Mr. Tanner. (12) A block house and stock yard were constructed and the town was begun. (13)

Danger from the Indians was realized when a son of Mr. Tanner, nine years old, was captured by them while he was playing and remained with the Indians for twenty years, after which he was employed by the U.S. Government as an interpreter. Another son was captured in 1791, but escaped and returned home safely.

Petersburg is the site of an aboriginal burying ground and remains of a fortification were found by the early settlers. What these people were, who their enemies were, will remain a secret buried in the past. (14)

Petersburg, plotted in 1818, was laid out for the capital of Kentucky. Capital Square was plotted before Symmes founded Cincinnati. (15) Petersburg was settled because of the rich alluvial bottom lands on the Ohio River. (16)

Besides the buried ancient city, Petersburg is the site of Split Rock, the ~~well~~ called "Noble". It is the most interesting natural scene on the Ohio River and was probably created by the earthquake of 1811. (17) 3x5

The first child born in Boone County was Polly Ann Ryle. She was born at Tanner's Station in December, 1790.

By the early 1800's, Petersburg was a flourishing town with a bank in 1818, flour mill, school, distillery, church, and a cemetery. (18)

Other towns in Boone County owe their existence to the many miles of territory bounding the Ohio River. Hamilton Landing, now called Hamilton, was one of the earliest settlements. Hamilton owes its settlement to the rich bottom lands and its closeness to Big Bone Lick. (19) It was one of the stopping places for boats going up and down the river.

Belleview, a town up the river from Hamilton, in the East Bend Bottom was called Piatt's Landing. It was settled early in the 1800's along with Rabbit Hash.

The North Bend Bottom was another early settlement in Boone County. The Bullittsville Community was settled sometime before 1794, which date marked the beginning of the Bullittsburg Baptist Church, now one of the oldest existing church edifices west of the Alleghanies. The community was first known as Bullock Bottoms and the church as Bullock Bottoms Baptist Church. In 1797, this church united with the Sand Run Baptist Church and changed its name to Bullittsburg Baptist Church. (20)

Constance, opposite the suburbs of Cinninnati, was settled primarily by people of German origin. Today the names of Kottmeyer, Hempfling and Delwick, show the German ancestry. A ferry, operated before 1800, still operates at Constance. The original owners, Wilson and Delahive operated the ferry before a Mr. Anderson, who sold the ferry to the family of the present owners in 1864. Charles Kottmeyer bought the ferry in 1864 for his grandsons, Henry, Jr., and Oliver Kottmeyer, now operate a much modernized ferry. (21)

Hebron, three miles from the river in the northern part of the county, was also settled by people of German ancestry.

Mitchellsville, a forgotten town now, was one of the early settlements. One of the first turnpikes in the county was one from Mitchellsville to Dry Creek, on the Kenton County border, made of sawed timbers eight inches wide and two inches thick. (22)

Let us not forget the Big Bone Springs, two miles from the river on Big Bone Creek. Big Bone was discovered in 1729 by Captain Charles Lemoyne de Longueil who is believed to be the first European to set foot on Kentucky soil. Collins gives the following account of the Lick: "It is situated in a valley which contains about 100 acres through which flows the Big Bone Creek. There are two principal springs, one of which is almost on the northern margin of the creek, the other is south of the creek and in the base of the hills which bound the valley. There is a third spring of smaller size considerable distance north of the creek which flows from a well sunk many years ago when salt was manufactured at the lick. The valley is fertile and surrounded by irregular hills of unequal elevation, the highest being on the west and attaining an altitude of 5000 feet. The back water from the Ohio River ascends the creek at times more than three miles from its mouth. At a very early date the surrounding forest had no undergrowth, the ground being covered with a smooth grassy turf and the salt lick spread over an area of ten acres. The surface of the ground within this area was generally depressed three or four feet below the level of the surrounding valley. This depression was probably occasioned by the stamping of wild animals drawn thither by the salt contained in the water and the ground, and by their licking the earth to secure the salt"

The lick was visited by such prehistoric animals as mastodons, an elephant of huge size, buffaloes, and arctic elephant (23) which followed Woolper Creek, crossing the Ohio at the creek's mouth between Belleview and Petersburg, to the lick. (24) Until recent years the trail was visible on the Y. M. C. A. camp ground near Burlington. The early visitors told of finding huge teeth, weighing 10 pounds and with a chew-surface from five to seven inches in diameter. Tusks found were

eleven feet in length and six to seven inches in diameter. Thigh bones were described as being four to five feet in length.

Because of the numerous remains found there the lick was named "Graveyard of the Mammoth!" Several collections have been carried away and few of the bones are to be found anywhere. Many of the remaining bones are in a Museum in London.

Salt was manufactured at Big Bone before 1812 by both Indians and the settlers.

The lick was a popular place for people to come and spend a vacation for therapeutic purposes. (25) A hotel built in the early nineteenth century was named the "Clay", and included a row of bath houses. Another hotel was built in 1870 but didn't prove to be as popular as the first one. No sign of the hotel is to be found today. (26) At present, plans are underway to make the historic spot a state park.

As the years progressed, settlement was made into the county. In 1798, the year Boone County was organized, John Craig and Robert Johnson donated 74 acres for a county seat. It was named Wilmington in 1800 and received the name Burlington in 1806. The first court house was built in 1817, and had a brick floor and brick columns in front. This building was remodeled in 1878, and the present building was constructed in 1889.

One of three hangings in Boone County took place on Hangman's Tree on the Burlington Pike. A negro was the victim. The original jail was a log structure. One prisoner escaped by setting fire to the jail. A two-story building replaced the log jail. The present building replaced the two-story jail. (27)

Farther into the county one finds the Hopeful community, settled in 1806 to 1820. The Hopeful Lutheran Church was established in 1805. The community is now an important suburb of Florence, located at the crossroads of the Burlington Pike and the Covington to Lexington Pike, in 1820.

Florence was first called Pole Cat because trappers brought their furs there for exchange. It was then Crossroads. Later it was Maddentown and then Connorsville. In 1830, when a post office was established, the name was changed to Florence. Florence had its boom during the stage coach days when the town was the first stop out of Cincinnati and Covington. The building of the Covington to Lexington turnpike, in 1836, helped the town.

Walton, on the Dixie Highway, ten miles from Florence, was formed on January 21, 1840. (28) Walton had a postoffice as early as 1815 under the name of Gains Ford Road. The town was named Gains Crossroads in 1823 and Walton in 1841. Walton, as well as Florence, was on the stage coach road.

Limaburg lies in a valley between a winding hill and a narrow bridge on the road from Florence to Burlington. A town consisting of a saw mill and a general store was once a busy little place. A grist mill was operated in 1849 by Jeremiah Beemon, using the waters of Gunpowder Creek to turn the mill. A saw mill was added about the time of the Civil War. A school house on a hill overlooking the town served as a school, church, and meeting place. A post office was put in the town in 1865 after the name was changed from Needmore to Limaburg. This office operated until 1907 when R.F.D. mail service was instituted. Now a general store is all that is left to remind one of the days gone by. (29)

Verona, five miles west of Walton, was settled in the Mid-century. A post office was established there in 1850.

Union, southwest of Florence on U. S. Highway 42, was incorporated in 1871. (30)

The mid-century mark of 1850 showed the following towns with post offices: Petersburg, Hamilton, Burlington, Elijah Creek, Middle Creek, Mitchellsville, Mills, Florence, Walton, Union, and Verona. By 1874 Bullittsville, Constance, Grant, and Hebron were added to the list. (31)

Today several of these towns are out of existence or get their mail through R.F.D.

In the early 1800's we find the means of transportation over mud roads or streams, reading material was scarce, and much of the work was done by slaves.

River traffic was the topic for conversation. The first sea vessel to pass Petersburg was in 1801. It was called Bryant St. Clair, a 100 ton burthen. In "Western Spy", 1813-1814, is a comment concerning traffic on the river. "Expectation has been on tip-toe on account of a report that a steamboat passed down the river on the way from Pittsburg to New Orleans" Another states: "The Keelboat Christopher Columbus passed down from New Orleans to Pittsburg last week heavily loaded with sugar and molasses, 57 days out" And concerning flat boats: "Col. Sebree and John Horsley took a flatboat of pork to New Orleans and have returned. They gave thrilling accounts of their return trip afoot through Indian country"

By 1830, steamboats were on the Ohio. Steamboat racing was a hazard to life and property. It seems that a rich widow was taking her goods to New Orleans and made the captain promise not to race. A boat challenged the widow's boat and because the challenger was a "Damn Yankee," the widow released her promise by throwing her pork into the boiler; they were victors. (32)

Showboats came to Petersburg in 1858. On January 28, 1859, the steamers Nat Holmes and David Gibson collided and sunk at Petersburg.

The river furnished means by which Boone Countians could get goods from foreign markets. In 1813-1814 the "Western Spy" gave an account of Col. John Flournoy receiving a clock from Philadelphia, the first of its kind in Boone County. People from far and near went to see the wonderful machine.

By 1800 two ferries were in operation. Permit was granted in 1800 to John Piatt to operate a ferry to Lawrenceburg, Indiana, and another to George Anderson to operate a ferry at Constance. The Anderson ferry was bought, in 1864, by Charles Kottmeyer and is run today by his grand-sons. It is now operated by diesel power in comparison to the original horsepower. (33)

In 1851, the Florence-Burlington turnpike was started to replace the mud road. (34)

We have an example of the mud roads in the county from Dr. Frank Sayre, who moved to Hebron in 1893, to practice medicine. He rode horseback all over the county on mud roads, leaving in the morning and returning late at night. Even in 1900, Boone County had only 83 miles of macadamized roads and 1,120 miles of mud roads. (35)

Kenton, Campbell, Grant, and Owen Counties had free roads in comparison to Boone's toll-gate system; but they were generally impassable. (36) The last toll-gate in Boone County was removed in 1915 on the Burlington Pike.

Cincinnati was the source of reading material. In 1793, the first newspaper was published northwest of the Ohio River; the "Centinel of North Western Territory" Before 1795 "The Freeman's Journal," and "Cincinnati Sentinel" were published weekly or monthly according to the amount of paper they had. At the close of 1795 they quit and "Western Spy" and "Hamilton Gazette" were issued in their place. These two papers were issued weekly until 1814, when "Western Spy" assumed the name of "Cincinnati Republican" Other papers, 1814-1840, were issued taking sides in the political issues of the period. (37)

There was always a keen appetite for news. In late 1870's the favored few read the "Enquirer" after the steamer "Water Witch" brought it down on its first trip from Lawrenceburg.

Boone County had its own paper, "Boone County Journal" published in 1875, by Ben Deering. It was the beginning of the "Boone County Recorder" The "Walton Advertiser" was published in 1916. (38)

John Uri Lloyd, famous chemist and author, wrote books in the late 19th century with Boone County as the background.

Boone, like other counties in the state, had its share of slaves. Patrols were organized in the county to guard the river banks to prevent slaves slipping across the river to freedom. Once a group of slaves was operating a trade of stolen goods with traders in Indiana across the river. The slaves stole the goods from their masters and sold them to dealers in Indiana. A patrol caught the slaves in the act and by severely whipping them they made them expose the ring. (39) These patrols were paid by the order of the county court and received one dollar for every ten hours of duty. The captains of these patrols had the power to punish captured slaves by any number of lashes not exceeding ten, and more, by order of the Justice of the Peace.

The price of slaves varied according to laws based by U. S. and State government. In 1839, a record of sale of slave woman at Gunpowder roads shows, "We have this day sold to Jacob Crigler a negro woman named Tinie who we warrant to be sound in body and mind and title goes to you under our hands this 30th day of December, 1839. (signed) Joseph Kendrick, Jacob Clarkson" The price is supposed to have been \$800.00. In 1855, seven slaves were sold to settle an estate for \$1,015.00 to \$1, 505.00 each.

In 1855 Boone County had 1,745 slaves and 48 free colored. (40) In 1860 there were 26 slaves in Petersburg. (41) On September 27, 1853, slaves from Boone County joined with those of neighboring counties in a stampede across the Ohio River in an effort to gain their freedom.

Boone County, being a religious county, has had its quota of churches from the beginning. Baptist, Christian, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Catholic are all represented.

The Baptists were the first to be organized in the county. Bullittsburg Baptist Church had its beginning in 1794. Sand Run Baptist Church, once a part of Bullittsburg, was organized in 1819. Next in order of formation came Oak Wood Church in 1825, and Burlington Baptist in 1842. Soon afterwards came Big Bone Baptist in 1843. Florence Baptist Church had its

beginning in 1855 with Walton following in 1866. Not until 1886 was the Union Church formed. Petersburg, even though founded by a Baptist minister, did not have an organized Baptist Church until 1914. The Verona Church was formed at an early date.

The Lutheran Church had an early beginning. The first was Hopeful; organized in 1805, with a resident pastor in 1813. (42) This was the only Lutheran Church in the county until 1854, when Hebron Lutheran was organized at the home of John J. Crigler, with 16 members. The year 1856 showed 11 members separating from Hopeful and organizing Ebenezer Church on Mount Zion Road, off of U. S. Highway 25. (43) At the present time only Hopeful and Hebron Churches exist.

The Methodists were the next to start in Boone County. In 1820 the Petersburg Church was formed. A building was not erected until 1850. Florence Methodist was organized in 1842. Big Bone Methodist was formed in 1887. Walton also has a Methodist Church.

Petersburg Christian Church was organized in 1824 and a building was constructed in 1840. Point Pleasant Christian Church was stated in 1839. It has disbanded; but the building still stands.

Richwood Presbyterian Church was begun in 1834. That was the only church of that denomination until 1870 when a church was begun at Union.

The Catholics had their start in 1851, when Cornelius Ahern started the St. Paul's Church in Florence. St. Patrick's Church in Verona was begun in 1865.

A Methodist Episcopal Church was started in Beaver Lick in 1878. (44)

The Boone County Churches today have made strides toward the modern era and are all modernizing their equipment to take care of the present day needs.

In 1818 two banks were chartered in Boone County; one at Burlington and one at Petersburg. 1903 showed banks in Verona, Union, and Petersburg. The Florence Bank was formed in 1904. Grant Bank was opened in 1909; Henron in 1920, and Walton in 1927. (45)

Schools in Boone County had their beginning in 1814 by an act of the Kentucky General Assembly authorizing the creation of an academy, later known as Morgan Academy, situated in Burlington. (46) A school was started in Petersburg in 1816. (47)

Soon thereafter each community started a school for its children. Private schools flourished around the middle of the 19th century with grammar schools and writing schools predominating.

Nelson Lloyd, father of John Uri Lloyd, taught school in Florence in the old Town Hall which was built in 1851. There were many private schools throughout the county.

The first public school in Florence was opened in 1887, with no one graduating until 1915. The first graded high school in Florence was in 1908. (48)

Before consolidation the county had a school in each district. The first consolidated High School was in Burlington in 1907. (49) Hebron had a consolidated school in 1925 and Florence in 1929. (50)

The first fair in the county was held sometime before 1845. The fair grounds were located in the Kentaboo area not far from the Dixie Highway. The fair lasted one week, with the first day always the ladies day, with their prize quilts, cakes and candies. This fair closed in 1880. (51)

1895 showed the beginning of the North Kentucky Agricultural Association Fair. This fair was located in Florence at the corner of the Union and Lexington roads. The first annual fair was held in 1896 and continued until 1932. (52) The old fair grounds is now the Fairgrounds subdivision.

Before the twentieth century the Harvest Home Fair was held.

The Boone County 4-H and Utopia Fair was organized in 1933.

First fairs were held on the Florence Fair Grounds and then moved to Harvest Home on the Limaburg-Hebron road, then to the present site of their own on the Burlington-Idlewild road. It is a three-day affair with a horse show and other interesting attractions. High premiums are paid. (53)

Thus, Boone County, from its beginning to 1900, consisted of isolated towns, depending on its own industries to keep in existence. The majority of the roads were mud and a very few were macadamized. Farming was the main source of income. In 1883 there were several hotels in operation, dealers in dry goods, doctors, surgeons, blacksmiths, carriage makers, breeders of live stock, six attorneys at law, shoemakers, teachers, tombstone dealers, and harness makers along with the farming industry. (54)

Boone County has had its ups and downs in population. In 1800, it had only 1,534 inhabitants. By 1810, the population

had more than doubled with 3,608. It about doubled again by 1820, with 6,542. A big gain was made by 1830, with 9,075. The population began to slow up in 1840 with the total being 10,034. 1850 showed only 11,185 and only 11 more in 1860 with 11,196. The population took a backslide in 1870, with 10,696. 1890 showed a gain again with 11,995, gaining 5 in 10 years with 12,000 in 1900. Today's population of about 14,000 shows that it hasn't grown very fast in the past fifty years.

Chapter IV. Development of Boone County

As the 20th century rolled in it brought with it many changes in Boone County. Roads were being constructed which made possible more consolidation in the school system; cars were owned in the county which ended the "horse and buggy days" as well as the carriage making industry. The towns near the river suffered by the shift of traffic to highways and the towns near these main traffic routes grew in population and business. Because of the improvement of roads, residents of Boone County sought employment elsewhere, and farming was not the only source of income for the family.

Petersburg, once a busy town on the river, has become an old town with no new buildings, no new industries, and the same family lines. Boats quit stopping at Petersburg around 1900.

Petersburg claims E. Y. Chapin as one of its prominent citizens. After getting his education, Mr. Chapin left Petersburg and went to Chattanooga, Tennessee, where he has had a great influence on the growth of that city. Because of his interest in literature, he has established a permanent library in the Christian Church at Petersburg. (55)

Compressed yeast was first made at the once prosperous distillery in Petersburg.

Indiana plans to build a bridge from Aurora to Petersburg. This should encourage development in the area.

The same trend has affected the other river towns. Hamilton and Belleview have both declined in population due to decreased river traffic and the decline of Big Bone Springs. Belleview has grown in the past twenty years because of the building of Dam 38. Constance has grown because of its nearness to Covington and Cincinnati; but it is not the busy river town it once was. The modern ferry is a focal point for traffic through the town.

The county seat, Burlington, has benefitted by improved roads.

Hebron's growth has extended in all directions.

Florence, near the Kenton County line, has grown most of the towns in the county. Only ten miles from Covington and Cincinnati, it is sought by many as a quiet residential community; out far enough to avoid the hustle and bustle of city life. In reference to the census of 1950; Boone County gained 29% in population in the period of 1940-1950. In the same period, Florence increased 69%. Its population was 900 in 1900 and is 2100 at the present time. (56) The 1950 population was 1320, so in the past four years it has grown by leaps and bounds.

Walton, an industrious town ten miles south of Florence, has gained in population.

A new county high school building, in Florence, with rare beauty and facilities, will be completed on a seventeen acre tract by next fall. This advancement from the one room school house to this efficient program has brought about greater interest in higher education, raising the educational level of the community.

Thus, from the early Boone County of river towns and boat traffic, which ended around 1900, has progressed to the present day county of over 13,000 population from the 1800 population of 1,534. The major industry is still farming, but more and more the people are earning their keep elsewhere and making Boone County their home. One only has to take a leisurely Sunday afternoon drive around our scenic country-side to see why it is a "Much Loved Land".

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