



# KENTUCKY - DAUGHTER OF VIRGINIA

## THE IMPORTANCE OF FINCASLE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

ALTHOUGH IT WAS IN EXISTENCE FOR ONLY A LITTLE OVER FOUR YEARS, FROM DECEMBER 1, 1776, TO DECEMBER 31, 1776, SOME OF THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENTS IN THE AREA WHICH LATER BECAME KENTUCKY TOOK PLACE. IT WAS THEN KNOWN AS FINCASLE COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

IN THAT PERIOD MANY EXPEDITIONS AND SURVEYS WERE MADE INTO THE KENTUCKY AREA BY SUCH PERSONS AS HENRIE TAYLOR, THOMAS MALLITT, THE HEARSE BROTHERS, SIMON KENTON, DANIEL BOONE, MICHAEL STONER, JOHN PLYTO AND OTHERS. IT WAS THE PERIOD IN WHICH, IN JUNE, 1774, CAPTAIN JAMES HARRIS, AND THIRTY-NINE OTHERS, LAID OFF HARRIS' TOWN (AFTERWARDS CALLED BLANTON, NOW HARRISBURG), AND CREATED A TOWN OF CARING. THIS WAS THE FIRST PERMANENT SETTLEMENT IN KENTUCKY, THEN A PART OF FINCASLE COUNTY, VIRGINIA. ON MARCH 17, 1775, COL. RICHARD HENNING, BATHURSTEL HART, AND OTHERS, CONCLUDED A TREATY WITH THE CHEROKEES, AT STUMMING SPRINGS, ON THE WASHINGTON, AND SECURED 20 MILLION ACRES IN THE TRIANGLE OF THE CUMBERLAND, KENTUCKY, AND OHIO RIVERS, FOR 10 THOUSAND POUNDS. LORD BANGORE ANNULLED THE PURCHASE AND THE STATES OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA REPUDIATED THE TREATY. BUT IN THE MEANTIME HENNINGSON AND COMPANY (LATER CALLED THE TRANSDIVANIA COMPANY) HAD ENTERED DANIEL BOONE AND OTHERS TO MAKE OUT A ROAD THROUGH THE SOUTHERN WILDERNESS, THROUGH CUMBERLAND GAP, AND TO DIRECT A FURTHER SETTLEMENT ON THE SOUTHWEST RIVER. THIS WAS DONE, AND BY APRIL A FURTHER SETTLEMENT AT DOONSCOURTHOUGH, OTHER SETTLEMENTS WERE MADE AT ST. ASAPH'S, HARRISBURG, AND MILLING SPRINGS. SIMON KENTON ALSO SETTLED AT HARRISBURG, NEAR HAYTAVILLE. LESTON, ONE MILE BELOW FARMPORT, WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1776. BY THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1775, HENNINGSON AND COMPANY HAD ENTERED DEEDS TO OVER 500,000 ACRES OF LAND. DANIEL BOONE AND OTHERS BROUGHT THEIR WIVES AND FAMILIES TO HARRISBURG AND HARRISBURG IN SEPTEMBER, 1775. GENERAL GEORGE ROGERS CLARKE, THE "WASHINGTON OF THE WEST," VISITED THE KENTUCKY AREA IN MAY, 1775, RETURNED TO VIRGINIA, ONLY TO MOVE PERMANENTLY TO KENTUCKY IN EARLY 1776. ON JUNE 6, 1776, CLARKE AND GABRIEL JONES WERE SELECTED AT A GENERAL MEETING AT HARRISBURG TO SECURE AND INFLUENCE VIRGINIA FROM THE GOVERNOR AND ASSEMBLY TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE

## VIRGINIA'S COUNTIES IN 1775

- 74. BURELY 1776
- 75. FINCASLE 1776
- 76. SHENANDOAH 1776

THE GOOD OF THE NEW SETTLEMENTS. THEY SECURED 500 POUNDS OF SPOONPORE, WHICH WAS BROUGHT FROM PITTSBURGH DOWN THE OHIO RIVER AND OVERLAND FROM LINDSAY (HAYTAVILLE) TO HARRISBURG.

IT IS WELL TO REMEMBER THAT, WHEN FIRST SETTLED, HARRISBURG, BONESBORO, ST. ASAPH, LESTON, MILLING SPRINGS, KENTON'S STATION, MCCLELLAN'S FORT (GEORGETOWN), SANDOZZY'S STATION, LIMESTONE, AND LOGAN'S STATION WERE IN FINCASLE COUNTY, VIRGINIA. ON DECEMBER 31, 1776, THE AREA BECAME KENTUCKY COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AND FINCASLE COUNTY CENTER TO BE.

- 1. FREDERICK
- 2. DANBURY (SHENANDOAH AFTER 1778)
- 3. CHANCE
- 4. ALDERMANVILLE
- 5. BUCKINGHAM
- 6. PRINCE EDWARD
- 7. CHARLOTTE
- 8. MCCLELLANS

LAKE OHE

MAP BY  
WENDELL H. RONE, SR.

## IT WAS THE WORK OF THOMAS JEFFERSON

THE BILL CREATING KENTUCKY, WASHINGTON, AND MONTGOMERY COUNTIES, OUT OF FINCASLE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, WAS INTRODUCED IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA ON OCTOBER 26, 1776, BY THOMAS JEFFERSON. IT WAS APPROVED ON DECEMBER 7 AND SIGNED INTO LAW BY VIRGINIA'S FIRST GOVERNOR, PATRICK HENRY, AND BECAME EFFECTIVE ON DECEMBER 31, 1776. WITH IT BECAME EFFECTIVE FINCASLE COUNTY WENT OUT OF EXISTENCE.



## VIRGINIA'S COUNTIES IN 1776

- 61. MONTGOMERY 1776
- 62. OHIO 1776
- 63. HENRY 1776
- 64. KENTUCKY 1776
- 65. WASHINGTON 1776
- 66. MONTGOMERY 1776

- 1. FREDERICK
- 2. DANBURY (SHENANDOAH AFTER 1778)
- 3. CHANCE
- 4. ALDERMANVILLE
- 5. BUCKINGHAM
- 6. PRINCE EDWARD
- 7. CHARLOTTE
- 8. MCCLELLANS

NOTES: TRANSDIVANIA COUNTY (1776-1786) WAS ORGANIZED OUT OF AUGUSTA COUNTY AT THE SAME TIME WITH OHIO AND MONTGOMERY. IT WAS LOCATED TO THE NORTH AND EAST OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED COUNTIES, AND WITH THE ADJUSTMENT OF THE VIRGINIA-PENNSYLVANIA BORDER WENT OUT OF EXISTENCE.

TRANSDIVANIA (1776), OHIO (1776), AND MONTGOMERY (1776) FORMED THE DISTRICT OF WEST AUGUSTA IN 1776.

NORTH CAROLINA

LAKE HICKMAN

MAP BY  
WENDELL H. RONE, SR.

NORTH CAROLINA

# KENTUCKY AND HER COUNTIES

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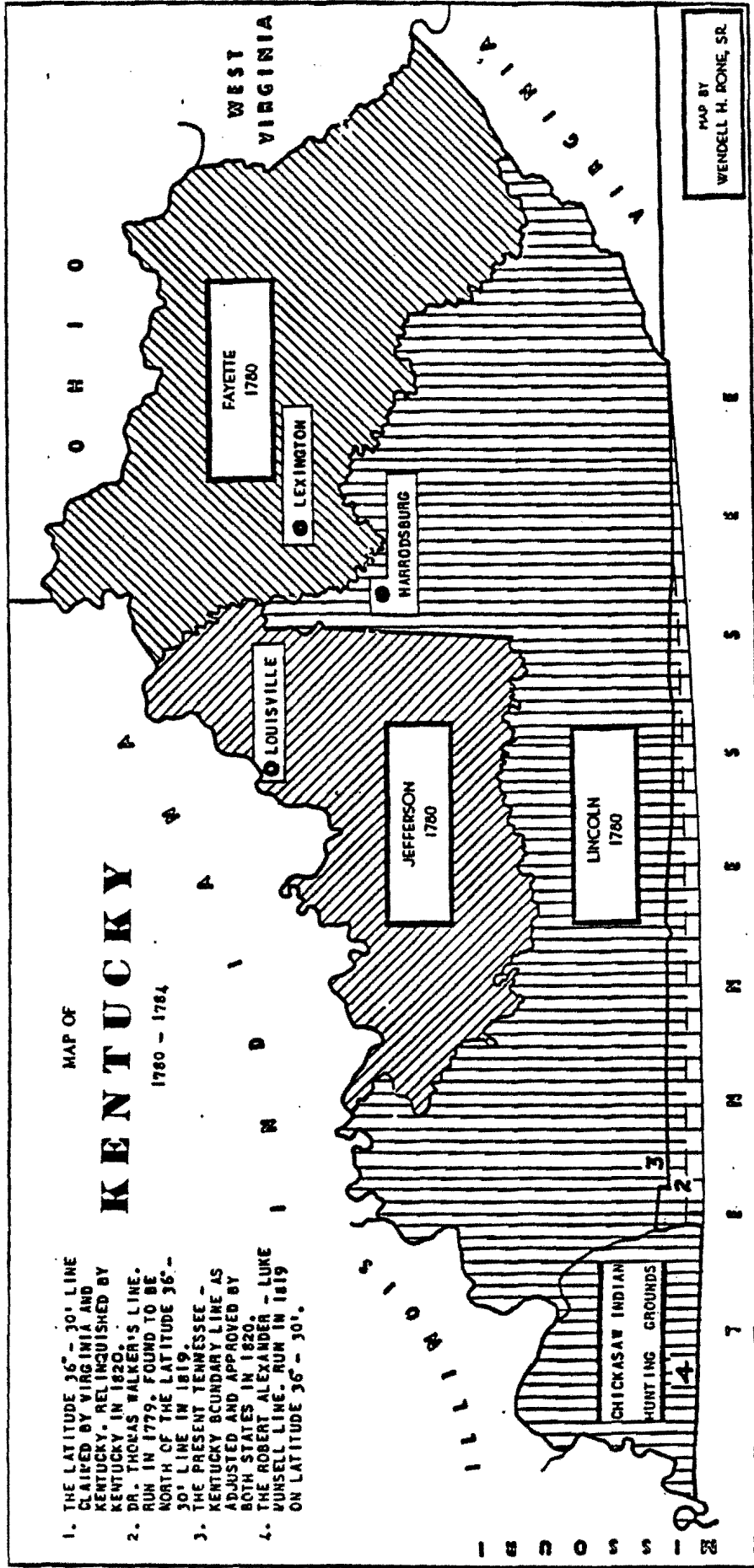
## THE MAP OF KENTUCKY 1780-1784

FROM DECEMBER 31, 1776 TO NOVEMBER 1, 1780, THE AREA NOW KNOWN AS THE STATE OF KENTUCKY WAS CALLED KENTUCKY COUNTY, VIRGINIA. THE LARGE INFUX OF SETTLERS INTO THE AREA IN THE ABOVE PERIOD FINALLY LED TO THE CREATION OF THE INITIAL COUNTIES, THREE IN NUMBER, OUT OF WHICH THE OTHER ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEEN COUNTIES HAVE BEEN FORMED.

ON JUNE 30, 1780, THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA PASSED A LAW, WHICH WAS SIGNED BY GOVERNOR THOMAS JEFFERSON, CREATING THE COUNTIES OF JEFFERSON, FAYETTE, AND LINCOLN. THE FIRST WAS NAMED FOR THE VIRGINIA GOVERNOR.

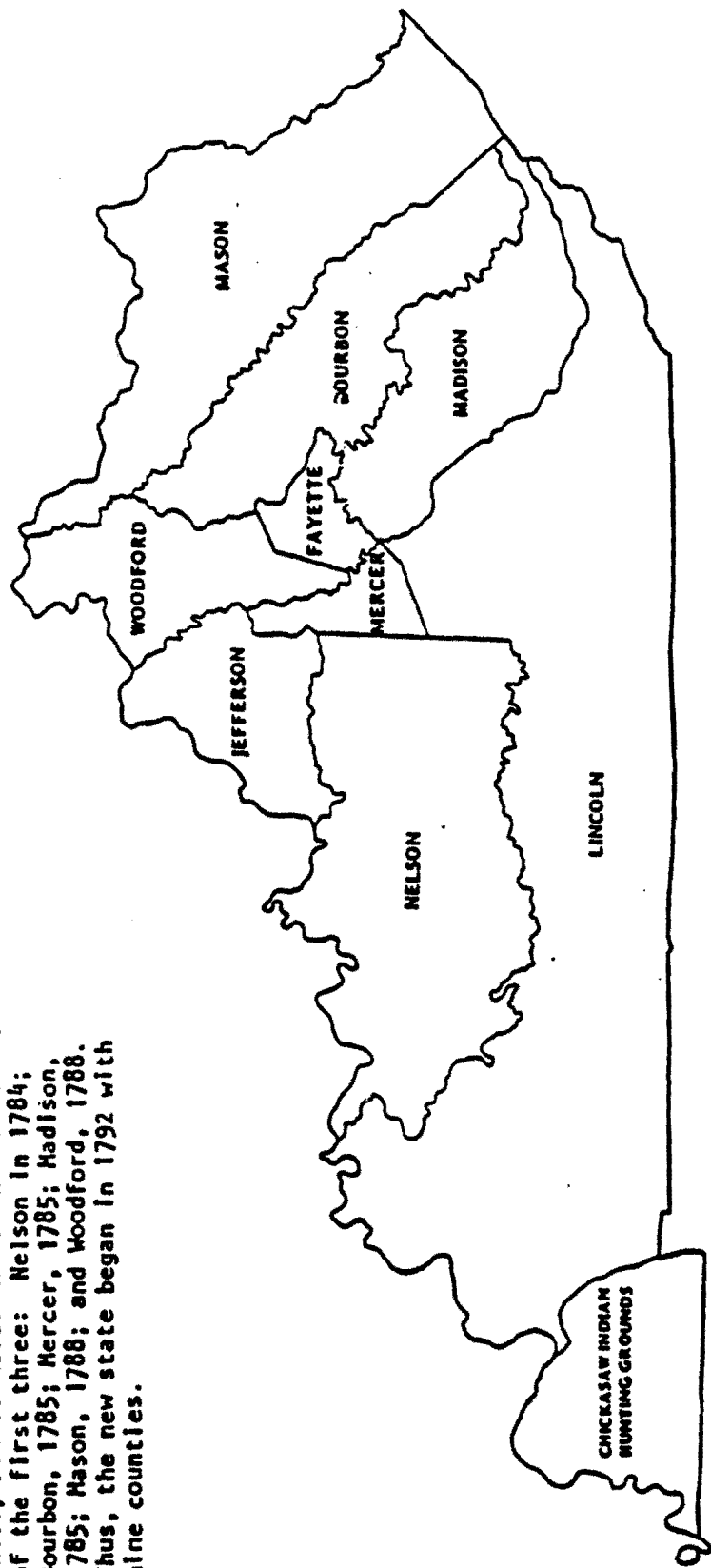
MOR. FAYETTE WAS NAMED FOR THE YOUNG PATRIOTIC FRENCH GENERAL LA FAYETTE, WHO WAS BUT TWENTY-THREE YEARS OF AGE AT THE TIME, AND WAS MAKING SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CAUSE OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE. LINCOLN WAS NAMED FOR GENERAL BENJAMIN LINCOLN, ONE OF GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON'S CHIEF LIEUTENANTS, WHO WAS TO RECEIVE FOR GENERAL WASHINGTON THE SWORD OF GENERAL CORMALLIS AT YORKTOWN IN 1781.

THE NEW COUNTIES CAME INTO EXISTENCE ON NOVEMBER 1, 1780. LOUISVILLE WAS CHOSEN AS THE COUNTY SEAT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY; LEXINGTON WAS CHOSEN AS THE COUNTY SEAT OF FAYETTE; AND ST. ASAPH (STANFORD) BECAME LINCOLN'S COUNTY SEAT.



### THE NEW STATES NINE COUNTIES-1792

In 1780, Kentucky county Virginia, was divided into Fayette, Jefferson and Lincoln counties. By about 1783, most residents of Kentucky district were not from Virginia, but from North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and other origins. Agitation for separation from Virginia increased. After nine conventions a constitution for the new state of Kentucky was completed in 1792. Meanwhile, new counties had been carved out of the first three: Nelson in 1784; Bourbon, 1785; Mercer, 1785; Madison, 1785; Mason, 1788; and Woodford, 1788. Thus, the new state began in 1792 with nine counties.



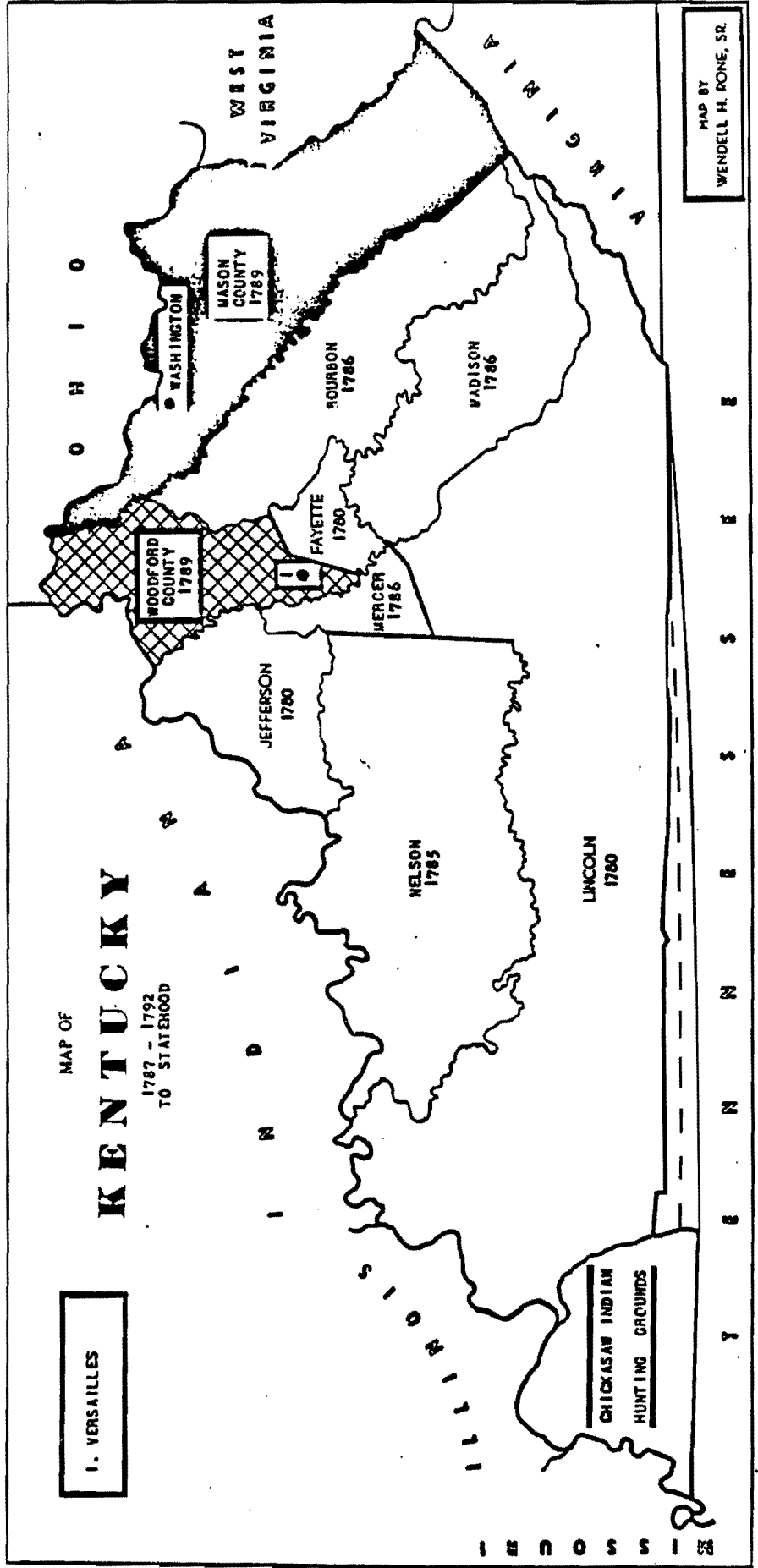
# KENTUCKY AND HER COUNTIES

## THE MAP OF KENTUCKY 1787-1792

TWO ADDITIONAL COUNTIES WERE CREATED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA BEFORE KENTUCKY BECAME A STATE ON JUNE 1, 1792. MASON, THE FIRST OF THE TWO, WAS CREATED BY LAW ON NOVEMBER 5, 1788, TO BECOME EFFECTIVE ON MAY 1, 1789. THE LAW WAS SIGNED BY GOVERNOR EDWARD RANDOLPH OF VIRGINIA. IT WAS NAMED FOR GEORGE MASON, THE AUTHOR OF THE VIRGINIA DECLARATION OF RIGHTS, ADOPTED BY THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION ON JUNE 15, 1776. IT FORMED THE BASIS FOR THE FIRST TEN AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES. ITS PRINCIPLES ARE ALSO EVIDENT IN THE DECLARATION OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE, PRODUCED LARGELY BY MASON'S FRIEND, THOMAS JEFFERSON.

THE SECOND COUNTY CREATED IN THIS PERIOD WAS WOODFORD. THE CREATING LAW WAS PASSED INTACT ON NOVEMBER 12, 1788, TO BECOME EFFECTIVE ON MAY 1, 1789. IT WAS NAMED FOR BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM WOODFORD, OF THE FIRST VIRGINIA BRIGADE OF THE CONTINENTAL ARMY. HE WAS TAKEN PRISONER AT THE FALL OF CHARLESTON, S.C., IN 1780. HE DIED IN CAPTIVITY UNDER THE BRITISH AT NEW YORK CITY ON MAY 12, 1780. GOVERNOR BEVERLY RANDOLPH OF VIRGINIA SIGNED THE ACT WHICH CREATED WOODFORD COUNTY.

FROM 1780 TO 1789 A TOTAL OF NINE COUNTIES WERE CREATED BY THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA. THESE WERE THE EXISTING COUNTIES IN THE STATE WHEN THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY CAME INTO EXISTENCE. NONE EVER BECAME EXTINGUISHED.



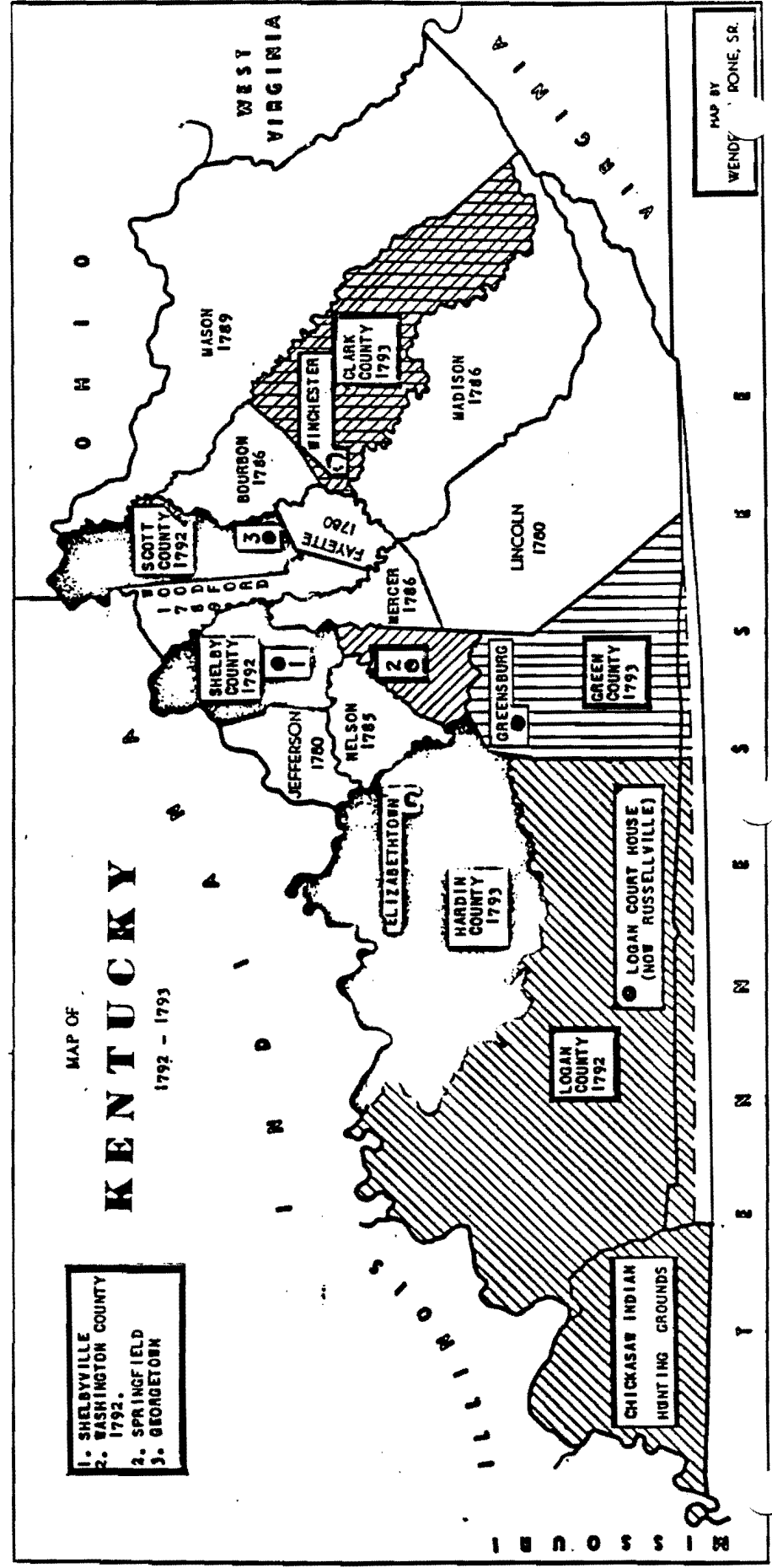
# KENTUCKY AND HER COUNTIES

THE MAP OF KENTUCKY 1792-1792  
 WITHIN NINE MONTHS AFTER STATEHOOD THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY CREATED SEVEN NEW COUNTIES, THUS INCREASING THE NUMBER TO SIXTEEN. KENTUCKY'S FIRST GOVERNOR ISAAC SHELBY, SIGNED THE LAWS INTO EFFECT. THE FOLLOWING INTERESTING INFORMATION IS GIVEN CONCERNING THOSE NEW COUNTIES:

NAME	DATE CREATED	DATE EFFECTIVE	FOR WHOM NAMED
WASHINGTON	JUNE 22, 1792	SEPTEMBER 1, 1792	PRESIDENT GEORGE WASHINGTON
SCOTT	JUNE 22, 1792	SEPTEMBER 1, 1792	GENERAL-GOVERNOR CHAS. SCOTT
SHELBY	JUNE 23, 1792	SEPTEMBER 1, 1792	GOVERNOR ISAAC SHELBY

NAME	DATE CREATED	DATE EFFECTIVE	FOR WHOM NAMED
LOGAN	JUNE 28, 1792	SEPTEMBER 1, 1792	GENERAL BENJAMIN LOGAN
CLARK	DECEMBER 6, 1792	FEBRUARY 1, 1793	GENERAL GEORGE ROGERS CLARK
HARDIN	DECEMBER 15, 1792	FEBRUARY 20, 1793	GENERAL JOHN HARDIN
GREEN	DECEMBER 20, 1792	JANUARY 1, 1793	GENERAL NATHANIEL GREEN

OF THESE FIRST SIXTEEN COUNTIES, TEN WERE NAMED FOR VIRGINIA NATIVES. THE OTHER SIX WERE NATIVES OF THE FOLLOWING STATES AND COUNTRIES: FAYETTE (FRANCE), LINCOLN (MASSACHUSETTS), MERCER (SCOTLAND), SHELBY (MARYLAND), GREEN (RHODE ISLAND), BOURBON (FRANCE - NAMED FOR THE RULING HOUSE OF BOURBON).



# KENTUCKY AND HER COUNTIES

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## THE MAP OF KENTUCKY 1794-1796

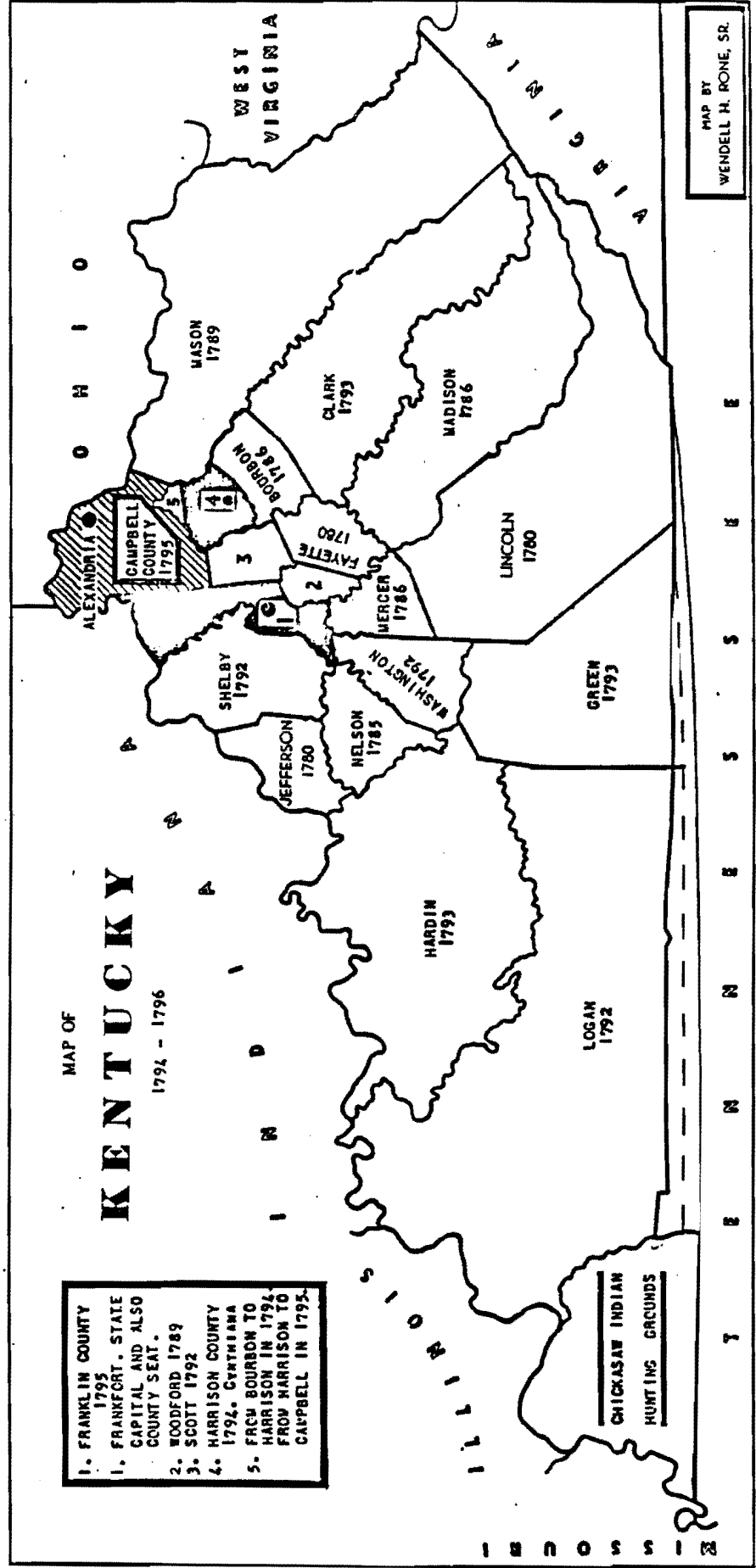
THERE WERE BUT THREE COUNTIES CREATED IN THE PERIOD 1794-1796 BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF KENTUCKY. THEY WERE AS FOLLOWS:

NAME	DATE CREATED	DATE EFFECTIVE	FOR WHOM NAMED
HARRISON	DECEMBER 21, 1793	FEBRUARY 1, 1794	SENATOR BENJAMIN HARRISON
FRANKLIN	DECEMBER 7, 1794	MAY 10, 1795	GOVERNOR BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
CAMPBELL	DECEMBER 17, 1794	MAY 10, 1795	SENATOR JOHN CAMPBELL

FRANKLIN COUNTY BECAME THE LOCATION OF THE STATE CAPITAL. WHEN FIRST LAID OUT IN 1786 FRANKFORT WAS LOCATED IN FAYETTE COUNTY (1780). IT GRADUALLY SPREAD

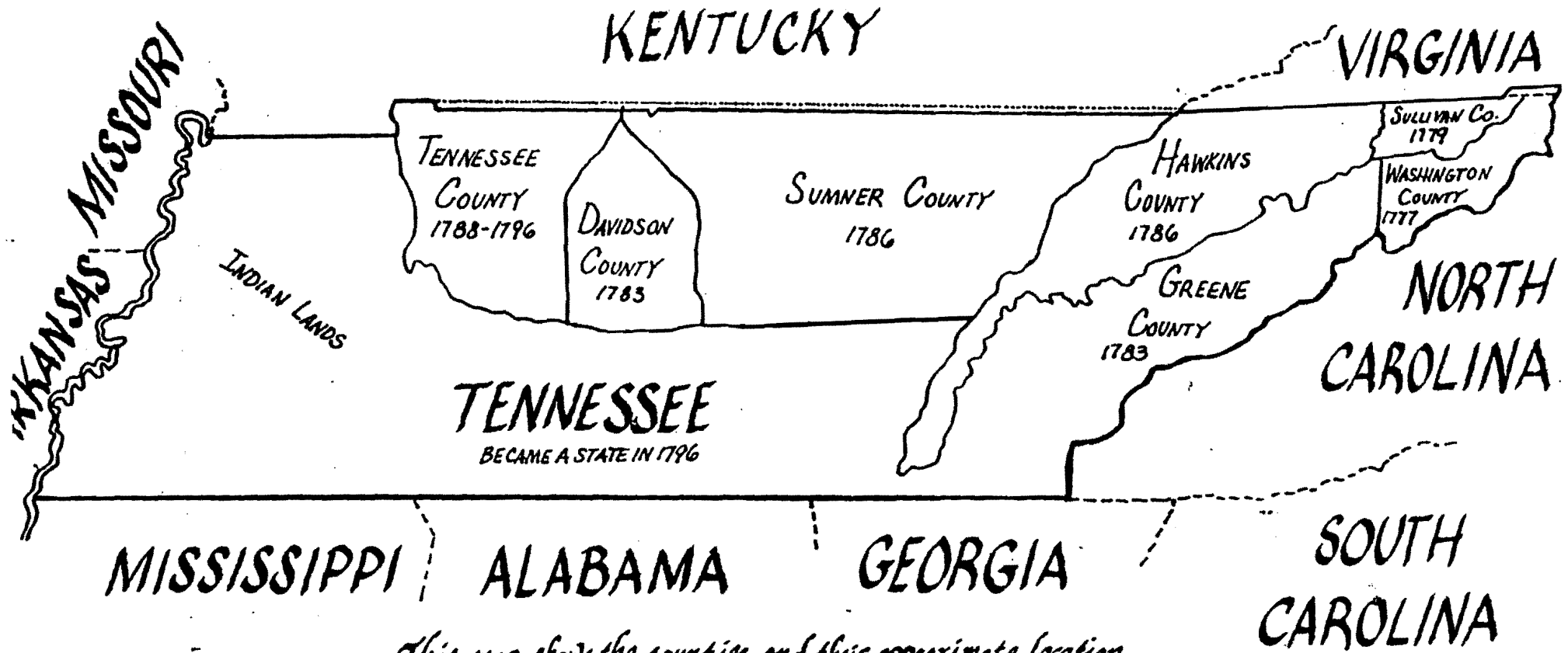
(GOVERNOR ISAAC SHELBY SIGNED THE ACTS WHICH

ACROSS THE RIVER INTO WHAT WAS THEN MERCER COUNTY (1786). IN 1789 THE FRANKF AREA WAS INCLUDED IN WOODFORD COUNTY, WITH THE PORTION WEST OF THE KENTUCKY RIVER STILL BEING INCLUDED IN MERCER COUNTY. THE PORTION OF MODERN FRANKFORT NORTH OF BENSON CREEK AND WEST OF THE KENTUCKY RIVER WAS ORIGINALLY IN JEFFERSON COUNTY (1780). IT BECAME A PART OF SHELBY COUNTY (1792). THUS IN 1780 THE AREA OF MODERN FRANKFORT TOUCHED THE THREE ORIGINAL COUNTIES OF KENTUCKY - JEFFERS LINCOLN, AND FAYETTE. IN 1795 PORTIONS OF SHELBY, MERCER, AND WOODFORD, IN THE ABOVE-MENTIONED AREA, BECAME A PART OF FRANKLIN COUNTY. KENTUCKY'S CAPITOLS HAVE BEEN LOCATED IN THE FAYETTE-WOODFORD AND MERCER-LINCOLN AREAS ONLY. CREATED THE ABOVE-NAMED COUNTIES)





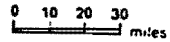
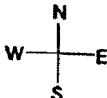
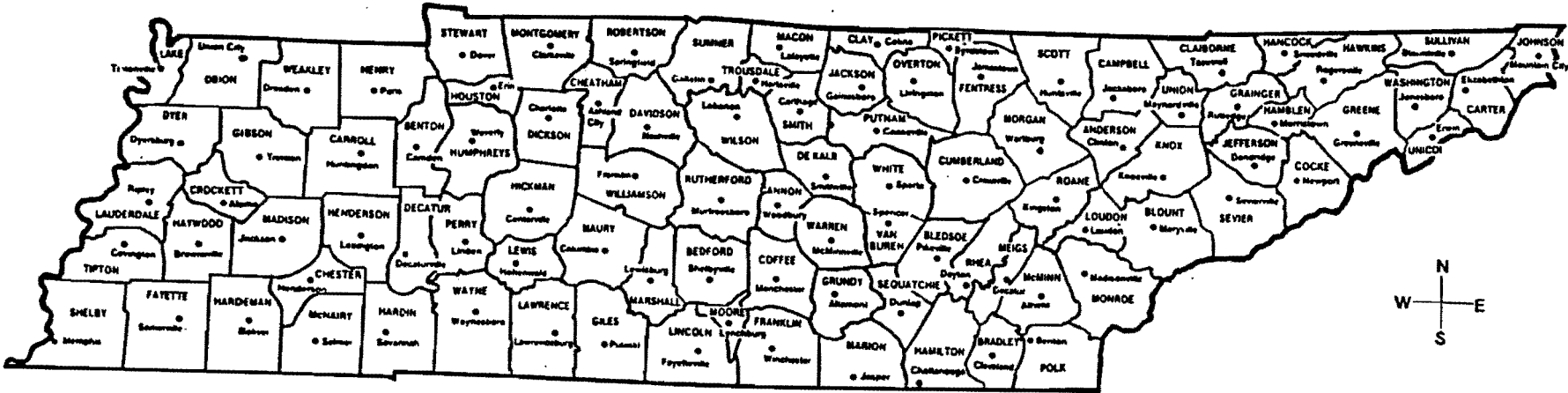




*This map shows the counties and their approximate location around the year 1790.*

*by Shelby Treson Edwards  
28 January 1985*

# Counties and County Seats



EAST TENNESSEE Counties, their dates of formation and parent counties:

1777	Washington	Act of North Carolina
1779	Sullivan	Washington
1783	Greene	Washington
1786	Hawkins	Sullivan
1792	Jefferson	Greene, Hawkins
1792	Knox	Greene, Hawkins
1794	Sevier	Jefferson
1795	Blount	Knox
1796	Granger	Hawkins, Knox
1796	Carter	Washington
1797	Cocke	Jefferson
1801	Anderson	Knox, Granger
1801	Roane	Knox, Indian Lands
1801	Claborne	Granger, Hawkins
1806	Campbell	Anderson, Claiborne
1807	Rhea	Roane
1807	Bledsoe	Roane, Indian Lands
1817	Morgan	Anderson, Roane
1817	Marion	Indian Lands
1819	McMinn	Indian Lands
1819	Monroe	Indian Lands
1819	Hamilton	Rhea, Indian Lands
1836	Johnson	Carter
1836	Bradley	Indian Lands
1836	Meigs	Rhea
1839	Polk	McMinn, Bradley
1844	Hancock	Hawkins, Claiborne
1849	Scott	Anderson, Campbell, Fentress, Morgan
1850	Union	Granger, Claiborne, Campbell, Anderson, Knox
1855	Cumberland	White, Bledsoe, Rhea, Morgan, Fentress, Putnam
1870	Haablen	Jefferson, Granger, Greene
1870	Loudon	Roane, Monroe, Blount, McMinn
1875	Unicoi	Washington, Carter

James County, formed in 1871 from parts of Bradley and Hamilton, was abolished in 1919 and absorbed by Hamilton County where its records are held.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE counties, their dates of formation and parent counties:

1783	Davidson	Act of North Carolina
1786	Sumner	Davidson
1788	*Tennessee	Davidson
1796	Robertson	Tennessee, Sumner
1796	Montgomery	Tennessee
1799	Wilson	Sumner
1799	Smith	Sumner, Indian Lands
1799	Williamson	Davidson
1801	Jackson	Smith, Indian Lands
1803	Dickson	Montgomery, Robertson
1803	Stewart	Montgomery
1803	Rutherford	Davidson, Williamson, Wilson
1806	Overton	Jackson, Indian Lands
1806	White	Jackson, Smith

\*Tennessee County was abolished in 1796; its records are included in those of Montgomery County.

1807	Warren	White, Jackson, Smith, Indian Lands
1807	Bedford	Rutherford, Indian Lands
1807	Hickman	Dickson
1807	Franklin	Rutherford, Indian Lands
1807	Mauy	Williamson, Indian Lands
1809	Humphreys	Stewart
1809	Lincoln	Bedford
1809	Giles	Indian Lands
1817	Lawrence	Hickman, Indian Lands
1817	Wayne	Hickman
1819	Perry	Humphreys, Hickman
1823	Fentress	Morgan, Overton, White
1836	Cannon	Rutherford, Smith, Warren
1836	Marshall	Bedford, Lincoln, Mauy
1836	Coffee	Bedford, Warren, Franklin
1837	DeKalb	Cannon, Jackson, White
1840	Van Buren	Warren, White
1842	Macon	Smith, Sumner
1843	Lewis	Hickman, Lawrence, Mauy, Wayne
1844	Grundy	Warren, Franklin
1854	Putnam	Fentress, Jackson, Smith, White, Overton
1856	Cheatham	Davidson, Dickson,
1857	Sequatchie	Montgomery, Robertson
1870	Trousdale	Hamilton, Marion, Warren
1870	Clay	Macon, Smith, Sumner
1871	Moore	Jackson, Overton
1871	Houston	Bedford, Coffee, Lincoln, Franklin
1871	Pickett	Dickson, Humphreys, Montgomery, Stewart
1879	Pickett	Fentress, Overton

WEST TENNESSEE counties, their dates of formation and parent counties:

1819	Hardin	Indian Lands
1819	Shelby	Indian Lands
1821	Henry	Indian Lands
1821	Carroll	Indian Lands
1821	Madison	Indian Lands
1821	Henderson	Indian Lands
1823	McNairy	Hardin
1823	Hardeman	Hardin, Indian Lands
1823	Dyer	Indian Lands
1823	Gibson	Indian Lands
1823	Weakley	Indian Lands
1823	Obion	Indian Lands
1823	Tipton	Indian Lands
1823	Haywood	Indian Lands
1824	Fayette	Indian Lands
1835	Benton	Humphreys
1835	Lauderdale	Haywood, Dyer, Tipton
1845	Decatur	Perry
1870	Lake	Obion
1871	Crockett	Haywood, Madison, Dyer, Gibson
1879	Chester	Hardeman, Henderson, McNairy, Madison