

African American Neighborhood History Project

Photographs

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1. Jefferson Jacob School, Prospect.
Unidentified school children and teachers, 1920's.
Donated by Pen and Brenda Bogert, 9 October 2000.
2. James T. Taylor, age 24.
3. James T. Taylor at his house.
4. James T. Taylor (seated in middle, front row).
5. Harry Hall Merriwether.
6. Harry Hall Merriwether and his second wife.
7. Merriwether House, Harrod's Creek.
8. Martin Dunbar's grandmother, Lula.
9. Martin Dunbar's mother (in sailor suit) at the Lincoln Institute.
10. William Stokes (Martin Dunbar's grandfather).
11. Dunbar family: Martin Dunbar (rear), Martin Dunbar's father (lower right);
Martin Dunbar's son and two grandsons.

Images transferred to Filson photo collection. (015PC55)

Brooks Genealogy

I. Lewis Brooks – (1827 - ?)

Married Harriet Ruedd in 1860 (1835 - ?)

From 1870 - 1900 they were living in Harrod's Creek neighborhood. [1870 US census Jefferson Co., Harrod's Cr. Pct., # 43-41; 1880 US Census Jefferson Co., Harrod's Cr. Pct., # 48-57; 1900 US Census, Jefferson Co., Harrod's Cr. Pct., #331-351.

A. Nettie Brooks – b. 1855

B. Anthony Brooks – b. 1858

C. Lewis Brooks – b. 1860

D. Simon Brooks – (1862 – 1920)

Married Edlene Jacob. Simon was buried in Prospect.

1. Laura E. Brooks (1902 -). Attended a one-room school in Prospect, and later attended the Jefferson Jacob School, named for her maternal grandfather. (See JACOB genealogy). **Interviewed.**

E. Robert Brooks – b. 1864

F. Mary Ann Brooks – b. 1866

G. Nannie Brooks – b. 1870

H. Edward Brooks – b. 1872.

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Jacob Genealogy

I. Jefferson Jacob (1835 - ?). Was a farmer, pastor and community leader.

Married Susan _____ (1838 - ?)

They were living in the Harrod's Creek Pct. in 1870 and 1880

A. Edmonia Jacob – b. 1856

B. Edward Jacob – b. 1858

C. Charles Jacob – b. 1866

D. Sidney A. Jacob b. 1867

F. Edlene Jacob (1868 – 1954)

Married Simon Brooks.

1. Laura E. Brooks – (1903 -). (see BROOKS genealogy).

G. Annie Jacob – b. 1872

H. Jane Jacob – b. 1873

I. Laura Jacob – b. 1876

J. Parker B. Jacob – (1877 – 1957).

K. Mary F. Jacob – b. 1879.

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Lang Genealogy

I. Thaddeus Lang (1825 - ?). Living in 1880; died by 1900.

Married Elizabeth Kiger (1837-1915). Her parents were Addison Kiger and Matilda Watson. The Langs were living in the Saltillo Pct., Oldham County in 1870 and 1880. By 1900, Elizabeth Lang was living in Harrod's Creek with her son, Addison, and grandson, James T. Taylor. Elizabeth Lang died at Central State Hospital and was buried in Louisville Cemetery.

Children of Thaddeus and Elizabeth Lang:

A. Addison Lang – (1856 – 1922). Buried in Louisville Cemetery.

B. Fanny Lang – b. 1859; died ca. 1885.

Married Edward Taylor in 1883. (See TAYLOR genealogy).

1. James Thomas Thaddeus Alexander Taylor – b. 1885

Married Etta _____

a. James S. Taylor – b. 1914

b. Minnie Alta Taylor – b. 1912. **Interviewed.**

c. May Etta Taylor – b. 1919

C. John W. Lang – (1860 – 1928). Buried Louisville Cemetery.

D. George Lang – (1864 – 1924). Buried Louisville Cemetery.

E. Jane Lang – b. 1866

F. Charles Lang – b. 1868

G. Alonzo Lang – b. 1870

H. Florence Lang – b. 1873

I. Robert Lang – b. 1875

J. David Lang – b. 1879

Merriwether Genealogy

I. Harrison Merriwether (1810 - ?). Born in Shelby Co.

Married Jane _____ (1825 - ?)

They were living in Saltillo Pct., Oldham Co., in 1870.

A. Isaac Merriwether – (1845 – 1928). Died at Harrod's Creek. Buried in Louisville Cemetery.

Married Mattie Taylor (1852 - 1924) on 2 January 1872 at 12 Mile Island.

Marriage performed by John Buckner. Witnesses were Mat Jacob and Jefferson Jacob [Jefferson Co. Marriage Book 2-C, p. 232]. Isaac (Ike or Zack) and Mattie were living in Saltillo Pct. in 1880. In 1910 they were living in Harrod's Creek Pct. The 1910 census showed "Zack" Merriwether, age 59 and Mattie Merriwether, age 56, married for 39 years. Occupation for Isaac Merriwether, who was unable to write, was "preacher of the gospel". [1910 US Census Jefferson Co., Harrod's Creek Pct., # 51-51]. They still were living there in 1920). (See TAYLOR and LANG genealogies).

1. Mamie Merriwether – b. 1875

2. Harry Hall Merriwether – (1879 - 1954)

Married Sunshine H. Clinton (1881 - 1940) on 24 June 1907 [Jefferson Co. Marriage Book 5-C, p. 92. No date, witnesses, or pastor given; marriage bond, dated 27 June 1907, with Harrison Kennedy as bondsman].]. She was the daughter of Willis Y. Clinton and Nancy _____. She was buried in Eastern Cemetery. In 1910 Harry Hall and Sunshine Merriweather were living at 630 Laurel St. in the Smoketown neighborhood of Louisville. He worked as a chauffeur. Census showed they were each married for the first time and had no children. [1910 US Census, Jefferson Co., ED 70, Family # 284, 29 April 1910]. In 1920 they were living in Harrod's Creek Pct. Harry H. Merriwether death certificate [age 71, 15 March 1954, Vol. 10, # 4944].

1938 1938 Louisville City Directory

Dr. A. C. and Elnora McIntyre at 2105 W. Chestnut St.

1940 Sunshine Merriwether died

1941 1941 Louisville City Directory

Elnora E. McIntyre: Assistant in Colored Dept., LFPL, residing 2105 W. Chestnut St.

1942 1942 Louisville City Directory

H. H. Merriweather, janitor at Weissiger-Gaulbert Apts., residing at Harrod's Creek

Elnora M. Merriweather: Assistant in Colored Dept., LFPL, residing 2105 W. Chestnut St.

a. Mary Margaret Merriweather. **Interviewed.**

3. Lilly Merriwether – (1880 – 1947). Died at Harrod's Creek. Buried in Louisville Cemetery.

Merriwether Genealogy

I. Harrison Merriwether (1810 - ?). Born in Shelby Co.

Married Jane _____ (1825 - ?)

They were living in Saltillo Pct., Oldham Co., in 1870.

A. Isaac Merriwether – (1845 – 1928). Died at Harrod's Creek. Buried in Louisville Cemetery.

Married Mattie Taylor (1852 - ?). Isaac (Ike) and Mattie were living in Saltillo Pct. In 1880 and in Harrod's Creek ("The Neck") in 1920. (See TAYLOR and LANG genealogies).

1. Mamie Merriwether – b. 1875

2. Harry Hall Merriwether – (1879 - 1954)

Married Sunshine H. Clinton (1881 - 1940). She was the daughter of Willis Y. Clinton and Nancy _____. She was buried in Eastern Cemetery. In 1910 Harry Hall and Sunshine Merriweather were living at 630 Laurel St. in the Smoketown neighborhood of Louisville. He worked as a chauffeur [1910 US Census, Jefferson Co., ED 70, Family # 284, 29 April 1910].

a. Mary Margaret Merriweather. **Interviewed.**

3. Lilly Merriwether – (1880 – 1947). Died at Harrod's Creek. Buried in Louisville Cemetery.

Taylor Genealogy

I. Thomas Taylor (1825 – ca. 1873-1880)

Married Frances Jacob (1830 - ?).

In 1860 the only free African American in the Harrod's Creek area was Jefferson Taylor, age 54. He was living with the family of Humphrey Pate [1860 US Census Jefferson Co., Falls of Harrod's Creek, 31 August 1860].

In 1870 Thomas and Frances Taylor were living in Harrod's Creek Pct. in Jefferson Co. Thomas worked as a farm hand and had \$200 in personal property. Living next to them were the families of Jeff Taylor (age 58), William Taylor (age 36) and George S. Taylor (age 38). [1870 US Census, Jefferson Co., Harrod's Creek Pct., 17 August 1870, p. 6]. Thomas died by 1880, at which time the household was headed by Frances Taylor. Living with her were her children William, Eddie, Minnie, Thomas, Sarah and Haggie. They lived in "The Neck", Harrod's Creek.

Children of Thomas and Frances Taylor:

A. Mattie Taylor – (1852- ?).

B. Nancy Taylor – b. 1854

C. Eveline Taylor– b. 1855

D. Rina Taylor– b. 1857

Married Wilson Magruder

E. William Taylor– b. 1858

F. Edward Taylor– b. 1860

Married Fannie Lang (see LANG genealogy) on 23 August 1883. They were married by Jefferson Jacob in Jefferson Co.. Witnesses were James Enders and William Brown. [Jefferson Co. Marriage Book 3-C, p. 96]. Fanny died about the time of James' birth, and James was raised by his maternal grandparents, Thaddeus and Elizabeth Lang.

1. James Thomas Thaddeus Alexander Taylor – (1885 – 1955).

Married Julia Etta McAfee (1888 - 1942).

a. James S. Taylor – b. 1914

b. Minnie Alta Taylor – b. 1911. Attended Jefferson Jacob School (built ca. 1918). **Interviewed.**

c. May Etta Taylor – b. 1919

G. Minnie Taylor– b. 1866

H. Thomas J. Taylor– b. 1868

I. Sarah Taylor– b. 1870

J. Haggie Taylor- b. 1873

Deed Book 197, p. 457.

B. F. Hartsfield Estate to Jefferson Jacob.

26 February 1876.

\$583.31 (\$260.00 cash, balance in two installments).

7 acres.

Ben + Wilson Brown's lane

Connelly



Scale = 1: 184
Feet

- 1 N 78.75° E 462
- 2 S 32.5° E 561
- 3 S 78.75° W 610.5

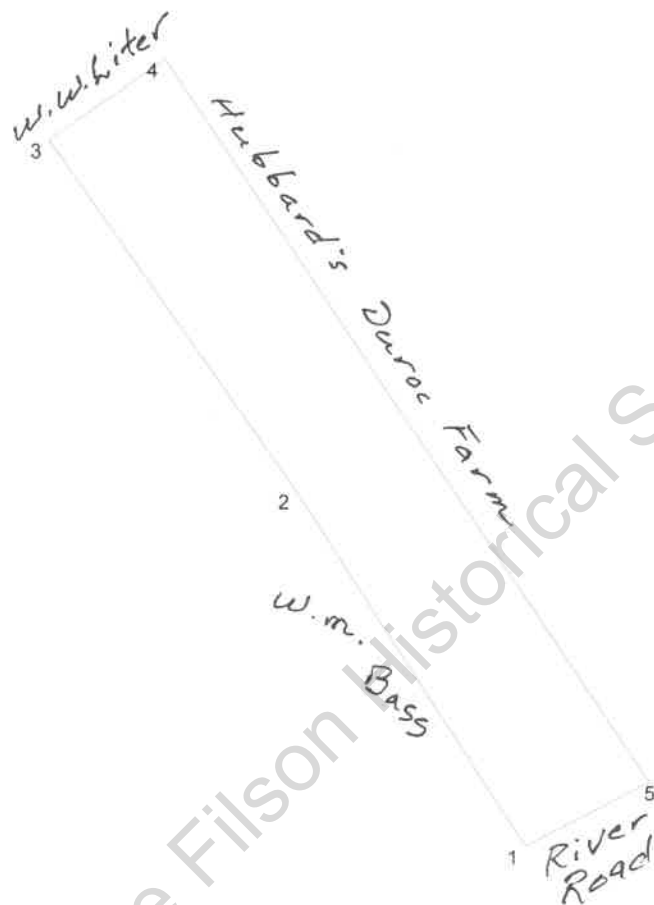
4 Back to pob

Jefferson Co. Deed Book 1038, p. 189.

D. G. Skaggs and wife to James to James T. Taylor.

1 March 1923.

\$2,094.75. A 23.94 - acre tract on River Road."between the towns of Harrods Creek and Prospect".



Scale = 1: 567
Feet

- 1 N 33° 5' W 1252
- 2 N 35° 30' W 1270
- 3 N 55° 20' E 417.5

- 4 S 34° 5' E 2572
- 5 Back to pob

Printed by MapDraw Demo Version.

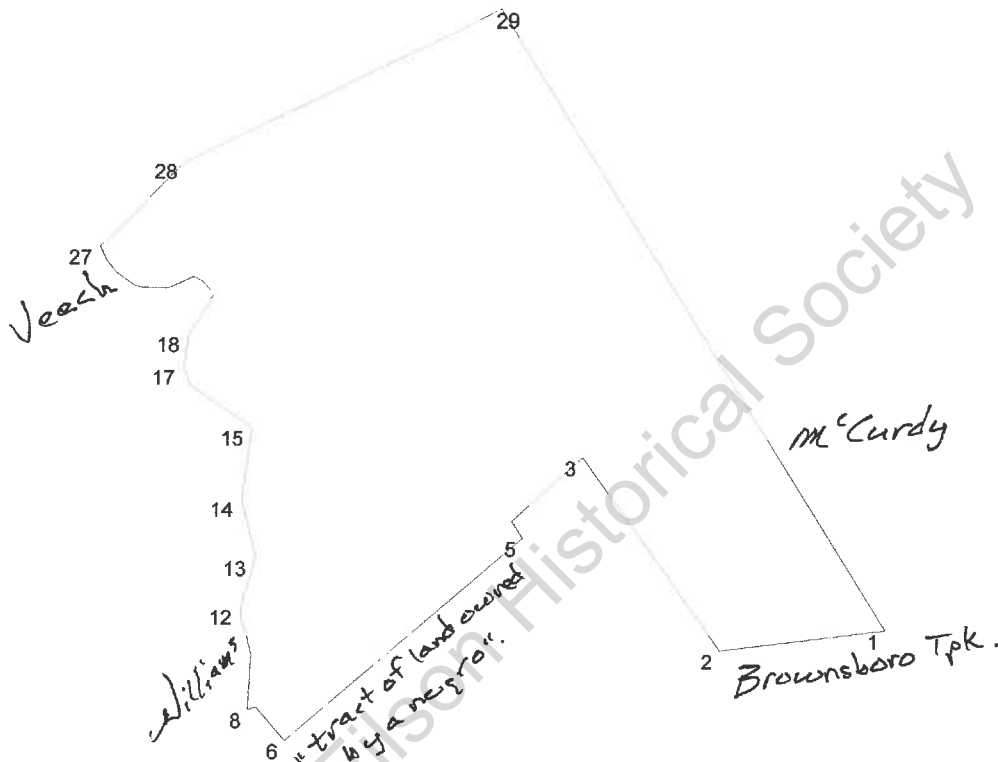
Jefferson Co. Deed Book 1033, p. 120.

D. C. Clarke and wife to James T. Taylor.

23 January 1923.

Tract of 189.2 acres on Brownsboro Turnpike, for \$25,000.

Same as DB 989, p. 505.



Scale = 1: 1072
Feet

Jefferson Co. Deed Book 1033, p. 120.
D. C. Clarke and wife to James T. Taylor.
23 January 1923.
Tract of 189.2 acres on Brownsboro Turnpike, for \$25,000.
Same as DB 989, p. 505.

1	S 83° 5' W 931.26	16	N 16.5° W 102.8
2	N 35° 25' W 1321.32	17	N 8° E 185.79
3	S 48° 25' W 534.93	18	N 33° E 262.02
4	S 35° 10' E 110.88	19	N 43° W 99
5	S 49° 34' W 1739.1	20	N 63.5° W 52.8
6	N 41° W 247.5	21	S 66.5° W 151.8
7	S 71° W 46.86	22	N 89.5° W 148.01
8	N 3° E 307.89	23	N 73° W 52.8
9	N 12.5° W 136.95	24	N 54° W 119.96
10	N 28.25° W 61.05	25	N 39° W 87.12
11	N 1° E 80.52	26	N 22.5° W 79.86
12	N 16.25° E 282.65	27	N 45° E 676.5
13	N 13° 10' W 337.92	28	N 64.5° E 1943.7
14	N 8.25° E 399.96	29	Back to pob
15	N 56° W 429.99		

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Printed by MapDraw Demo Version.

Jefferson Co. Deed Book 268, p. 597.

Louis Hardin to H. Kennedy.

1.15 acres at Harrod's Creek on Wolf Pen Branch Rd. for \$46.00 (\$20.00 cash and the balance due in 1 year).

Deed Book 268, p. 599.

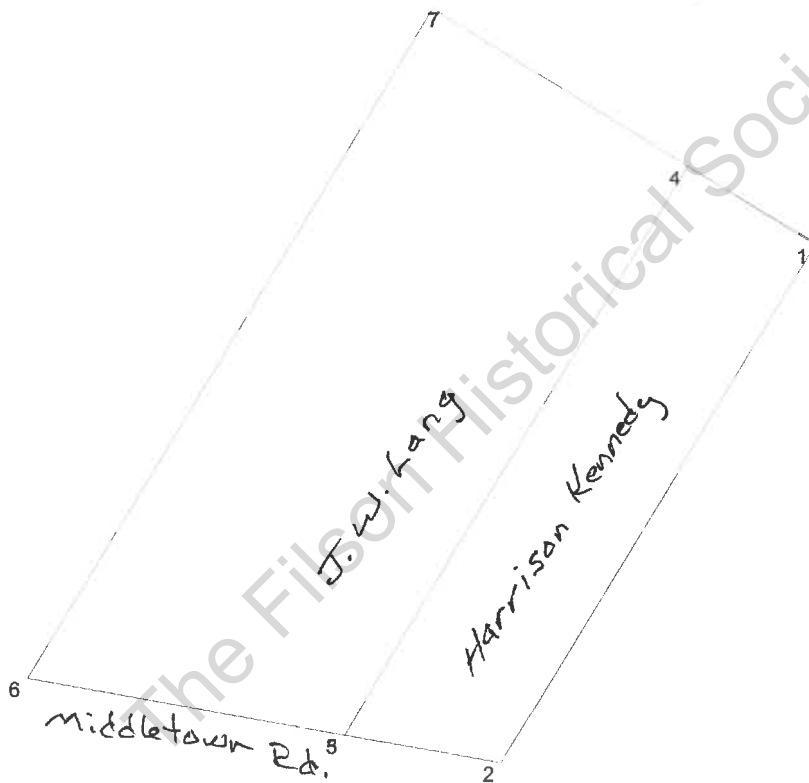
Louis Hardin to J. W. Lang.

2.62 acres for \$104.80 (\$52.40 cash).

20 March 1884.

20 March 1884.

Land formerly owned by Henry Allison.



Scale = 1: 140
Feet

Jefferson Co. Deed Book 268, p. 597.

Louis Hardin to H. Kennedy.

1.15 acres at Harrod's Creek on Wolf Pen Branch Rd. for \$46.00 (\$20.00 cash and the balance due in 1 year).

Deed Book 268, p. 599.

Louis Hardin to J. W. Lang.

2.62 acres for \$104.80 (\$52.40 cash).

20 March 1884.

20 March 1884.

1 S 31° W 439
2 N 80° W 117
3 N 31° E 482
4 S 59° E 109
New

5 N 80° W 234
6 N 31° E 568
7 Close

The Filson Historical Society

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

State Board of Health

BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

County Jefferson

Vol. Per

Registration District No.

Inc. Town

City Louisville

Primary Registration District No.

(No. 522-5 Jackson St., Ward)

(If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give the NAME instead of street and number)

2 FULL NAME John W. Lang

(a) Residence, No. 522-5 Jackson St., Ward

(Usual place of abode)

Length of residence in city or town where death occurred yrs. mos. ds.

(If nonresident, give city or town and State) yrs. mos. ds.

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

3 SEX

Male

4 COLOR OR RACE

Col

5 Single
Married
Widowed
or Divorced
(Write the word)

Married

5a If married, widowed or divorced
HUSBAND of
(or) WIFE of

Elmira Lang

6 DATE OF BIRTH

7 AGE

(Month)

(Day)

(Year)

If less than 1
day..... hrs.
or..... mts?

58 yrs. mos. ds.

8 OCCUPATION OF DECEASED

(a) Trade, profession or
particular kind of work
(b) General nature of industry,
business or establishment in
which employed (or employer)

Laborer

9 BIRTHPLACE (city or town)
(State or country)

Ky

10 NAME OF
FATHER

Thaddeus Lang

11 BIRTHPLACE
OF FATHER (city or town)
(State or country)

Ky

12 MAIDEN NAME
OF MOTHER

Elizabeth Kruger

13 BIRTHPLACE
OF MOTHER (city or town)
(State or country)

Ky

14 (Informant) Charles Lang

(Address) 522-5 Jackson

15 SEP 22 1928

Filed

SEP 22 1928

Register

R. G. May

Registrar

59 UNDERTAKER

ADDRESS

City

DATE OF BURIAL

Sept. 22, 1928

12x13

File No. 224731

Registered No. 3388

WRITE PLAINLY IN UNFADING INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD

N. B.—Every item of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important. See instructions on back of certificate.

KARGER PRINTING CO. CHICAGO, ILL.

MARGIN RESERVED FOR BINDING

MARGIN RESERVED FOR BINDING

N. B.—WRITE PLAINLY WITH UNFADING INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD. Every item of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important.

Form V. B. 1-A
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Bureau of the Census

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
Department of Health
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

State File No. 20768
Registrar's No. 3975

Registration District No. 11

Primary Registration District No. 6101

1. PLACE OF DEATH:

(a) County Jefferson

(b) City or town Harrods Creek Ky
(If outside city or town limits, write RURAL)

(c) Name of hospital or institution:

(d) Length of stay: In hospital or community _____ (years, months or days)

(If not in hospital or institution write street number or location)

3(a) FULL NAME Lillie Merriweather

3(b) If veteran, _____

3(c) Social Security No. _____

4. Sex W 5. Color or race C 6(a) Single, widowed, married, divorced Married

6(b) Name of husband or wife _____

6(c) Age of husband or wife if alive _____ Years

7. Birth date of deceased March 18 - 1880
(Month) (Day) (Year)

8. AGE: 67 Months 10 Days 10 If less than one day hr. min.

9. Birthplace At Home

10. Usual occupation At Home

11. Industry or business _____

12. Name Isaac Merriweather

13. Birthplace Ky.

14. Maiden name Mattie Taylor

15. Birthplace Ky.

16(a) Informant's own signature Isaac Merriweather

(b) Address Harrods Creek Ky.

17. BUILDING CREMATION, OR REBURYAL Harrods Creek Ky. Dec-29-1947

18(a) Signature of funeral director W. H. Taylor

(b) Address 1508 W. Walnut St.

19(a) JAN 3 1948 (Date received by local registrar)

2. USUAL RESIDENCE OF DECEASED:

(a) State Ky. (b) County Jefferson

(c) City or town Harrods Creek Ky
(If outside city or town limits, write RURAL)

(d) Street No. None

(e) If foreign born, how long in U. S. A.7 _____ year

MEDICAL CERTIFICATION

20. DATE OF DEATH Dec-26-1947

21. I hereby certify that I attended the deceased from Dec-26-1947 to Dec-26-1947 that I last saw alive and that death occurred on the day stated above at 10:15 P.M.

Immediate cause of death: (1) Chronic Hypertension

Due to (a) N.I.B.

(b) Cerebral H.T. Les.

Other conditions _____

Major findings _____

Of operations 10:15 P.M.

Of autopsy _____

22. If death was due to external causes, fill in the following:

(a) Accident, suicide, or homicide (specify) _____

(b) Date of occurrence _____

(c) Where did injury occur? In or about home, on farm, in industrial place, in public place? _____

(Specify type of place)

(a) Means of injury _____

23. Signature Isaac Merriweather

Date signed 12-30-47

1 PLACE OF DEATH
Jefferson

County

Vot. Pat. *See*

In. Town

CITY, Louisville

2 FULL NAME

Mrs Mattie Merriweather

Primary Registration District No. 8001

(NR.F.D.# Harrod's Creek Ky.

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

3 SEX Female or Unknown

4 COLOR OR RACE Single

5 Single, Married, Widowed or Divorced

6 Date of Birth

7 AGE 1875

8 OCCUPATION None

9 BIRTHPLACE Ky.

10 NAME OF FATHER Thomas Taylor.

11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER Ky.

12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER Francis Jacob.

13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER Ky.

14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE

(Informant) *Harry Merriweather*

(Address) R.R.D.# Harrod's Creek

15 Filled June 10, 1924 Miss Salie Schmitt

By V. Lester Registrar

16

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
State Board of Health
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

Registration District No. 756

Primary Registration District No. 8001

(NR.F.D.# Harrod's Creek Ky.

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

16 DATE OF DEATH June 2, 1924

17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from April 17, 1924, to June 2, 1924, that I last saw her alive on June 1, 1924, and that death occurred on June 2, 1924, at 3:30 p.m.

18 THE CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows: Anemia, and Myocarditis

19 CONTRIBUTORY (Secondary) (Duration) yrs. 1, mos. 15, ds.

20 (Signed) Robert B. Dyer, M.D.

21 (Address) 625 N. 1st St., Louisville, Ky.

22 STATE THE DISEASE CAUSING DEATH, OR, IN DEATHS FROM VIOLENT CAUSES, STATE (1) MEANS OF INJURY, AND (2) WHETHER ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL OR HOMICIDAL.

23 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (For Hospitals, Institutions, Transients or Recent Residents) at place of death yrs. mos. ds. State yrs. mos. ds.

24 Where was disease contracted, if not at place of death? Former or usual residence

25 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL DATE OF BURIAL

26 Louisville, Ky. June 5th, 1924

14227

File No. Registered No.

(If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number.)

WRITE PLAINLY WITH UNFADING INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD
N.B.—Every item of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain language, so that it may be properly classified. For statement of OCCUPATION, see instructions on back of certificate.

PLACE OF DEATH

County *Jefferson*Vol. *Pol...*

Ino. Town

City

2 FULL NAME

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

3 SEX *Female*

4 COLOR OR RACE *Colored*

5 SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED *Married*

6 DATE OF BIRTH (Month) *1* (Day) *8* (Year) *47*

7 AGE *68* IF LESS than 1 day ... hrs. or ... min.?

8 OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work. *Stomach work* (b) General nature of industry, business or establishment in which employed (or employer)

9 BIRTHPLACE (State or country) *Ky.*

10 NAME OF FATHER *Adison Kinn*11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or country) *Ky.*12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER *Matilda Watson*13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or country) *Ky.*

14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE

(Informant) *Reese of Central State Hospital*(Address) *Lafayette, Ky.*15 FILED *Apr 1 - 1915*

16-3114

Commonwealth of Kentucky

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

Registration District No. *5-2*Primary Registration District No. *4335*(No. *Central State Hospital*)St. *St.*

Ward

File No. *10241*Registered No. *47*

(If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number.)

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

16 DATE OF DEATH

April 1 1915

17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased

from *Nov. 29*, 1912, to *April 1*, 1915,that I last saw him alive on *Sept. 31*, 1915,

and that death occurred on the date stated above

at *3:00*-m. The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows:*Anganic Heart Disease*(Duration) *6* yrs. *6* mos. *6* ds.

Contributory (Secondary)

(Signed) *A. J. Davidson**April 1, 1915* (Address) *Lafayette, Ky.*

State the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH, or, in deaths from VIOLENT CAUSES, the (1) MANNER OF INJURY, and (2) whether ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL, or HOMICIDAL.

18 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (FOR HOSPITALS, INSTITUTIONS, TRANSIENTS OR RECENT RESIDENTS)

At place *2* yrs. *9* mos. *11* ds. In the *68* State *68* yrs. *6* mos. *6* ds.

Where was disease contracted, if not at place of death?

Former or usual residence *Louisville, Ky.*

19 PLACE OF JOURNAL OR REMOVAL

Louisville, Ky.

DATE OF BURIAL

20 UNDERTAKER

Joe Taylor

ADDRESS

*Barter Ave.**Louisville, Ky.*

WRITE PLAINLY WITH UNFADING INK--THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD

MARGIN RESERVED FOR ENDING

N.B.--Every item of information should be carefully supplied. Age should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important. See instructions on back of certificate.

1 PLACE OF DEATH

County Jefferson

Vol. No. 11

Ino. Town Crest

City St. Louis

2 FULL NAME Loace Menweather

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

3 SEX male 4 COLOR OR RACE Dark 5 SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED Married (Write the word)

6 DATE OF BIRTH Dec 23, 1895 (Month) (Day) (Year)

7 AGE 23 yrs. ... mos. ... ds. IF LESS than 1 day ... hrs. of ... min.?

8 OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work Farmer (b) General nature of industry business or establishment in which employed (or employer) Tom Spots

9 BIRTHPLACE (State or country) Jefferson Co. Mo.

10 NAME OF FATHER Thomas Menweather

11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or country) Mo.

12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER Yulkenman

13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or country) Mo.

14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE (Informant) W. H. St. Louis (Address) Jefferson Co. Mo.

15 FILED Jan 9, 1928 James R. Smith REGISTRAR

Commonwealth of Kentucky

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

Registration District No. 1156

Primary Registration District No. 1156

City St. Louis

Ward 11

16 DATE OF DEATH Jan 6, 1928 (Month) (Day) (Year)

17 HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from Dec 23, 1927 to Jan 6, 1928 that I last saw him alive on Jan 6, 1928 and that death occurred on the date stated above at 6 P.M. The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows:

Pneumonia

Cerebral

Contributory (secondary) None (Duration) 1 yr. mos. ds.

(Signed) W. H. St. Louis M.D.

Jan 6, 1928 (Address) Jefferson Co. Mo.

*State the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH, or, in deaths from VIOLENT CAUSES state (1) MEANS OF INJURY and (2) WHETHER ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL OR HOMICIDAL.

18 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (FOR HOSPITALS, INSTITUTIONS, TRANSIENTS OR RECENT RESIDENTS) 1 yr. mos. ds.

At place of death St. Louis State Mo.

Where was disease contracted if not at place of death? None

Former or usual residence None

19 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL St. Louis DATE OF BURIAL Jan 9, 1928

20 UNDERTAKER James R. Smith ADDRESS St. Louis

21 REGISTRAR James R. Smith

11-3114

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

State Board of Health
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1 PLACE OF DEATH

County JeffersonVot. Stancardo CreekInc. Town Stancardo CreekCity Stancardo Creek2 FULL NAME Addison LangeRegistration District No. 8001Primary Registration District No. 8001City St.Ward St.Registered No. 20077

(If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number.)

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

3 SEX M 4 COLOR OR RACE C 5 Single Married Widowed or Divorced (Write the word)6 DATE OF BIRTH Aug 30 19227 AGE 61 yrs. 11 mos. 18 da. IF LESS than 1 day ----- hrs. or ----- min?8 OCCUPATION Farm Work(a) Trade, profession or particular kind of work.
(b) General nature of industry, business or establishment in which employed (or employer)9 BIRTHPLACE (State or country) Kentucky10 NAME OF FATHER Thaddeus Lange11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or country) Kentucky12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER Elizabeth Higgin13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or country) Kentucky14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE (Informant) Charles Lange(Address) 518 S Jackson15 Filled Oct 14, 1922 Sadie Schmidt Registrar16 Joe T. Jay Cox CCH 954 10-24-2217 11-373418 11-373419 11-373420 11-373421 11-373422 11-373423 11-373424 11-373425 11-373426 11-373427 11-373428 11-373429 11-373430 11-3734

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

15 DATE OF DEATH Aug 30 192216 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from Jan 15, 1922, to Aug 30, 1922that I last saw him alive on Aug 30, 1922and that death occurred on the date stated above at 12 p.m.

The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows:

Heart Permeability MyocarditisContributory (Secondary) Heart Permeability(Duration) 2 1/2 mos. da.(Signed) W. T. Ambs M. D.Address 621 W. 11th St.

Cause of death: (1) (Cause of Injury; and (2) whether Accidental, Suicidal or Homicidal)

18 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (For Hospitals, Institutions, Transients or Recent Residents)

at place of death 11 yrs. 11 mos. 18 da. State Mo. da.

Where was disease contracted, if not at place of death?

Furmer or usual residence

19 PLACE OF BURIAL, or REMOVAL, DATE OF BURIAL

Burial 11 yrs. 11 mos. 18 da. State Mo. da.20 UNDERTAKER James H. Hatcher 716 S. Benton21 11-373422 11-373423 11-373424 11-373425 11-373426 11-373427 11-373428 11-373429 11-373430 11-373431 11-373432 11-373433 11-373434 11-3734WRITE PLAINLY, WITH UNFADING INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD
N. B.—Every item of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important. See instructions on back of certificate.WRITE PLAINLY, WITH UNFADING INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD
N. B.—Every item of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important. See instructions on back of certificate.

1 PLACE OF DEATH
 County Wright
 City Harrods Creek
 Vol. 635
 Registration District No. 537

Inc. Town Lawrenceburg
 City Lawrenceburg
 2 FULL NAME Simman, Brookes
 Primary Registration District No. 6333
 (No. Diaper)
 St. Brooks

14149

File No. 14149
 Registered No. 34
 (If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number.)
 Ward

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

1 SEX Male 2 COLOR OR RACE Caucasian 3 SINGLE Married 4 MARRIED Widowed 5 WIDOWED Divorced 6 DIVORCED Never
 (Write the word)
 7 DATE OF BIRTH about (Month) 1 (Day) 1 (Year) 1912
 8 AGE 5-1 (Years) 5 (Months) 1 (Days) 1 (Hours) 1 (Minutes) 1 (Seconds)
 9 OCCUPATION Unknown
 (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work
 (b) General nature of industry, business or establishment in which employed for employer

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

15 DATE OF DEATH May 1 (Month) 1 (Day) 1912 (Year)
 16 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from April 29, 1912, to May 1, 1912, that I last saw him alive on April 29, 1912, and that death occurred on the date stated above at 9:45 PM because of DEATH was as follows:
Pneumonia

BIRTHPLACE

10 NAME OF FATHER Simman, Brookes
 11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER Kentucky
 12 MOTHER'S NAME Simman, Brookes
 13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER Kentucky
 14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE
 (Informant) Simman, Brookes
 (Address) Lawrenceburg, Ky.

17 CONTRIBUTORY CAUSE OF DEATH Pneumonia
 (Signed) P. M. Therman
 (Duration) 1 yr. mos. 1 day
 (Address) 509 S. 8th St.
 (City) Lawrenceburg, Ky.
 (State) Ky.
 (M.D.) 509 S. 8th St.

PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL

18 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL Diaper
 19 DATE OF BURIAL May 3, 1912
 20 UNDERTAKER Diaper
 21 ADDRESS 830 S. 8th St.

WRITE PLAINLY, WITH UNFADING INK--THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD
 N.B.--Every item of information should be carefully supplied. Age should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. See instructions on back of certificate.

WRITE PLAINLY WITH UNFADING INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD

N. B.—Every item of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important. See instructions on back of certificate.

Form V. S. 1-50m-8-25-23		COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY State Board of Health BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS CERTIFICATE OF DEATH		File No. 22874
1 PLACE OF DEATH County <u>Jefferson</u>		Registration District No. <u>755</u>		Registered No. <u>3606</u>
Inc. Town <u>Louisville</u>		Primary Registration District No. <u>2275</u>		(If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number.)
City <u>Louisville</u>		(No. <u>City Hospital</u> Ward)		
2 FULL NAME <u>George W. Lang</u>				
PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS				
3 SEX <u>M</u>	4 COLOR OR RACE <u>C</u>	5 Single <u>Married</u> Married Widowed or Divorced (Write the word)	16 DATE OF DEATH <u>Oct 19</u> 192 <u>4</u> (Month) (Day) (Year)	
6 DATE OF BIRTH (Month) (Day) (Year)			17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from 192 <u>4</u> to 192 <u>4</u> that I last saw him alive on <u>Oct 19</u> 192 <u>4</u> and that death occurred on the date stated above at <u>12</u> M. The CAUSE OF DEATH* was as follows: <u>Fractured Skull + Fracture upper leg (was riding in auto + was hit by telephone post (Auto Accident))</u> ds.	
7 AGE <u>51</u> yrs. <u>0</u> mos. <u>0</u> ds. IF LESS than 1 day <u>0</u> hrs. <u>0</u> min?			Contributory (Second) <u>OY L CARTER, Columbus</u> (Signed by <u>Joseph Beck</u> Deputy Coroner) <u>Oct 20</u> 192 <u>4</u> (Address) <u>Court House</u> *State the disease causing death, or, in deaths from violent causes state (1) Means of Injury; and (2) whether Accidental, Suicidal or Homicidal.	
8 OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession or particular kind of work <u>Contractor</u> (b) General nature of industry, business or establishment in which employed (or employer)			18 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (For Hospitals, Institutions, Transients or Recent Residents) at place <u>516 S Jackson</u> In the State <u>yr</u> <u>0</u> mos. <u>0</u> ds. Where was disease contracted, If not at place of death? Former or usual residence	
9 BIRTHPLACE (State or country) <u>Kentucky</u>			19 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL <u>Louisville</u> DATE OF BURIAL <u>Oct 21</u> 192 <u>4</u> UNDERTAKER <u>W. H. Hathaway</u> ADDRESS <u>116 S. Chestnut</u>	
10 NAME OF FATHER <u>Charles Lang</u>				
11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or country) <u>Kentucky</u>				
12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER <u>Elizabeth Kipper</u>				
13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or country) <u>Kentucky</u>				
14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE (Informant) <u>John Lang</u> (Address) <u>516 S Jackson</u>				
15 Filed <u>OCT 20</u> 192 <u>4</u> <u>W. L. A. UNTERMEYER</u> Registrar				

LookingBack

Subdivision may be named after early developer

By BILL PIKE
bpike@courier-journal.com
The Courier-Journal

During his 79 years, James Taylor was a farmer, bus driver, quarry operator, bridge and road builder, president of a real-estate company, community leader and perhaps the first African American to develop a modern suburban subdivision in Jefferson County.

Taylor, who died 37 years ago but is still well-remembered, could soon have a subdivision named after him.

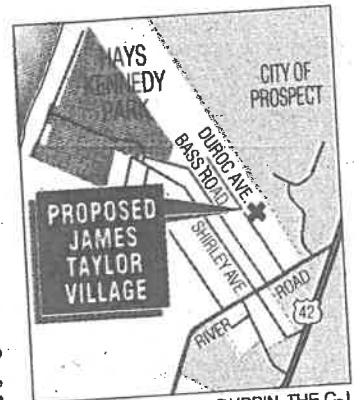
Eastwood Construction and Development wants to build James Taylor Village, with 12 single-family homes and 42 condominiums, along Duroc Avenue, off River Road near Prospect.

The Louisville-Jefferson County Planning Commission has scheduled a public hearing at 5:30 p.m. Sept. 5 on the proposal, which involves a zoning change.

Don Bright, owner of Eastwood Construction, named the proposed development for Taylor. "That would fit the neighborhood," Bright said. "He was the first developer out there."

Taylor developed the area, which is between River Road and Hays Kennedy Park, during the 1920s.

The subdivision was laid out like modern subdivisions. That distinguished it from other suburban African-American developments, where development was more haphazard.



BY STEVE DURBIN, THE C-J

**James Taylor
"was always
busy doing
something."**

Laura Brooks

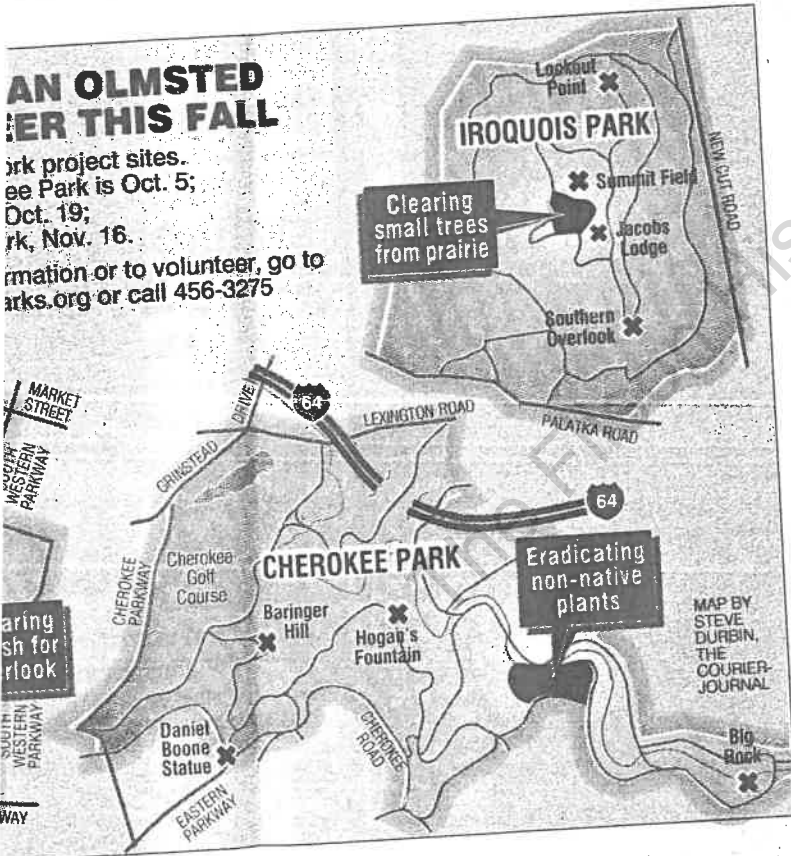
A roadside marker on Shirley Avenue sums up Taylor's role: "James Taylor (1885-1965) was chiefly responsible for the modern Harrods Creek community. Ambitious entrepreneur, Taylor purchased land from Mary Shirley Helm in 1919 and began to sell lots to other African Americans in 1923. The Taylor Subdivision became the

See SUBDIVISION
Page 2, col. 1

PHOTOS BY DAVID R. LUTMAN, SPECIAL TO THE COURIER-JOURNAL
The native prairie atop the old parade field in Iroquois Park.

AN OLMSTED ER THIS FALL

rk project sites.
ee Park is Oct. 5;
Oct. 19;
rk, Nov. 16.
ormation or to volunteer, go to
arks.org or call 456-3275



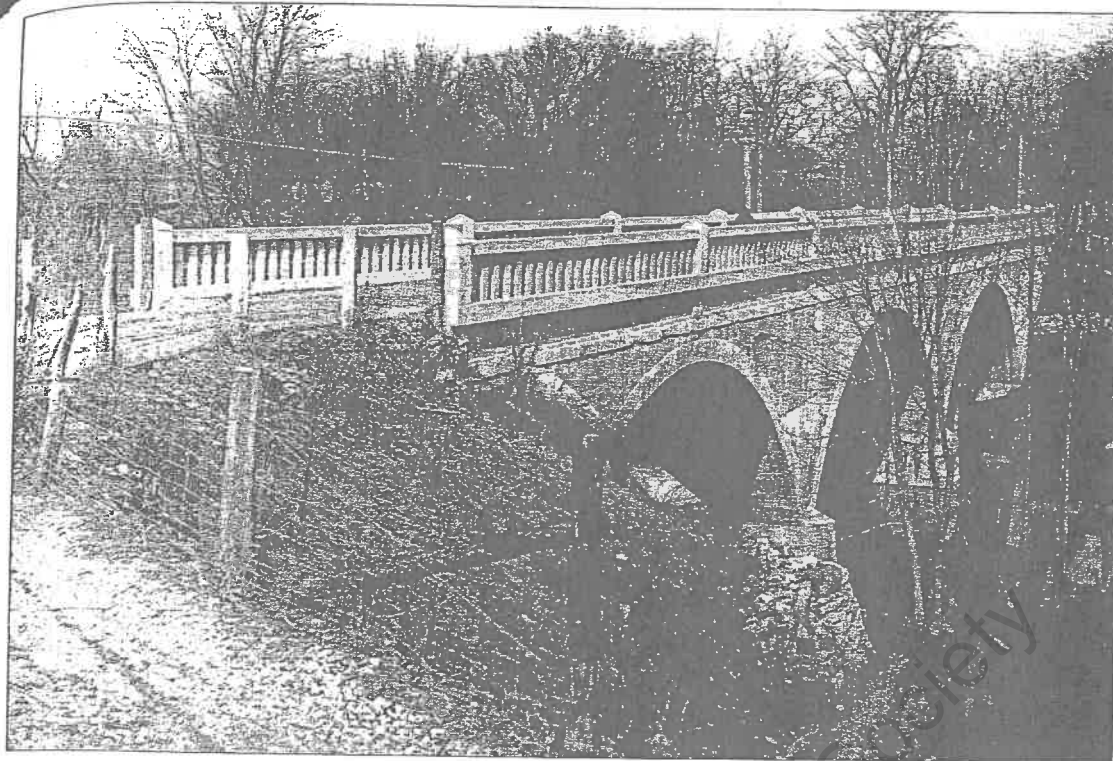
Natural and secluded, close and convenient

- New Homes From \$295,000-\$400,000+
- Natural Walking Trails through woods
- Woodmont Swim & Tennis Club

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The one-lane bridge on River Road over Harrods Creek looks about the same today as it did in a 1916 photograph.

Ambitious farmer-developer James Taylor paved the way for area's black community

NEARLY 6-FOOT-3, strong and "very, very handsome," James Taylor cut quite a figure in his day.

But more than his looks, the farmer, developer and quarry owner who died in 1965 is remembered in Harrods Creek for carving out and ensuring the survival of a black community there.

Black roots in Harrods Creek date to the slave days. After the Civil War, freed blacks found homes in pockets around southern Oldham County, Harrods Creek and Prospect.

Taylor was born in 1885 and raised by his grandmother, a midwife, on Wolf Pen Branch Road. His neighbor, a black minister known as Brother Kennedy, is said to have built a school for blacks on what is now Jacob School Road.

Students came primarily from the all-black sections called The Neck, near what is now Hoskins Beach Road, and Happy Hollow, an enclave off U.S. 42 on a road of the same name.

But it was Jacob School Road and James Taylor's subdivision, stretching along River Road from about Carslaw Court past Duroc Avenue that became the core of the black community after the 1920s. Both those areas were once

owned by the Shirley family, whose farm holdings in the area date to the mid-1800s. (The Neck and Happy Hollow have disappeared as families died out and sold to developers.)

In those days, most whites didn't sell property to blacks. But one branch of the Shirley family apparently ignored convention. Deeds show A. E. Shirley sold his farm to Taylor around 1920.

Another Shirley sold to individuals such as 70-year-old Chester Trowel's father, who bought one acre on Jacob School Road in 1919 for \$300. That was big money for a farmhand making 85 cents a day.

Why did they sell when others wouldn't?

"The impression I've always gotten," said Trowel, of Bass Lane, "is that these people were just interested in helping out blacks, seeing them do well."

James Taylor more than fulfilled that hope.

At age 14, Taylor bought a team of mules and a plow and began contract farming in the area. He branched off into construction, road building and eventually real-estate development. Taylor subdivided the old Shirley farm in 1924 and began selling to blacks only.

"At first he sold only to family," recalled Taylor's daughter, Minnie

Alta Broadbuss, 77. Later, he "carefully screened" buyers for other lots on Shirley Lane, Bass and Duroc. Many of the people worked on farms or for nearby estates.

"He always said by the time he was 35 years old he wanted to have \$35,000 in the bank," said Broadbuss. "He overdid that."

"He was a wonderful person, a real businessman," recalled Laura Brooks, 82, the granddaughter of Jefferson Jacob, the slave for whom a now-defunct Jacob School was named.

She bought a lot in the 1940s from Taylor, who was "very, very handsome" and worked as a domestic for the Garvin Brown family for 37 years, she said.

She and others remember Hays Kennedy, the daughter-in-law of Brother Kennedy. She spent years operating programs for children in Harrods Creek. The park west of Taylor's holdings bears her name.

Green Castle Baptist Church on Rose Island Road and Harrods Creek Baptist Church at 7610 River Road, remain primary institutions for blacks in the area.

Brooks, Broadbuss and Trowel agree it's important to them to live where their forefathers worked.

"I've been here all my 70 years," Trowel said. "I know practically everybody out here. Everyone is very friendly."



KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL
The State Historic Preservation Office

April 17, 1989

Mr. & Mrs. William Kellar
6421 Upper River Road, Box 74
Harrods Creek, Kentucky 40027

RE: Merriwether House (Site #JF-690)
Jefferson County Multiple Resource Area

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Kellar:

The Kentucky Heritage Council is pleased to announce that your property listed above was entered in the National Register of Historic Places on March 22, 1989. Listing in the National Register gives recognition that the site has historical, architectural, or archaeological significance within the context of the community, State, or Nation. Benefits include limited protection against adverse action by Federal agencies and eligibility for Federal tax benefits for depreciable historic structures as specified in the Economic Recovery Act of 1981.

We are enclosing a Certificate of listing and a blue decal for you to apply to a window at the main entrance to your historic property. These indicate that the property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places or is a contributing building in a National Register District.

I know you share our pleasure that the property has been so honored. We encourage you to help us keep the file on your property current by sharing with us any newly obtained information on the history of the site. Thank you for your participation in the preservation of Kentucky's heritage.

Sincerely,

David L. Morgan, Director
Kentucky Heritage Council and
State Historic Preservation Officer

DLM:MP/bsc

Enclosures



Harrods Creek

Settlers took a turn at mills; verdant hills and lowlands were home to diverse groups

By GRACE SCHNEIDER/Staff Writer

CORN FIELDS, lush woodlands and meandering creeks dotted Harrods Creek in the 1940s. Farmhouses, barns and a few small summer cabins were scattered beside River Road.

A grocery store, post office and garage sat near Wolf Pen Branch and River roads.

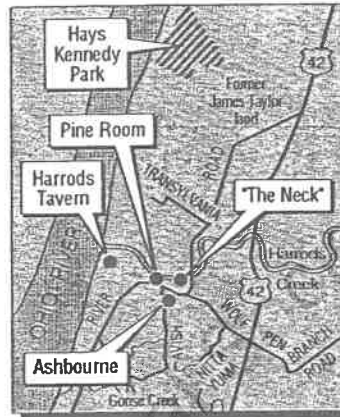
A classic farm community?

Hardly. Harrods Creek has always been more than that. Its unusual geography — an area bordered by the Ohio River, bisected by two large creeks and surrounded by a collar of high hills — has drawn a diverse mix of people since the late 1800s.

In the waning days of the last century, the pretty hillsides were home to wealthy Louisville families; the creek and the river, to working-class whites. And through a twist of opportunity, a group of blacks carved a niche there, too.

All three groups still have a place in the community, which is bounded roughly by the river on the west; U.S. 42 on the east; Lime Kiln Lane to the south; and the area near Hays Kennedy Park on the north.

Harrods Creek's story began in



the late 1700s. The Ohio's current made the waterway's mouth a logical stop for flatboats.

Some accounts say that the creek was named for James Harrod, who came to Kentucky in 1773 and founded Fort Harrod, the site of present-day Harrodsburg. Other records point to Capt. William Harrod, whom George Rogers Clark tapped to command the first fort at Louisville in 1779.

A settlement started sometime before 1775 near the present-day River Creek Inn on River Road and Guthrie Beach Road. A popular

spot for flatboat men was the old Harrods Tavern.

Its remains are the thick stone walls and fireplace inside the Captain's Quarters bar and restaurant.

The Transylvania Co., a frontier firm that also established Transylvania Seminary (now Transylvania University) in Lexington, laid out a city upriver from the creek. Lots were sold, but the town never developed, according to records at the Jefferson County Office of Historic Preservation and Archives.

Transylvania Avenue, which branches west off River Road, is located on what became known as "the seminary land."

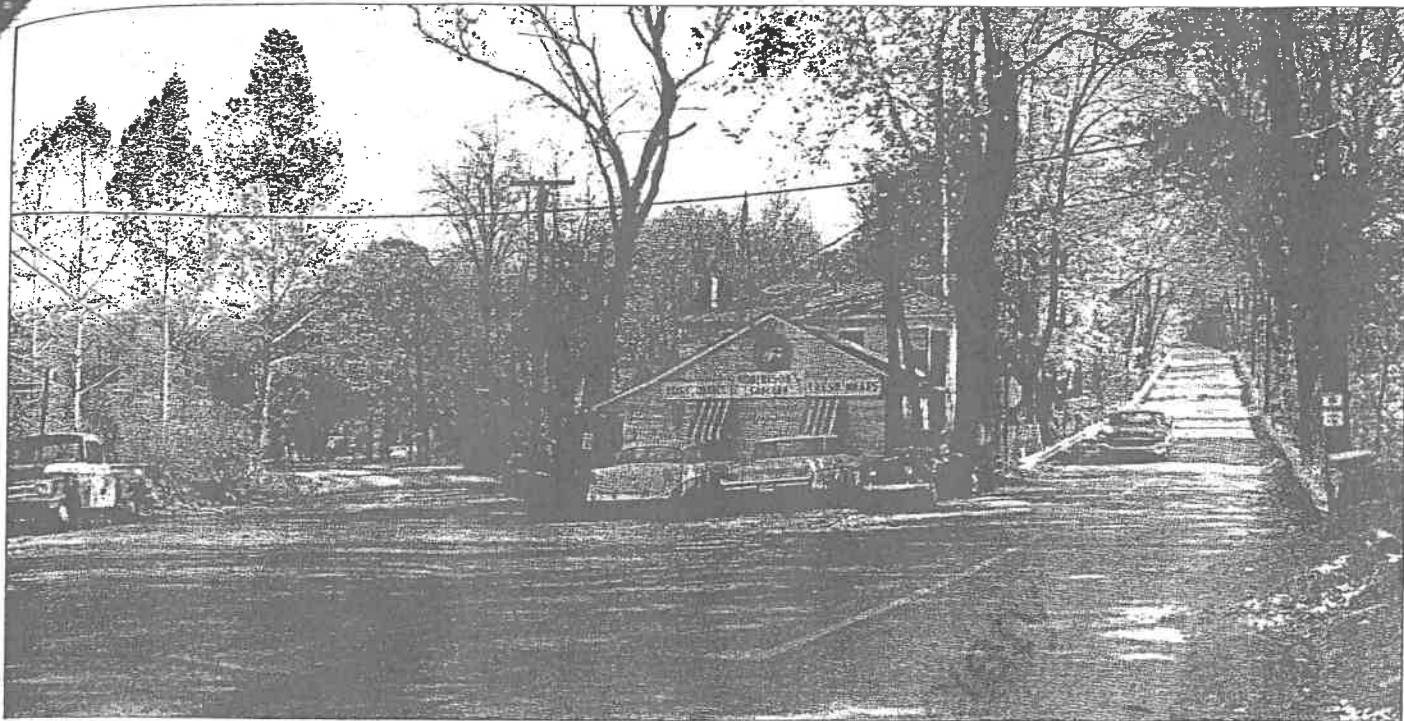
In the waning days of the 18th century, Harrods Creek was a hot spot. Cargo was unloaded at wharf and sent south on Louisville Westport Pike (now River Road) or over another roadway to Middletown and Jeffersontown. The stop let travelers avoid Louisville, which was known as a disease-infested swamp.

Louisville, however, had been cleaned up by the early 1800s. After about 1810, most of the traffic bypassed Harrods Creek for the growing town downstream. But the former was still popular for its ferry to Utica, Ind.

Rosewell, a two-story brick mansion on an original 4,000-acre estate in Harrods Creek, was built in the 1850s. It was the home of the Charles G. Middleton family when this photo was taken in 1940. It is still used as a private residence.



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Harrods Creek where River Road and Wolf Pen Branch come together looks about the same today as it did in a 1964 photograph.

Farmers and millers, attracted by the rich bottomland and abundant water, sank roots along the creek and the Ohio River. At least four mills served the area, including an early version of Wolf Pen Mill, which some accounts say burned down twice. A sturdy stone mill dating to 1870 still stands off Wolf Pen Lane on Sallie Bingham's estate, Wolfpen Farm. A stone wall thought to be a remnant of another mill sits beside a beautiful staircase waterfall on the farm.

Local legend holds that a flax mill was operated there during the early 1800s by a man named Bash. An enemy caught up with Bash and torched the mill to cinders one night — with the miller and his wife inside. People still call the creek Bash's Branch, said Martin Sweets, 75, of Prospect.

Another settler, Thomas Barbour, built a grist mill on Harrods Creek in 1808, and an 1878 map shows a Barbour family farmed 92 acres beside Harrods Creek.

Barbour Lane — also the former name for Wolf Pen Branch Road before it veers off Barbour Lane east of U.S. 42 — bears the family's name.

Since those days, the community's evolution has mirrored that of other Jefferson County suburbs, such as Anchorage and Glenview, according to county records. Once covered with farms, the area became dotted with summer estates for Louisville's wealthy. The inter-urban railroad built in the early 1900s helped foster these suburbs.

Other sections of Harrods Creek became full-time residences for people such as John Lang, 84, a

mechanic and son of an estate overseer who owned land that now houses Mooser's Garage at 6337 River Road.

"I always called this a hand-me-down neighborhood," said Mary Lang, John Lang's wife, whose family has lived in Harrods Creek since the late 1800s. "Land was passed from generation to generation."

Mary Lang once operated the Chick Inn restaurant, at 6325 River Road. She leases it now to another business owner.

In Lang's day, say area residents, the Chick Inn's fried chicken and other dishes went unmatched.

"They had the best fried oysters you ever put in your mouth," Sweets offered.

Sweets until recently lived in Nitta Yuma, an unusual housing development up the hill from River Road at Wolf Pen Branch Road.

In 1890, Brown-Forman distillery founder George Garvin Brown and two business partners purchased 100 acres of hilly farmland off Wolf Pen Branch.

They built three spacious homes and formed the Nitta Yuma Co. (an Indian term meaning "high land"), outlining an arrangement in which each owner paid a pro-rated share for upkeep and other community expenses. Their descendants still live there. Other homes were added to the enclave, but much of its exclusive ambiance remains.

Another blue-chip enclave, Ashbourne, is an estate directly across River Road from the Chick Inn and the Lang home. Sally Brown, the wife of deceased distillery magnate W. L. Lyons Brown, lives there.

Some of the blacks who moved to the area worked for people in the "big houses." But not all black roots can be traced to Nitta Yuma and Ashbourne.

Harry Merriwether and his son Isaac bought two acres in two separate tracts on Harrods Creek in about 1890 and their family members have lived in the area since.

So have the descendants of James Taylor, a black man who bought a farm near what is now Bass Avenue and subdivided it, selling to blacks only.

Harrods Creek's "diversity" makes it interesting, said Meme Sweets Runyon, of Nitta Yuma.

Although the mix already was present in Harrods Creek by 1890, it became more pronounced as the farms bordering the Ohio gradually gave way to summer cottages and later to full-time riverside homes after World War II.

In those days, all worlds met at Helen Robertson's general store and post office at the middle of the fork at River Road and Wolf Pen Branch, recalled the late Robertson's daughter, Alice McDonald, of the St. Matthews area.

"You didn't need a newspaper," said Mary Lang. "All you had to do was go to Robertson's."

The river and creek, recalls Glenview resident George McBride, was plied by lots of rowboats and small craft. Later, the area began to attract a following of weekend water worshipers that has burgeoned today, with enormous sailboats and cabin cruisers skimming the currents.

"At night along the creek and along River Road, the bug-repellent

The Merriwether house near Harrods Creek has been in that family since 1890, when Harry Merriwether moved there.

DID YOU KNOW:

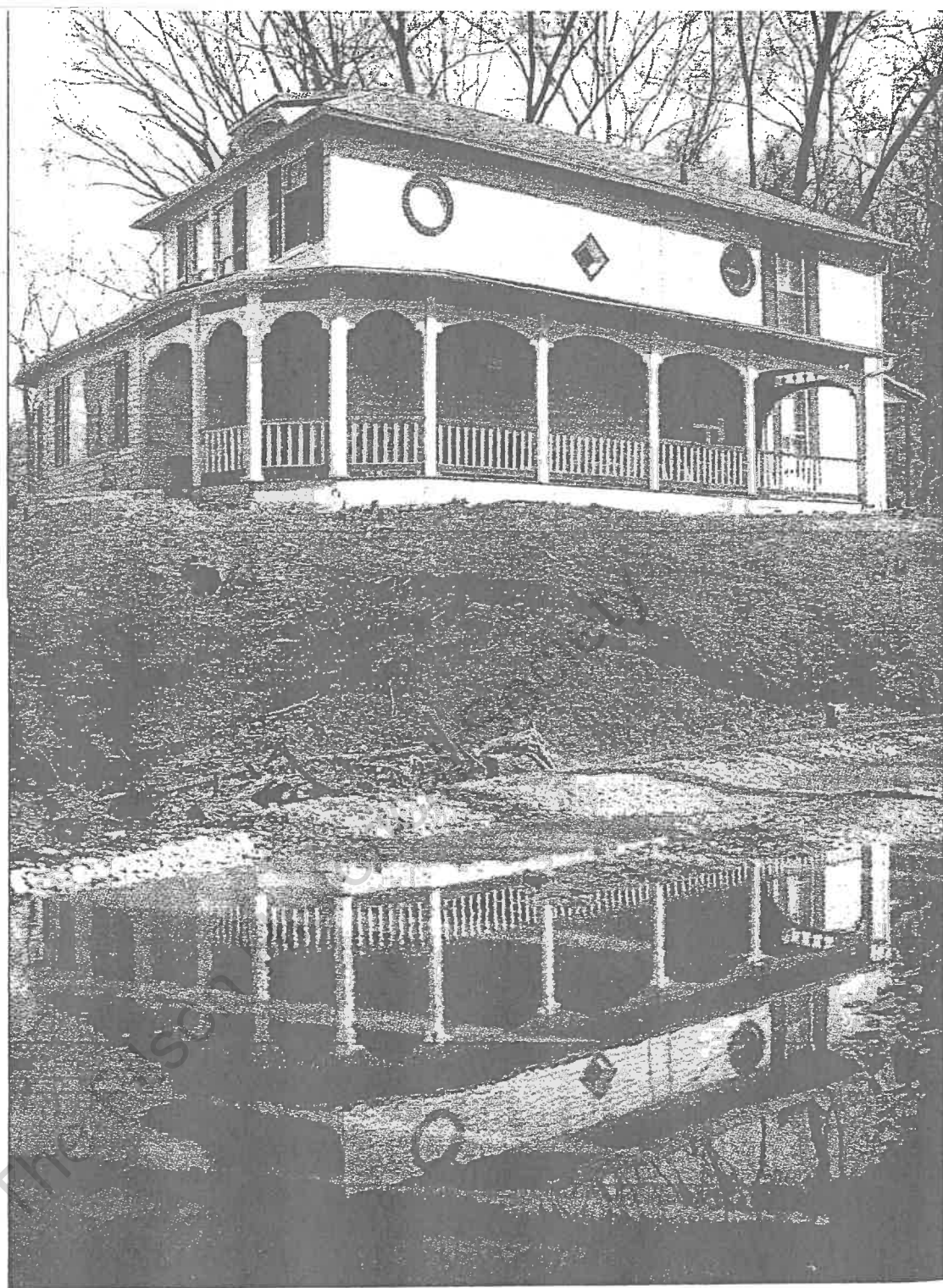
■ For a week in 1934, the kidnapping of a Harrods Creek resident grabbed the national spotlight. A "filling-station" employee nabbed Alice Stoll, 26, the daughter-in-law of Stoll Oil Refining Co. president Charles C. Stoll. The kidnapper demanded a \$50,000 ransom.

Sightseers and reporters converged on the community. Many reportedly waited for news at the Harrods Creek post office and grocery store.

After about six days, the ransom was paid and Stoll was released in Indianapolis. Thomas H. Robinson Jr., of Nashville, Tenn., was captured 18 months later in California, convicted and sentenced to life in prison.

■ The one-room Harrods Creek School once stood just north of the River Road bridge over Harrods Creek. A white Masonic Lodge building is there now.

■ A tavern once stood on the site of Ashbourne, the W. L. Lyons Brown estate on River Road at Wolf Pen Branch Road. County records show the house, parts of which date to the early 1800s, was also a home for Confederate veterans of the Civil War.



lights flicker on. Jukebox songs stir the air; laughter comes from taverns," said a 1965 article in the Louisville Times.

Certainly one of those laughter-filled taverns was the Pine Room, a popular nightclub and restaurant that burned down in 1977 after 35 years in business. "I got a lump when the Pine Room burned," McDonald said.

The Pine Room is now a real estate office — an appropriate business considering the building boom under way today.

"Everyone wants to live by the

river anymore," said McBride, who operates a towing firm from his 1,400-foot Ohio River frontage just south of Captain's Quarters.

Large lots are being subdivided to accommodate big-ticket homes, many displacing summer cabins, mobile homes and other modest remnants of a bygone era.

Amelia Guthrie Habich, whose family has owned the Captain's Quarters land and adjoining tracts on Guthrie Beach Road since 1933, is selling 47 of her 52 acres.

Despite strong opposition from many residents, developer Fourth

Avenue Corp. is proceeding with plans to fill banks near the creek and river to build 32 homes and a 198-slip marina.

The Langs and others worry that development in the area and up the creek in Oldham County is polluting their stream and wiping out the small-town feeling they enjoy.

"In the spring, sometimes it [Harrods Creek] really stinks," said Mary Lang. But she admits, pollution or not, there's no place like Harrods Creek.

"It's still the most beautiful place to us."

Prospect and Harrod's Creek, 1870-1920

African American Residents

Table 1. 1870-1920 Censuses, Harrod's Creek Precinct (Prospect and Harrod's Creek).

Census Year	# Households in Own Dwelling	Male Head of Household-Own Dwelling	Female Head of Household – Own Dwelling	# Households in White Dwelling	Male Head of Household – White Dwelling	Female Head of Household – White Dwelling	Total # Persons in Own Dwelling	Total # Persons in White Dwelling	Total # Persons	Own	Rent	At School	Cannot Read	Cannot Write	Cannot Read or Write
1870	23	23	0	27	15	12	125	190	315			1	1	21	189
1880	39	37	2	7	4	3	203	74	277			21	1	6	112
1900	47	40	7	0	0	0	195	34	229	18	29	43	0	7	29
1910	36	33	3	0	0	0	156	15	171	18	18	43	0	7	31
1920	50	42	8	0	0	0	206	9	215	22	28	38	0	0	1

Table 2. Occupations, 1870 - 1920.

Year	Farmer	Farm Hand/Farm Laborer/Laborer	Teamster	Keeping House	Domestic Servant Cook Houseboy Housegirl	Gardener Yardman	Washerwoman Laundress	Farm Overseer	Porter	Lawyer	Inspector Checker	Chef	Whitewasher	Nurse
1870	3	93	0	24	63	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1880	14	39	1	33	52	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1900	6	53	2	0*	34	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1910	16	34	2	29	18	1	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1920	9	33	3	0*	33	0	15	5	2	1	2	1	0	4

*this occupation not listed in 1900 or 1920 Census

Table 3. African American Heads of Household Who Owned Property in Harrod's Creek Precinct, 1900

Name	Mortgaged	Farm or House	Community	1913 Title Map
Lang, George	No	House	Harrod's Creek	Yes
Kennedy, Harrison	Yes	House	Harrod's Creek	Yes
Enders, Mattie	No	House		
Craighead, Benjamin. J.	No	Farm	Harrod's Creek	Yes
Jackson, Hannibal	No	House		
Magruder, Wilson	No	House		
Taylor, Edward	No	House		
Hodgkins, Joseph	No	House	Harrod's Creek	Yes
Jacob, William	No	House	Harrod's Creek	Yes

Jacob, Jefferson	Yes	Farm	Prospect	Yes
Brooks, Simon	No	House	Prospect	Yes
Brooks, Robert	Yes	House	Prospect	Yes
Miller, Elisha. R.	Yes	Farm	Prospect	Yes
Tompson, Emma	No	House	Prospect	
Peter, John	Yes	House	Prospect	Yes

Table 4. African American Heads of Household Who Owned Property in Harrod’s Creek Precinct, 1910

Name	Mortgaged	Farm or House	Community	Community Name, 1910	Road	1913 Title Map
Peters, John W.	No	House	Prospect		Barbour Lane	Yes
Taylor, Susie*	No	House	Prospect		Barbour Lane	Yes
Miller, Elisha R.	No	Farm	Prospect		Barbour Lane	Yes
Brooks, Simon	No	Farm	Prospect	Happy Hollow	Prospect Road	Yes
Jacob, Parker	No	Farm	Prospect	Happy Hollow	Prospect Road	Yes
Brooks, Robert	No	Farm	Prospect	Happy Hollow	Prospect Road	Yes
Smith, George	No	House	Prospect	Happy Hollow	Prospect Road	Yes
Jacob, William H.	No	Farm	Harrod’s Creek		River Road	
Merriweather, Isaac	No	Farm	Harrod’s Creek	The Neck	River Road	
Craighead, Benjamin J.	No	Farm	Harrod’s Creek	The Neck	River Road	Yes
Magruder, Wilson	No	House	Harrod’s Creek	The Neck	River Road	
Taylor, Edward	No	Farm	Harrod’s Creek	The Neck	River Road	Yes
Jackson, Sarah	No	House	Harrod’s Creek	The Neck	River Road	
Sousen, Jim	No	House	Harrod’s Creek	The Neck	River Road	
Gibson, Jackson	No	House	Harrod’s Creek	The Neck	River Road	
Hoskins, Joe	No	Farm	Harrod’s Creek	The Neck	River Road	Yes
Kennedy, Harrison	No	Farm	Harrod’s Creek	The Neck	River Road	Yes
Lang, Addison	No	Farm	Harrod’s Creek	The Neck	River Road	Yes

*Emma Thompson’s sister

Table 4. African American Heads of Household Who Owned Property in Harrod’s Creek Precinct, 1920

Name	Mortgaged	Community	Community Name, 1910	Road	1913 Title Map
Kennedy, Harrison	No			River Road	
Brooks, Simon	No			River Road	
Miller, Elijah R.	No			River Road	
Jacob, Hiram	No			River Road	
Jacob, William	No			River Road	
Ingram, Richard	No			River Road	
Stokes, Albert	No			River Road	
Taylor, Edward	No			River Road	

Bradford, John W.	No			River Road	
Brown, William	No			River Road	
Gibson, Jackson (Mrs.)	No			River Road	
Lang, Maggie	No			River Road	
Merriweather, Harry	No			River Road	
Merriweather, Isaac	No			River Road	
Craighead, Benjamin J.	No			River Road	
Hodgkins, Joseph	No			River Road	
Howard, Alonzo (?)	No			River Road	
Taylor, James T.	No			River Road	
McGruder, Frank	No			River Road	
Jacob, Parker	No			River Road	
Howard, Maise	No			Edwards Road	
Smith, George	No			Edwards Road	

The Filson Historical Society