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 Nicholas County's  
 Frankfort Representatives  
 Adrian Arnold - State Representative 76th Kentucky District 1-499-3034  
 Ed Ford - Senator 30th Kentucky District, 1-234-2850

**County driving.....**  
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 enter Carlisle proceed to the courthouse which is located at the intersection of Broadway and Main Streets. A walking/driving tour of Carlisle is a step back into the charm of small town life.  
 While the renovation of the old jail in Carlisle is being completed for a Visitors Center, driving tours of Nicholas County and walking/driving tours of Carlisle may be picked up at the Blue Licks State Park on U.S. 68 and Eddie's Family Restaurant, and Carlisle - Nicholas County Chamber of Commerce and Industrial Authority.



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 Melinda Hunt, Secretary

**What's in a name?**  
 By Frank F. Mathias  
 Carlisle. The first and largest city of that name is Carlisle, England, which entered history as a Roman station near Hadrian's Wall along the Scottish border.  
 The name was originally Luguvallium, a latinized version of a Celtic name meaning "strong granite wall of the Celtic god Lugus".  
 Rome departed, and by the ninth century the name had evolved to Lael.  
 The Old Welsh name, meaning "city", was prefixed to this, first as Carlisle, later as Carlisle, and by 1129 it became Carlisle, from which comes the modern Carlisle.  
 The name, then and now, means "City of Lugus".  
 Source: P.H. Reaney, The Origin of English Place-Names (London, 1964), p. 79.  
 The name of Carlisle, like the names of London, Bath or Manchester, was used by English speaking immigrants and pioneers to name newly founded towns throughout North America, such as in Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Ohio, Indiana, Tennessee, Iowa or even Carlisle, Illinois. Spelled with a "y".  
 The Kentucky Carlisle was almost certainly named after Carlisle, Pennsylvania, as an oral history would have it.  
 Several of Nicholas County's first settlers, such as John Coughly (Coy) and the Donnell family, came from the vicinity of the Pennsylvania city (Conley, pp. 350-51, 365).  
 It was founded in 1751, just 45 years before Carlisle, Kentucky, and it was named for Carlisle, England, becoming the county seat of Cumberland County.  
 Meanwhile, Nicholas County, Kentucky had been established in 1799.  
 The county seats proved unsatisfactory, so in May 1816, the town was surveyed and laid off in 139 lots by James Thompson, and christened Carlisle (Form, p. 234).  
 When it came time to name the new town, Carlisle probably won out because it was short, sounded good, was already in use for several county seat towns in states to the east, and had the backing of a number of former Pennsylvanians in the crowd including Coughly and the Donnell family.  
 There are no specific documents of proof, but we can be sure of this as we can that Paris and Winchester, Kentucky were named for their European counterparts.  
 Chances are good with the "City of Lugus"

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**Nicholas County  
 A Great Place To Be!**

Reprinted from History of Nicholas County Copyright © 1986  
 Nicholas County Historical Society Carlisle, KY  
 By J. Whitson Coleman, Jr.  
 Lexington, Kentucky  
 November 18, 1975

Nicholas County is situated in the north-eastern part of the state, midway between the Bluegrass section and the mountain country. It was established in 1799, the 42nd in order of formation, from parts of Bourbon and Mason counties and was named for Colonel George Nicholas, a Revolutionary soldier.  
 This county has clustered around it many historical associations, as it was a theater of Daniel Boone's actions and those of his followers in the early history of Kentucky. Here also are found examples of the stone work of Joel T. Hart, noted sculptor from Clark County.  
 Nicholas County contains 208 square miles, and its county seat Carlisle is 58 miles from Frankfort, 34 miles from Lexington, and three miles east of the Lexington-Maysville Pike (U.S. 68), known in the pioneer days as the "Smith's wagon-road" from Limestone to the central Bluegrass.  
 The county seat has been located at several places, first at Blue Licks, at Redinger's Mill, then in the log building at Ellenville, opposite the Stone Tavern. It was finally moved to Carlisle in 1816 and incorporated in 1817.  
 Nicholas County was the site of Daniel Boone's log cabin on Brushy Creek where he and his wife lived during the years 1796-1797, his last home in central Kentucky; the cabin was (later reconstructed) on the Forest Retreat Farm of the late Dr. Eske Ashby.  
 Other important events connected with Nicholas County were the battle of Blue Licks, sometimes called the last battle of the American Revolution; the famed watering place at Blue Licks Springs; the Western Military Institute at its historic site, where James G. Blaine once taught, and the Forest Retreat Tavern and post-office on the stage coach road from Limestone to Lexington.

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**A Thumbnail Glimpse.....**  
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**Banta**  
 The community of Banta covers an area on both sides of U.S. 68 from approximately the original Gallows Hill Road to Hickory Ridge Road. The once closed Gallows Hill Road reopened to U.S. 68 in 1962 crossing the dam at the Carmic Lake Project.  
**Barterville (Helen)**  
 Barterville is located in the North Central Section of Nicholas County. The five roads that are included in this area are, Barterville, Saltwell, Rose Hill, Bald Hill and Mt. Meriah.  
**Camp Black Hawk: Scouting and Recreation**  
 To go on the journey to Black Hawk start North on Route 28 and turn left at the Licking River Bridge, take another left at Parks Hills and a half-mile walk along the cliff-side L & N tracks which ended up at Black Hawk.  
**Lower Blue Licks**  
 An area that has been known as The Spring, The Salt Springs, The Lower Blue Lick Springs, The Blue Licks Springs and eventually Blue Licks. It is located on U.S. Highway 68 between Maysville and Blue Licks Springs largely follow the Buffalo Trace.  
**Cassidy Creek (Parish Chapel)**  
 Cassidy Creek is located in the northeast section of Nicholas County between Fleming County and Locust Grove Road, with Upper Blue Licks being west of it.  
**East Union (Humboldt)**  
 East Union was so named because of its site was the juncture of the north, east and south forks of Somerset Creek.  
**Ellenville, Shake Rags and Oakland Mills**  
 Ellenville is located in the northern part of Nicholas County on U.S. Route 68 about 7 miles from Carlisle. Shake Rags was once part of Ellenville, but in 1878 it citizens parted from the community of Ellenville. Oakland Mills is a small village situated on the North Fork of Stoney Creek, a short distance from Ellenville on U.S. Route 68.  
**Fisher's Station**  
 The location of this Negro settlement was "up Stoney Creek from Ellenville."  
**Headquarters**  
 Headquarters, as it was originally known  
 Continued on Page 24

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