

Harrison Heritage News

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Contacts:

Bill Penn, editor
pennwma@aol.com
Bob Owen, President,
robert_owen@bellsouth.net
Phillip Naff, Web manager;
philnaff@comcast.net

Last Cumulative Index: See Dec-2005. See Web site for archived newsletters.

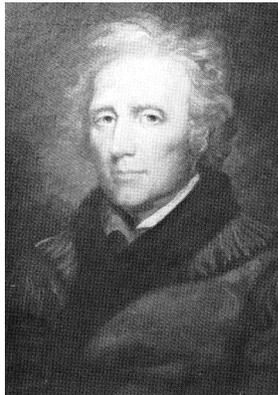
Daniel Boone Surveyed in the Harrison County Area Bill Penn

A recent article in the *Register* of the Kentucky Historical Society (Autumn 2004), documented Daniel Boone's lesser-known occupation as surveyor. A summary of Boone's surveys listed by date and client shows that between the years 1783 and 1797 Boone performed 163 surveys covering nearly 400,000 acres.

Among the surveys are over ten on the Licking River, including one on Raven Creek. George Slade remembered seeing in the Griffith tavern attic a deed showing Daniel Boone as surveyor, and he assumed it included at least part of the land owned by the Griffiths.

Perrin's *History of Bourbon, Scott, Harrison, and Nicholas Counties, Ky.*, (1882) mentions Boone visited the orchard of William Stuart, an early settler of northeastern Harrison County.

In any event, it appears Daniel Boone



Daniel Boone conducted surveys in the area that became Harrison County, Ky. (Painting by John J. Audubon, c. 1810.)

surveyed in what became Harrison County. To definitely locate any surveys by Boone, a researcher would need to trace the ownership of land back to one of his surveys and deeds.

How were surveys made in the settlement period? To answer this question I consulted *Virginia's Western War: 1775-1786*, written by Neal O. Hammon and Richard Taylor (2002), with whom I have become ac-

quainted in recent years. By the way, this book has information on Ruddle's Station. The introduction to the book gives much background on the process of acquiring land in pioneer days and the actual surveying process.

Some of the first land acquisitions in Kentucky, in 1774-1775, involved warrants received by officers and soldiers that fought for England in the French and Indian War, under the "Royal Proclamation of 1754." Much of the fine Bluegrass land between Frankfort and Lexington, especially around Midway where I live, was obtained in this manner during 1774 when John Floyd led a party of official surveyors representing Fincastle County, Virginia, which later was included in

(Continued on page 3)

President's Corner Bob Owen

The Camp Frazer issue is still ongoing. It is on the agenda for the May meeting of the Planning and Zoning Committee. The meeting is on Monday, May 15th, 7:30 p.m. at the Sheriff's office.

I received a call from Judge Executive Dean Peak and met with him to discuss situation concerning the entrenchments on the Burrier property. Judge Peak said he had met with Mr. Burrier and encouraged him to preserve the entrenchment area. Judge Peak said he felt he could get the necessary money to purchase the section containing entrenchments and perhaps even the section immediately to the north of it. This would make a wonderful park and green area and would save the entrenchments. Of course any action would be a few years down the road, but this is a positive situation.

Connie Graves has informed me that the Sarah Morgan Boone Chapter of the Colonial Dames XVII Century is planning to dedicate a bronze marker "in honor of the pioneer settlers" at the old Endicott Meeting House, also known as Indian Creek Church, on Saturday, June 24th at 11:00 A.M. All descendants and interested persons are invited to attend.

As I reported last month, Bill Penn will be speaking to the Cynthiana Rotary Club during the second Thursday of June on Cynthiana attorney W.W. Cleary's Civil War secret CSA Canadian adventures. Don't forget that June will be "show and tell". Please find interesting objects to bring to the June meeting to share with the other members.

Harrison County Historical Society

Bob Owen, President
Billy Fowler, Vice President
Janie Whitehead, Secretary
Dorothy Slade, Treasurer

Harrison History Calendar

May 18—Janie Whitehead, a HCHS officer, will make a presentation on old houses and buildings of Cynthiana.

May 27—Grist Mill Day at Museum.

June 15—Show and Tell—bring a historic artifact, book, or photo to show

June 24 Endicott Church historical marker dedication—Indian Cr. Millersburg Pike.

July 28-30—Battle of Cynthiana Reenactment—Elk's Club Farm Oddville Pike

Historical Society Meeting Notes for April 20

Program: George Jacobs, Cynthiana Publishing Company History.

Mr. Jacobs outlined the history of Harrison County newspapers and the history of the Cynthiana Publishing Company. Two informative handouts summarized a timeline of Harrison County newspapers and listed the owners of the Cynthiana Democrat, The Log Cabin, along with the Cynthiana Times and Harrison Courier.

Mr. Jacobs related many interesting facts about the personalities who were publishers and the competitive spirit they brought to their trade. He is planning on continuing his research on Harrison County's newspapers. Mr. Jacobs concluded his talk by showing the many types of publications printed by the Cynthiana Publishing Company in addition to the Democrat. We plan to write an article on Cynthiana newspapers based on the information in his talk in a later Harrison Heritage News issue.

The Democrat's existence has helped document Harrison County's history many ways. Besides the "Museum Musings" column, they published *Cromwell's Comments* for the historical society, and an important collection of Harrison County photographs a few years ago. Democrat writer Thelma Taylor should be commended for her many well-researched articles in past years on Morgan's raids and Harrison County history, which are pasted in many scrapbooks.

Cynthiana-Harrison County Museum

112 S. Walnut St., Cynthiana, Ky. 41031
Hrs: 10-5 Fri-Sat
Martha Barnes, President

Grist Mill Day IX - May 27, 2005

We hope you are planning to attend our ninth Grist Mill Day at the museum on Saturday, May 27, 2006 from 10 A.M. - 5 P.M. Once again, the Bill Kelly family sponsors this event to benefit the museum. These faithful friends plan, prepare, promote, and provide funding for the day. Grist Mill Day has become a special event for the museum and the community.

Bill Sr. and Billy Jr. will have stone ground grist mills in operation throughout the day. A bag of freshly ground yellow cornmeal will be given to each visitor. Antique tractors, gristmills, and "hit and miss" engines will be on display on part of Walnut Street which will be blocked off for the festivities.

Soup beans and cornbread will be served by Sue and Trudy Kelly and their family and friends from 11:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. There will be live music played by the Happy Travelers Band. Kentucky authors, David and Lalie Dick (our neighbors from Bourbon County), will display and offer for sale their books. Visitors can expect to see and hear Abraham Lincoln. Of course, our staff of volunteers will be on hand for tours of the museum and the annex.

One of our faithful volunteers, Helen Jean Wigglesworth has crocheted a beautiful afghan for raffle - only \$1.00 a chance, six chances for \$5.00.

All of these dedicated folks give of their time, talent, and treasure with the expectations of raising funds for our Cynthiana-Harrison County Museum, our community's history museum. We hope to see you there with your family and friends. This would be a great day for some of our out-of-town subscribers to visit.

(DANIEL BOONE Continued from page 1)
the State of Kentucky.

Other land was obtained either by purchase or settlement. An article Mr. Hammon wrote in the *Register* (July 1971) states: "Purchasers would obtain a warrant for a certain amount of acreage at the stated price, which could be used to obtain unclaimed land in one or more parcels. The settlers could only claim land by improving it, which in Kentucky was considered to consist of building a shelter, or planting a crop...and residing on this land for at least one year prior to 1778." Land was then listed with a county land commissioner with a claim date. Then the land was surveyed and a patent or deed issued.

The settlement of the outer bluegrass was hindered by the constant threat of Indian raids from Ohio. As late as 1790 Indians attacked cabins at the site of Cynthiana. Boyd's *Chronicles of Cynthiana* mentions an Indian attack on the Hays' cabin, which was located near the mouth of Gray's Run, on the farm on the east side of U. S. 27, just across the bridge south of the town.

A survey party, such as Daniel Boone led, would include a surveyor and perhaps two assistants. Mr. Hammon notes that equipment included "a large open-faced compass equipped with movable sighting slits. This instrument was mounted on a wooden leg or legs, and after being leveled, the sights were turned to match the desired direction. One would assume the marker advanced...as far as practical from the compass but keeping in its sights. After the marker had traveled as far as possible, the compass was moved to his position and the procedure repeated." The assistants, or chainmen, normally used a sixty-six-foot chain with 100 flexible loops (four poles).

A pole is equal to sixteen and one-half feet. State of Virginia surveying rules required that a

tract should be not more than three times as long as it was wide, and that when surveying near a major watercourse, that boundary lines should be perpendicular to the bank. Due to the relative ease of measuring, rectangles were common in many of the early surveys.

It was not uncommon for surveyors at that time to lengthen the sides of the surveys by five percent or even more, to allow for errors and to assure there was sufficient acreage. The law allowed a small percentage overage. This sometimes resulted in overlapping surveys which often later ended up in land disputes and complicated lawsuits. However, these same lawsuits, along with their revealing depositions and explanatory maps, have provided much detailed information concerning deed boundaries, roads, and other information useful to historians.

My late friend and Woodford County historian, James W. Sames, in an unpublished manuscript, *The Founding of Kentucky*, (in the Midway Museum) mentions surveying techniques: "Surveyors [such as Boone] carried a notebook in the field to keep a record of his work. A set of preliminary calculations were made prior to surveying, and subsequent to running the lines, after which the surveyor could record the plat showing boundaries and important landmarks such as streams, springs, salt licks, Buffalo traces, Indian mounds and Indian burying grounds, old forts, and so forth. This helped to locate plats later."

However, if you see "D. Boon" carved into a tree somewhere out in our county, do not get too excited. I have read that they are all probably fake, I also have heard the story that a flintlock rifle with "D. Boon's Best Friend," or something similar, carved on the stock was on display at the Kentucky Historical Society for years before being declared a fake.

For further reading:

Hammon, Neal O. and Taylor, Richard, *Virginia's Western War: 1775-1776* (Stackpole, 2002).

Hammon, Neal O., *Daniel Boone and the Defeat at Blue Licks* (The Boone Society, 2005).

Hammon, Neal O., and Harris, James Russell, "Daniel Boone the Surveyor: Old Images and New Realities," *The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*, vol. 102, No. 4, Autumn 2004.

Lofaro, Michael A., *The Life and Adventures of Daniel Boone* (U. Press of Kentucky), 1978).

Portrait of Daniel Boone courtesy of Filson Club Historical Society.

- 1 DENTON'S STATION
- 2 YOCUM'S STATION
- 3 MC MURRY'S STATION
- 4 MC GARY'S STATION
- 5 GORDON'S STATION
- 6 TRIGG'S STATION
- 7 SMITH'S STATION
- 8 BOWMAN'S STATION
- 9 MC BRIDE'S STATION
- 10 BOILING SPRING OR HARRODS STATION
- 11 DUTCH STATION
- 12 FOWAN'S STATION
- 13 FISHER'S STATION
- 14 LAWRENCE'S STATION
- 15 CROWN'S STATION
- 16 CLARK'S STATION
- 17 GIVENS'S STATION

- 18 JAMES MCAFEE'S STATION
- 19 WILLIAM MCAFEE'S STATION
- 20 WILSON'S STATION
- 21 HARLAN'S STATION
- 22 CALDWELL'S STATION
- 23 IRVIN'S STATION
- 24 HARBESON'S STATION
- 25 BROWN'S STATION
- 26 JOHN BUNTON'S STATION
- 27 IRISH BUNTON'S STATION
- 28 HENRY THOMAS' STATION
- 29 HOGAN'S STATION
- 30 WLM FIELDS' STATION
- 31 HAGGINS STATION
- 32 ST ASAPH'S STATION
- 33 DAVIES'S STATION

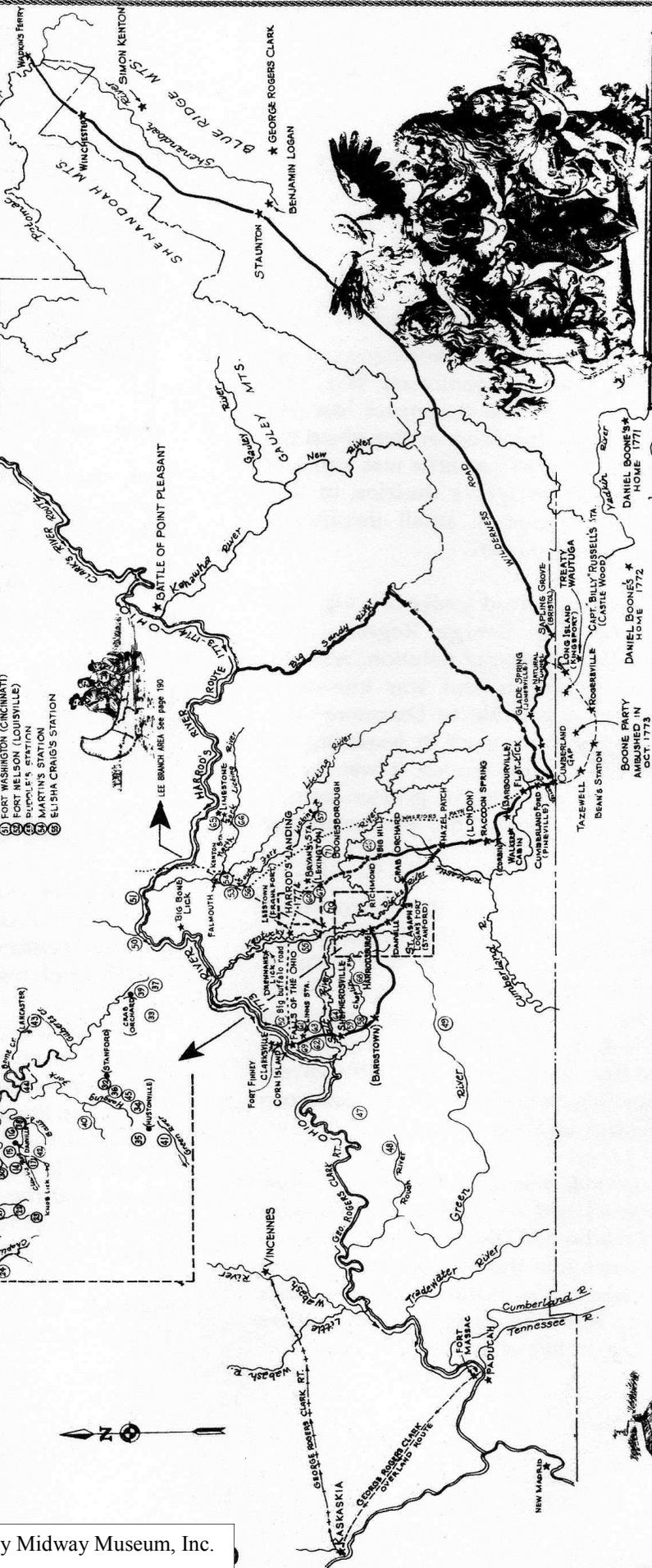
- 34 MONTGOMERY'S STATION
- 35 CARPENTERS' STATION
- 36 CASEY'S STATION
- 37 WORTHINGTON'S STATION
- 38 ENGLISH'S STATION
- 39 MC CORMACK'S STATION
- 40 PETTIT'S STATION
- 41 SHELBY'S STATION
- 42 CRAIG'S STATION
- 43 FORKS OF DICK'S RIVER STATION
- 44 MS KINNEY'S STATION
- 45 IRVINE'S STATION
- 46 HARDIN'S STATION
- 47 FORT HARTFORD
- 48 PITTMAN'S STATION (GREENSBURG)
- 49 HOBSON'S CHOICE
- 50 FORT WASHINGTON (CINCINNATI)
- 51 FORT NELSON (LOUISVILLE)
- 52 BUDDLE'S STATION
- 53 MARTIN'S STATION
- 54 ELISHA CRAIG'S STATION

- 55 BLUE LICKS
- 56 MORGAN'S STATION
- 57 KINCHELOE'S STATION
- 58 MC CLELAND'S STATION (GEORGETOWN)
- 59 MC CLELAND'S STATION
- 60 SQUIRE BOONE'S STATION
- 61 KEATON'S STATION
- 62 WEFFORD'S STATION
- 63 MC CONNELL'S STATION
- 64 SANDUSKY'S STATION
- 65 SULLIVAN'S STATION
- 66 TODD'S STATION
- 67 STRODE STATION

- 68 JAMES HARROLD'S BIRTHPLACE
- 69 FORT REDSTONE
- 70 FORT PITT (PITTSBURGH)
- 71 FORT MC INTOSH

- 72 BRADDOCK'S DEFEAT
- 73 DANIEL BOONE'S BIRTHPLACE
- 74 BERKS CO. - PA. 187 MILES EAST

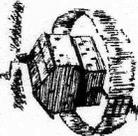
- 75 GEORGE ROGERS CLARK
- 76 BENJAMIN LOGAN



THIS MAP WAS DRAWN IN COMPLIANCE AND AGREEMENT BETWEEN COL. GEORGE M. CHLIN AND JAMES W. SAMES III; WHERE EACH CONTRIBUTED DOCUMENTED INFORMATION ON AN AREA SUITABLE FOR FOLD-OUT MAPS IN THE BOOKS; KENTUCKY SETTLEMENTS 1730-1800 AND THE FOUNDING OF KENTUCKY.

THE GREAT SETTLEMENT AREA OF KENTUCKY

TYPICAL 1 FAMILY STATION



TYPICAL 2 FAMILY STATION



Courtesy Midway Museum, Inc.

Licking River Barge Shipment Found In 1964

Bill Penn



Newspapers in Falmouth, Louisville, and probably Cynthiana printed articles about the “Long Lost Shipment Found in Licking” and “Lost Shipment on Licking River 130 Years Ago.” The Falmouth Outlook, October 9, 1964, told about the recent sighting on the on the Licking River in Harrison County of a long lost shipment of grindstones on a barge that sank in the 1830s twelve miles northeast of Cynthiana. A drought had lowered the river’s level to the point where the barge and its load could be seen, as shown in the photo above.

The grindstones had been quarried to be about four feet wide and six to eight feet long and a foot thick. Apparently, the stones were to be later finished into the shape of a grindstone for use at gristmills which dotted the Kentucky countryside in the 19th century. The Falmouth newspaper said that “Wash Bryan was with a group of men that were bringing the barge down the river when it sank. The story goes that they were en route to Kenton Station.” Wash Bryan is buried at Peach Grove. The story was also a subject of Joe Creason’s popular column in the Courier Journal, which stated the barge was loaded at West Liberty. My father, W. O. Penn, took me to see the sunken barge and I took the above photo, with my dad standing in the distance. I remember salvaging a piece of the hull a few feet long which I kept for years and may still have. Photo, 1964, Bill Penn.