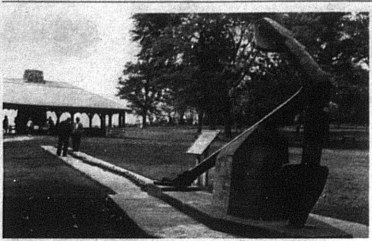


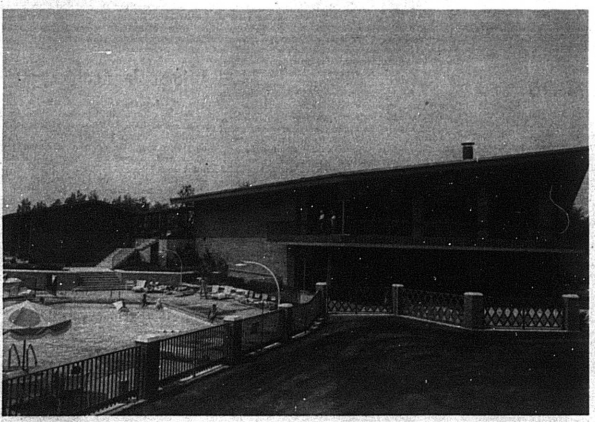
Land of the BIG LAKES Vacationland



This huge anchor at Columbus-Belmont State Park on Kentucky's western border was used to secure a giant chain across the Mississippi River during the Civil War to stop Union gunboats from moving downstream. The park, overlooking the Mississippi at Columbus, has tent and trailer camping sites, a souvenir shop, hiking trails, playground and picnic area.



Impoundment of Barkley Lake will be complete in 1965, giving the western wetland of Kentucky two giant lakes and forming a 170,000-acre National Recreation Area between them. Barkley and Kentucky Lakes combined will have 3,200 miles of shoreline to serve millions of water-loving visitors.



The Village Inn, at Kentucky Dam Village State Park on the shores of gigantic Kentucky Lake, provides modern air-conditioned relaxation and comfort for visitors. The park offers lake and pool swimming, vacation cottages, boating, camping, golfing and many more attractions. An addition to the Inn will be completed this fall.

Westernmost Kentucky is a land dear to water-sport fans of all ages, whether they fish, boat or swim - or just laze on the beach. This is flatland, drained by mighty rivers, brightened by big lakes, a place with a tang of Dixie and barbecue smoke.

The waters that make Western Kentucky a recreation center had much to do with the settlement of the region. This vacationland is bordered on the north by the broad Ohio River and on the west by the mighty Mississippi. The Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers flow through it.

This was the last part of Kentucky to be settled; but once it was opened, a stream of Scotch, Irish and English settlers poured into the section.

The land they settled was flat, the weather considerably milder than in the rest of Kentucky. That, plus the fact that the Mississippi offered transportation to southern markets, brought about an agricultural economy, including the growing of cotton.

Thus the section was closely drawn to the Deep South, especially New Orleans. In social manners and buildings, during the Civil War it was a hotbed of Confederate sympathy. Today, monuments to the Confederacy are found on many courthouse lawns. The people are hospitable in the southern tradition and greet you with a warm, welcoming drawl.

Despite its rivers, the region is known as the land of lakes. Kentucky Lake, created by a dam across the Tennessee River, has 2,380 miles of shoreline - longest of any man-made lake in the world.

Now this great lake is getting a big neighbor - near Kentucky Dam, another huge impoundment is rising to hold back the Cumberland River and create Barkley Lake. Mysterious Reelfoot Lake, created by earthquake, edges up into the southwestern tip of Kentucky.

The land of lakes is also the land of parks. The vast waters have spawned vacation resorts as well as plenty of game fish. Two State parks that are among the nation's finest have been developed along Kentucky Lake.

Another occupies the site overlooking the Mississippi River where the Confederates erected a Civil War fortification.

The Commonwealth has begun development of a resort-type park on the shores of Barkley Lake.

And the Federal Government is now developing almost 200,000 acres as a national recreation area between Barkley and Kentucky Lakes. This fascinating place is known as Land Between the Lakes. Pennyroyal Forest State Park, with its lake and 16,000 acres of forest, nestles on the eastern border of the region.

Two of these State parks - Kentucky Dam Village and Kenlake - have complete vacation facilities, including modern lodges, rustic-cabins, and all facilities for fishing, boating, swimming, picnicking and camping.

At Paducah, largest city of the region, an excellent, new "follow-the-red-line" tour guides visitors to scores of interesting places. General Lew Wallace commanded a Union Civil War garrison there when he started writing "Ben Hur." Paducah, named after an Indian chief, was the home of Irvin S. Cobb, novelist, and the Venus of Kentucky, near Paducah is the Atomic Energy Commission's gaseous-diffusion plant.

But most vacationers look for sports, scenery and historic sites instead of industry, and Western Kentucky has all of these, especially water recreation. For example, the Ballard County Waterfowl Area is a 10,000-acre preserve, including public hunting and fishing in several lakes.

The waters of the region can also inspire wonder - imagine the sight where two of the largest rivers in the United States meet, the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers near Wickliffe.

Nearby, overlooking the Mississippi, is Ancient Buried City, remains of a city, including complete skeletons, of prehistoric Indians.

At Columbus-Belmont State Park is an anchor and a huge chain that Confederates stretched across the Mississippi to stop Union gunboat traffic.

More water-wonders, Kentucky Bend and Murphy's Flood, are found in the area. The Bend is a 27,000-acre chunk of Kentucky separated from the rest of the state by a horseshoe curve in the Mississippi. Murphy's Flood is a large swamp and cypress forest created by long-ago earthquakes.

The western wetland is on the flyway of North America's migratory birds. Each fall and spring great flocks of ducks, geese and other fowl fly over head.

The landscape of the region is an adventure, too. It ranges from the rolling farmlands of the Pennyroyal, which also has its cliffs and escarpments to the western coal fields, which in some places resemble the prairie states, to the flood plains of the Purchase area, which has stream bluffs, cypress swamps, oxbow lagoons and even underground waterways.

Western Kentucky vittles are a tradition with vacationing gourmets. This section is noted for its cured hams, and they can be purchased at many stops along the way. Or you may have a taste for catfish and hush-puppies, or just a catfish sandwich. A touch of pork flavors many vegetables in Kentucky cooking, and barbecued lamb, pork and beef are regional favorites.



Reynard the Fox plays his summer at the amphitheatre in Kenlake State Park near Hardin, nightly except Sundays at 8:30 through August 31.



Pennyroyal State Park is a princely stopping-off-and-visiting-while place in the land of the Pennyroyal plant in western Kentucky. The lodge contains a noted dining room and 24 modern guest rooms; vacation cottages and camping sites are also available. The Pennyroyal - a fragrant mint-herbs in the region, as do fishermen, swimmers, photographers and just plain vacationers, enjoying a good spot to visit. The park has both swimming pool and a lake.

AUDUBON-PENNYROYAL Vacationland

The dark-complexioned young man, looking in his mid-twenties, was a source of considerable curiosity as he ambled over the countryside. At times he would excitedly pull a sketch-ped from his cloak, walking softly as he came near a bright red-breasted robin or a snippy bluejay.

The year was 1810, the site was the area around the Ohio River port of Henderson, and the youth was John James Audubon, the celebrated 19th Century artist and naturalist. For 10 more years he remained there, painting, sketching and operating a general store and a mill which still stands.

Today the visitor can view Audubon's original paintings, the "Birds of America" series at Audubon State Park's Memorial Museum, situated in the very countryside where the artist worked in his Kentucky days.

At the park you can follow the beechwood-lined trails that he walked. There are house-keeping cottages, tent and trailer sites, swimming, boating and picnicking facilities and you may run into a young man who has followed closely in Audubon's footsteps - Ray Harm, the gifted naturalist and artist-in-residence at the University of Kentucky, whose own prints and drawings have rapidly become collector's items. Harm conducts a summer program of nature talks and exhibitions in the State parks, traveling throughout the system.

This land of Audubon and the Pennyroyal stretches from the Ohio River in the north down to the Tennessee border, then east and west through a broad area of southern Kentucky. It is mainly rolling country, which the pioneers rightly judged excellent for farming and cattle-raising. The quiet, abstract names of some of the old towns, Providence, Justice, Apex, Paradise and Poverty - aptly reflect the simple hopes and trials of the early settlers.

One group of men and women, in the early 1800's decided to set up a community of true believers, away from the "modern" world. Some went to Mercer County, in central Kentucky, while others of the Shakers, as they were called, headed south to the border country of Logan.

There, near Auburn and South Union, they led strict lives of celibacy, detachment from worldly things, and simplicity and perfection in craftsmanship. Titled the United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearance, the Shakers earned their nickname from their swaying dance of prayer.

Today no Shakers remain, but the Shaker Museum at Auburn preserves the original furniture made in the community's shops. Each July a colorful pageant, "Shakerstown Revisited," is staged by Western Kentucky State College students and local residents. The old South Union buildings are now occupied by the Catholic Benedictine monks of St. Maur, who, like the Shakers, are celibates with vows

of common poverty and separation from the world.

The Kentucky region bordering Tennessee is a mine of the history that made Kentucky and the United States. Between 1800 and 1830 Logan County established itself as the home of statesmen. Four men from Logan became Kentucky governors. Five were elected to the United States Senate, and still five others became governors of other states.

In 1806, the same year that saw outlaw Big Harpe hanged, in nearby Webster County, Andrew Jackson and Charles Dickinson met one early dawn near Adairville to fight a duel. Dickinson died for his insult to the fiery future president, and Jackson was wounded in the clash that, in years to come, his political enemies would never allow him to forget.

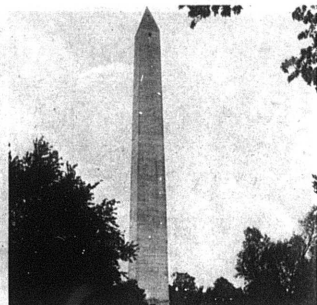
In Russellville, Jesse James robbed the first bank of his career, and is believed to have taken overnight refuge at the old Stage Coach Inn at Guthrie, still standing. In 1861, a convention meeting at Russellville proclaimed Kentucky the 13th state of the Confederacy, though Kentucky never officially left the Union and remained one of two neutral states. Presiding was General Simon Bolivar Buckner, later to become governor of Kentucky after the Civil War.

Another Confederate shrine is Fairview, birthplace of Jefferson Davis, the only president of the secessionist states. There, amid picnic grounds on the Todd-Christian County line, is the 351-foot Davis Monument, tallest concrete-cast obelisk in the world. (And just 100 miles away is the Hodgenville cabin where Union President Abe Lincoln was born.)

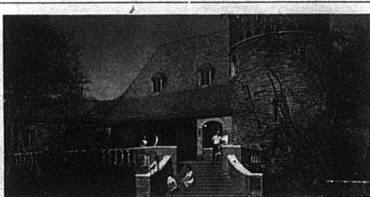
But this bonanza land is far from being a mere site of history. The pioneers' descendants, plus many visitors who later returned to settle, have built up a booming agricultural and industrial country. Henderson County, for example, is Kentucky's top producer of oil - over 4 million barrels in 1964 - and of hybrid corn and hogs, too. Other industries include wheat-farming, chemicals, plastics and fine furniture. Several plants in the area conduct tours for visitors.

The modern, four-lane Western Kentucky Parkway, serves the region, providing easy access to most vacation spots. Lake Malone State Park, off Ky. 431 south from the Parkway, has fine fishing in the 825 acres of water and, though a still developing park, has swimming facilities, a boat dock and playground with highly unusual scenery.

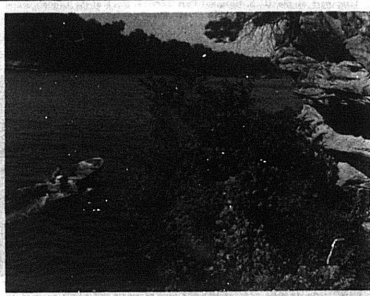
However, for all the sights, few can really compare with the magnificent vistas and comfortable vacationland of Pennyroyal State Park, a 15,000-acre woodland preserve with its own lake for pleasure boating and fishing. Nearby is 800-acre Lake Beshear. The park has a modern lodge, cottages, tent and trailer sites and new golf course. And it "sees a good table" too.



This eye-stopping 351-foot high monument, at Fairview near Hopkinsville, marks the birthplace of the only President of the Confederate States of America, Jefferson Davis. Located in a 20-acre State park, the monument has an elevator to take visitors to the top where they can pause for a breathtaking view.



Trails lead through forests of hardwood trees, ferns and wildflowers at Audubon State Park. The museum houses 110 paintings of native bird life by John James Audubon and his two sons. Here you can swim, camp, live in a vacation cottage, picnic, go boating or take a walk along the self-guided nature trail. Three picnic shelters are available.



At Lake Malone State Park in southwestern Kentucky the bass, crappie, bluegill and catfish are eager to tackle the angler's bait. Shores of the 826-acre lake have a boat dock, beach, picnic area and clubhouse.