

1971

## Industrial Resources: Bell County

Kentucky Library Research Collections  
Western Kentucky University, [spcol@wku.edu](mailto:spcol@wku.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/bell\\_cty](https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/bell_cty)

 Part of the [Business Administration, Management, and Operations Commons](#), [Growth and Development Commons](#), and the [Infrastructure Commons](#)

---

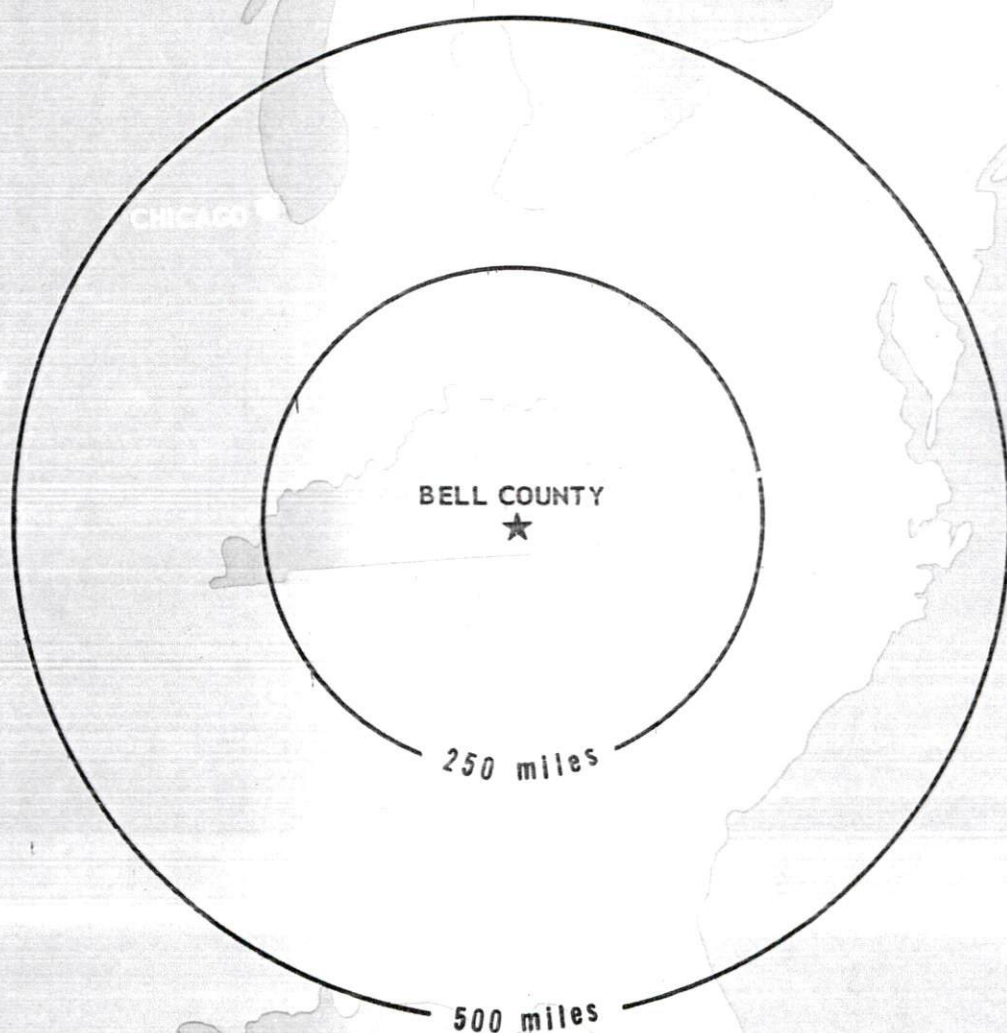
### Recommended Citation

Kentucky Library Research Collections, "Industrial Resources: Bell County" (1971). *Bell County*. Paper 16.  
[https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/bell\\_cty/16](https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/bell_cty/16)

This Report is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in Bell County by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact [topscholar@wku.edu](mailto:topscholar@wku.edu).

# INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES

## **BELL COUNTY KENTUCKY**



BELL COUNTY INDUSTRIAL SITES  
1971

For additional site information concerning the following sites, contact Glenn Denham, Middlesboro, Kentucky; John G. Howard, Pineville, Kentucky; or the Kentucky Department of Commerce, Frankfort, Kentucky.

MIDDLESBORO

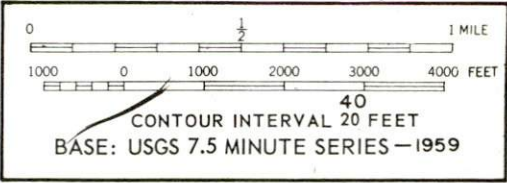
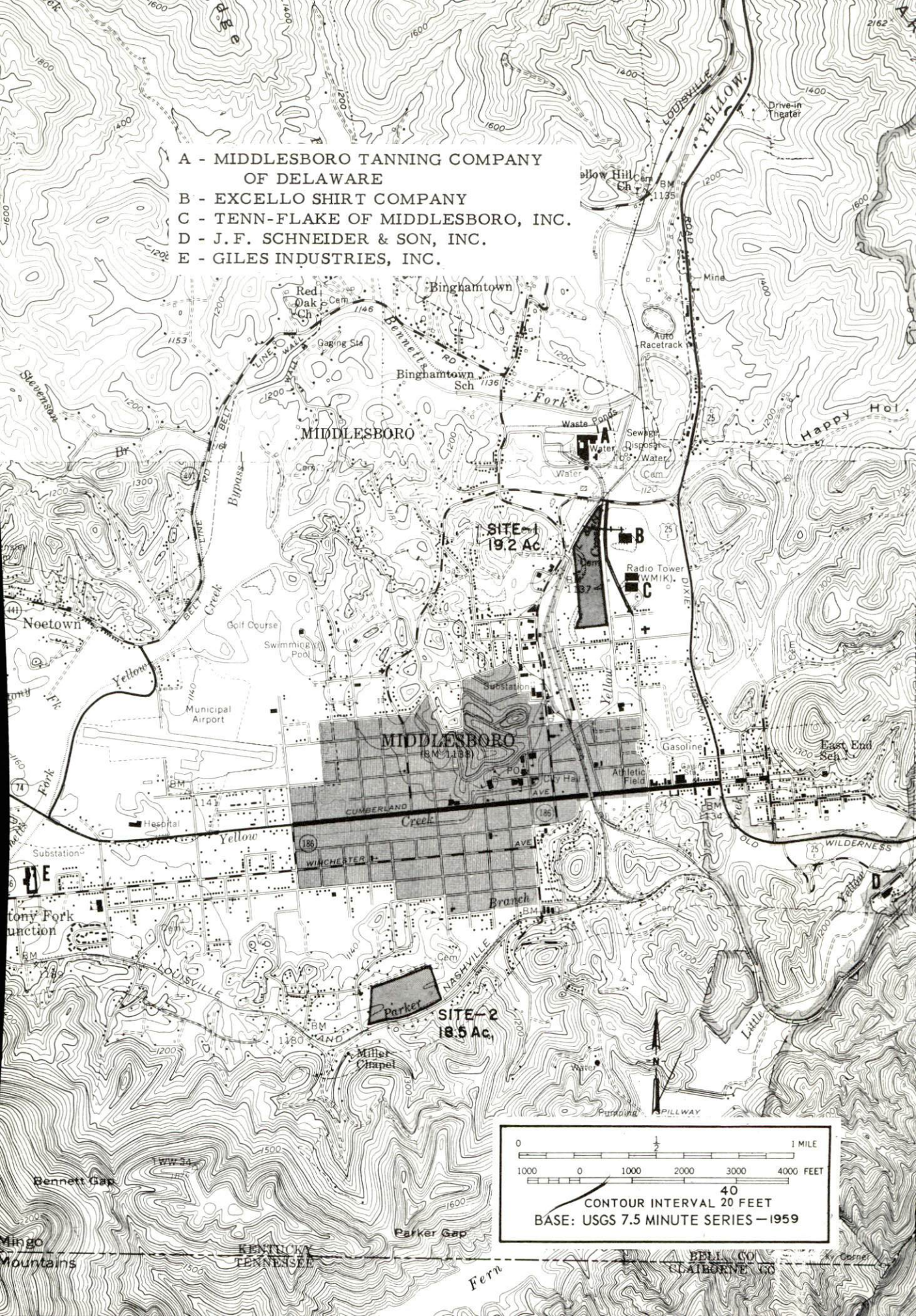
SITE #1: ACREAGE: 19.2 acres  
LOCATION: Middlesboro north city limits  
ZONING: Heavy industry  
HIGHWAY ACCESS: City streets to U. S. 25-E  
RAILROADS: Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company rail siding crosses property east to west.  
WATER: Kentucky Water Service Company  
SIZE LINE: 6-inch line on site; 10-inch line parallel to site  
GAS: Gas Service Company, Inc.  
SIZE MAIN: 6-inch main on site  
ELECTRICITY: Kentucky Utilities Company  
SEWERAGE: Middlesboro Sewerage Commission  
OWNERSHIP: Middlesboro Industrial Foundation, Inc.

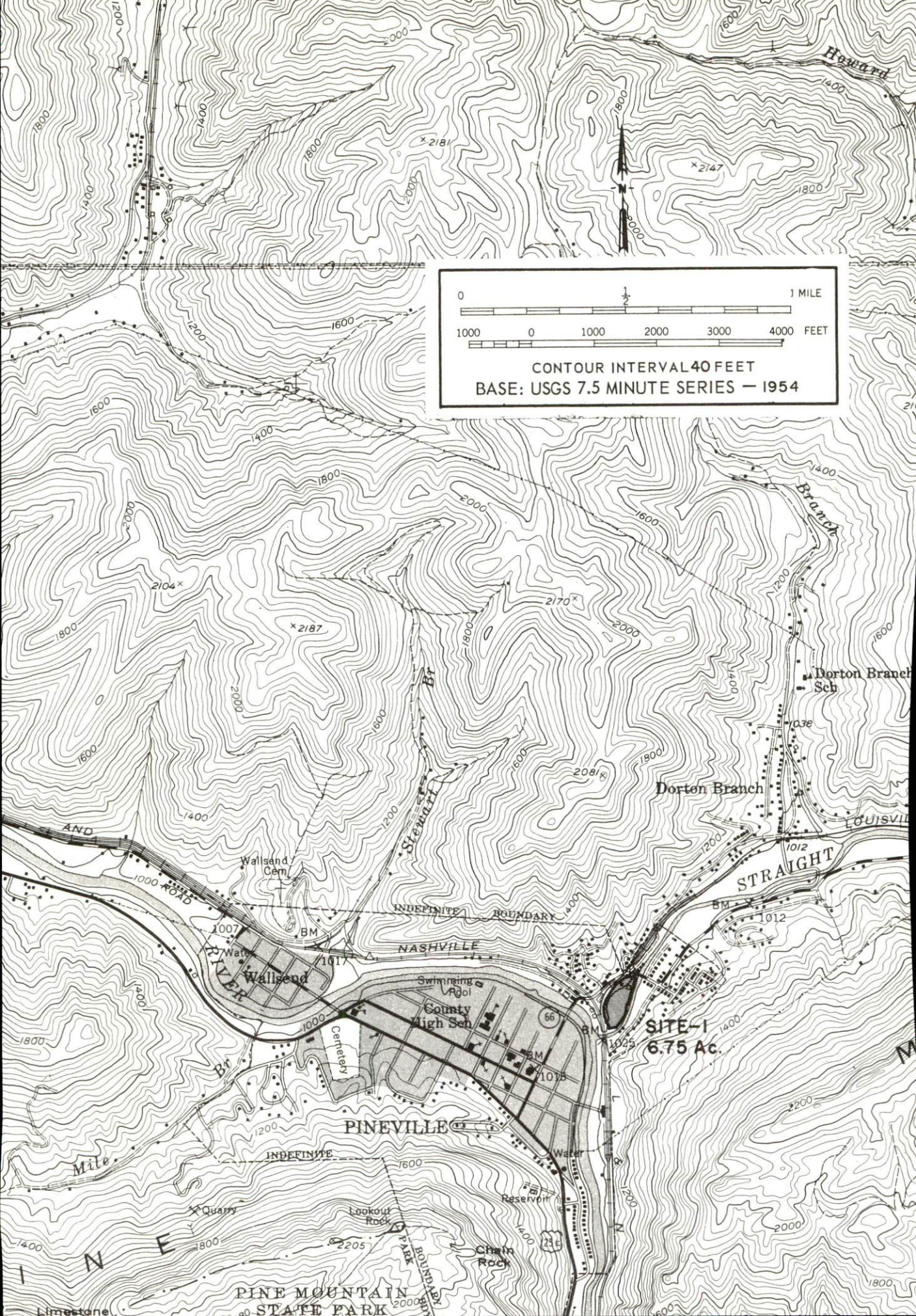
SITE #2: ACREAGE: 18.5 acres  
LOCATION: Middlesboro south city limits  
ZONING: Heavy industry  
HIGHWAY ACCESS: U.S. 25-E, 18 blocks east by Cumberland Avenue and 23rd Street  
RAILROADS: Louisville & Nashville Railroad adjacent to south boundary  
WATER: Kentucky Water Service Company  
SIZE LINE: 10-inch line on site  
GAS: Gas Service Company, Inc.  
SIZE MAIN: 5-inch and 4-inch main - 1,200 feet away  
ELECTRICITY: Kentucky Utilities Company  
SEWERAGE: Middlesboro Sewerage Commission  
OWNERSHIP: Middlesboro Industrial Foundation, Inc.

PINEVILLE

SITE #1: ACREAGE: 6.75 acres  
LOCATION: Pineville northeast city limits  
HIGHWAY ACCESS: Kentucky Route 66 bounds property on the north.  
RAILROADS: Louisville & Nashville Railroad bounds property on both north and west.  
WATER: Pineville Water Company  
SIZE LINE: 4-inch line - 300 feet away  
GAS: Pineville Gas Company  
SIZE MAIN: 6-inch main on property  
ELECTRICITY: Kentucky Utilities Company  
SEWERAGE: Pineville Municipal Sanitation Commission  
OWNERSHIP: Pineville Industrial Foundation

- A - MIDDLESBORO TANNING COMPANY OF DELAWARE
- B - EXCELLO SHIRT COMPANY
- C - TENN-FLAKE OF MIDDLESBORO, INC.
- D - J. F. SCHNEIDER & SON, INC.
- E - GILES INDUSTRIES, INC.





0 1/2 1 MILE  
1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 FEET  
CONTOUR INTERVAL 40 FEET  
BASE: USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES - 1954

Limestone

PINE MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

SITE-1  
6.75 Ac.

PINEVILLE

NASHVILLE

DORTON BRANCH

HOWARD

BRANCH

DORTON BRANCH Sch

LOUISVILLE

WALLSEND

Swimming Pool

County High Sch

Cemetery

Reservoir

Chain Rock

Lookout Rock

Quarry

Mile

IN

NE

INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES  
BELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY

Prepared by  
The Kentucky Department of Commerce  
in cooperation with  
The Middlesboro Chamber of Commerce  
and  
The Pineville Chamber of Commerce

1971

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

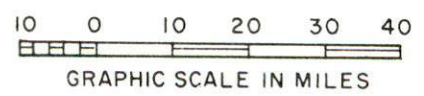
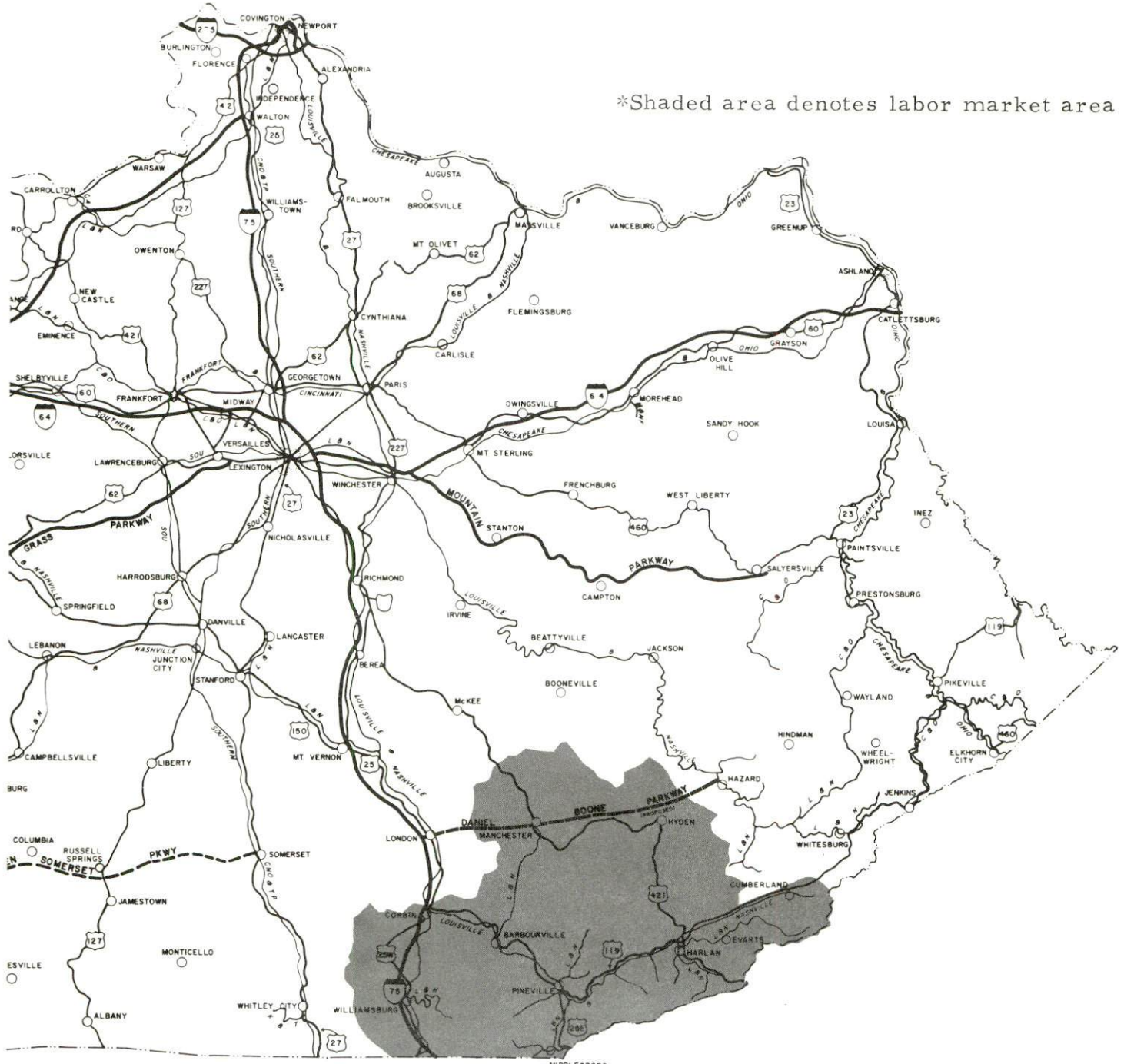
<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Page</u>
INDUSTRIAL SITES . . . . .	i
BELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY - A RESOURCE PROFILE . . . . .	1
THE LABOR MARKET. . . . .	7
Population Trends . . . . .	7
General Employment Characteristics, 1969. . . . .	7
Manufacturing Employment Trends by Industry . . . . .	7
Major Bell County Manufacturing Firms, Their Products and Employment . . . . .	8
Wage Rates for Selected Occupations. . . . .	9
Labor Organizations . . . . .	10
Current and Future Labor Supply . . . . .	11
Total Personal Income . . . . .	11
Per Capita Personal Income. . . . .	11
EDUCATION . . . . .	12
Public Schools . . . . .	12
Parochial Schools . . . . .	12
Vocational Schools . . . . .	13
Colleges and Universities . . . . .	13
TRANSPORTATION . . . . .	14
Rail . . . . .	14
Truck Service . . . . .	14
Air . . . . .	15
Bus . . . . .	15
Taxi . . . . .	15
Rental Services . . . . .	15
POWER AND FUEL. . . . .	16
Electricity . . . . .	16
Natural Gas . . . . .	16
WATER AND SEWERAGE . . . . .	17
Water. . . . .	17
Sewerage . . . . .	18

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Page</u>
LOCAL GOVERNMENT . . . . .	19
City . . . . .	19
County . . . . .	19
Assessed Value of Property, 1970 . . . . .	19
Local General Property Tax Rates Per \$100 of Assessed Valuation, 1970 . . . . .	19
Planning and Zoning . . . . .	20
Safety . . . . .	20
Police . . . . .	20
Fire . . . . .	20
Rescue Service . . . . .	20
Sanitation . . . . .	21
HEALTH . . . . .	22
Hospitals . . . . .	22
Nursing Homes . . . . .	23
Public Health . . . . .	23
OTHER LOCAL FACILITIES . . . . .	24
Communications . . . . .	24
Library Services . . . . .	25
Religious Institutions . . . . .	25
Financial Institutions . . . . .	26
Hotels and Motels . . . . .	26
Clubs and Organizations . . . . .	26
RECREATION . . . . .	28
Local . . . . .	28
Area . . . . .	28
AGRICULTURE - NATURAL RESOURCES - CLIMATE . . . . .	29
Agriculture . . . . .	29
Natural Resources . . . . .	29
Climate . . . . .	29
HISTORY . . . . .	30



# BELL COUNTY LABOR MARKET AREA

\*Shaded area denotes labor market area



## BELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY - A RESOURCE PROFILE

### Location

Bell County is located in the southeastern portion of the state on the boundaries of Tennessee and Virginia. Pineville, the county seat, is located in the central portion of the county. Middlesboro, the largest city in Bell County, is located 13 miles due south of Pineville at historic Cumberland Gap where the three states meet.

Bell County had a population of 31,087 in 1970; Middlesboro and Pineville had populations of 11,844 and 2,817, respectively.

### The Economic Framework

Total employment in Bell County averaged 7,400 in 1969. During the 1960's manufacturing employment increased by 675 jobs or almost 84 percent. The county's major industrial products are leather, lumber and wood products, men's shirts, and mobile homes.

Per capita personal income in the county in 1969 was \$1,740, an increase of over 100 percent since 1959. Total personal income for the county increased by almost 95 percent.

Pineville and Middlesboro form the hub of a labor market area that includes Bell County and the five surrounding Kentucky counties. Area employment totaled 31,700 in 1969, including 1,800 jobs in agriculture, 4,062 in manufacturing, and 9,145 in trade and services. Area industrial employment has increased by over 67 percent since 1960 with the sharpest gains in the apparel, leather, and machinery and metal products industries.

Despite important industrial gains in recent years the area still has a deficit of 10,200 manufacturing jobs when measured against the national industrial employment-population ratio. This indicates an area where the potential for additional manufacturing production is excellent.

### Resources for Growth

1. There is a current estimated labor supply of 6,890 men and 10,180 women available for industrial jobs in the Bell County labor market area. In addition, 10,375 young men and 9,800 young women will become 18 years of age by 1977 and potentially available for work.

2. The Southern Railway System and the Louisville & Nashville Railroad provide Middlesboro and Pineville with a variety of services. The Bell County area will have good highway access when the four laning of U. S. 25-E is completed. Also, Interstate 75 which is only 35 miles northwest of Pineville provides Bell County with excellent highway service to the north and south. The Middlesboro-Bell County Airport, located 1.2 miles west of Middlesboro, has 3,650 feet of paved runway for light aircraft. Commercial air service is available at London-Corbin War Memorial Airport, only 47 miles away at London.

3. Electricity is supplied to Bell County by the Kentucky Utilities Company and the Cumberland Valley Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation. The East Kentucky Power Cooperative is the source of supply for the Cumberland Valley Rural Electric Cooperative. Natural gas is provided in Middlesboro by the Gas Service Company, Incorporated, and in Pineville by the Pineville Gas Company. Their source of supply is the Cumberland Valley Pipeline Company.

4. Bell County has three industrial sites with a total of 44.45 acres.

5. Bell County has three school systems and a parochial elementary school which supply the county with imaginative curricula and opportunities for education.

One university, two senior colleges, and a junior college are located within 50 miles of Pineville. The nearest area vocational school is the Harlan Area Vocational School at Harlan. The Bell County Extension Center is located in Pineville.

#### Community Programs for Improvement

Bell County and its communities have aggressively sought ways to provide better and modern facilities for their residents and to increase their attractiveness to tourists and industry.

The Bell County School System has recently renovated the libraries in the county schools by purchasing new library furniture, additional shelving, and acoustical carpeting. The Bell County School System has also made plans for several additional school buildings, a new office building in Pineville at a cost of approximately \$300,000, a new elementary school at Henderson Settlement which will complete consolidation of the Bell County schools in that area, additional rooms will be added to the Bell County High School to be used for home economics, an addition to the vocational school which will allow for four new phases to be added to the vocational program, and at Lone Jack High School there is to be an expansion of the physical education department.

The final stretch of U. S. 25-E between Middlesboro and Pineville is in the process of being four laned and completion is expected in 1971.

A new dam is to be constructed on Cannon Creek, just off U. S. 25-E, between Middlesboro and Pineville. A 250-acre lake will be created to provide water supply and recreation. In conjunction with this lake, a 16-inch water line will be laid between Middlesboro and Pineville. This may help to create several new industrial sites. The dam is expected to be completed in mid 1972 at a cost of \$2,000,000.

The City of Middlesboro has completed construction of two new shopping centers. The Village Square Shopping Center is located on the east end of town just off U. S. 25-E. It has a total of 15 retail and service establishments. The Middlesboro Manor Shopping Center with four retail and service establishments has recently located in a central portion of Middlesboro.

Other new retail and service establishments to locate in Middlesboro are two new motels and two new drive-in restaurants and a Medical Arts Building. The Medical Arts Building provides space for four doctors' offices and a pharmacy. Three financial institutions have been remodeled and one bank has a branch in the new Village Square Shopping Center.

The Middlesboro Appalachian Regional Hospital now participates in emergency radio communications network for a 16-county area of Kentucky's Appalachia. The hospital presently has under construction a 55-bed extended care facility that should be completed by August. Renovation of the operating rooms and expansion of the emergency unit are planned, as well as the addition of a 7-bed intensive and coronary care unit. These improvements should be completed in 1972.

The Daniel Boone Clinic is now located in a new building joining the Middlesboro Appalachian Hospital. The clinic is an ultramodern building which includes 32 rooms of office space, doctors' offices, and examination rooms. The building was completed in March of 1970 at a cost of \$300,000.

Other recent improvements in Middlesboro include: 100 units of low-rent duplex housing were completed in 1970 at a cost of \$1,650,000, an urban renewal project is in process in the northeast section of the city where old buildings have been replaced by new homes and expansion of commercial business, the fire department has purchased two new fire trucks and other equipment which caused the city's fire insurance classification to drop from 7th class to 6th class and fire insurance rates have decreased, the Middlesboro Fire Department was one of the top ten in Kentucky in 1969, the Middlesboro City Hall has installed a new accounting system, purchased a new police car, new asphalt machine and salt spreader, and the Middlesboro Library has been newly decorated.

The Middlesboro Independent School System is developing plans for a new middle school. It will be designed to house 750 students in grades six through eight. The building will have an interior design to accommodate any type of staffing pattern or any currently known patterns of instruction. Four new subject areas will be offered to students of this level.

The City of Middlesboro has had an application approved that includes 200 more units of low-rent housing. The cost of this project is expected to be approximately \$350,000. The water company is also laying 20,000 feet of water main and the sewer company is extending service to Noetown. The Elks Lodge has purchased the Jaycees Civic Center and plans to renovate the swimming pool. The pool will be used by the children of the community. The club is also forming an auxiliary to work with many of the community's programs.

The Middlesboro Daily News is also planning to build a new newspaper office.

The South Central Bell Telephone Company is building an addition to the telephone office. It will contain central office equipment, office space, and operator boards. Completion of the project is due in October 1971 at a cost of \$750,000.

Radio Station WMIK is adding a new FM station scheduled to go into operation in June 1971.

Recent Pineville improvements include: The Pineville Independent School System has added driver education, public school art and music, and vocational training to its curriculum; a 35-bed addition and dietary department, including a 110-seat cafeteria, was completed at the Pineville Community Hospital in July of 1970 at a cost of \$1,100,000; the Pineville Library moved from its old location to a new location with increased floor space from 400 square feet to 1,000 square feet and added more varied reading material.

The City of Pineville has added dual traffic lights and rearranged parking facilities to allow better traffic flow. The city has leased a new police car, purchased a new fire truck and a new tractor to be used for cleaning the floodwall, and built a garage. The fire department and the police stations have been remodeled.

Four commercial businesses in Pineville have renovated their buildings and nine new businesses have opened. The First State Bank has added a drive-in window to its facility.

The Pineville Community Hospital has under construction a professional office building located adjacent to the hospital. The new building will include facilities for a laboratory, X-ray department, three operating rooms, pharmacy, emergency room, outpatient clinics, and headquarters for the Home Health Care Agency which is operated by the hospital.

The Pineville Independent School System has a twelve-classroom elementary building under construction. It will include a lunchroom, library, and offices. The school system is also presently developing a curriculum guide for grades one through twelve. The school system plans to have a summer NYC program, educational television, and three new units of special education for the 1971-72 school year.

The City of Pineville is building a municipal parking lot at an expected cost of approximately \$100,000. The sewer company is also extending service to Newtown and West Pineville.

The City of Pineville is in the process of purchasing the Pineville Water Company. The city then plans to construct a 1,000,000 gallon-per-day treatment plant at a cost of \$3,000,000. The city also plans to lay 220,100 linear feet of water main, varying in size from 3 to 16 inches. Four new water tanks with a total storage capacity of 800,000 gallons will be constructed.

The city has adopted a plan under an urban renewal program to clear an area of undesirable housing and provide new low-rent housing. Also, the New State Bank is preparing to build a new parking lot.

Pineville has also adopted a complete recreational program under which several small parks and one large park are to be constructed. The larger park will be located on a 5-acre tract in the city where there is presently substandard housing. The park will include a parking lot for 40 or more cars, a wading pool, a multiple use area, a tot lot, a picnic area, softball field, and a shelter house which will house rest rooms and storage area.

#### Recreation, Entertainment, and Livability

Community improvements and abundant recreational facilities provide Pineville and Middlesboro with assets that have helped Middlesboro achieve All Kentucky City status five times in the past eight years. Pineville has achieved All Kentucky City status the past two years in succession.

Recreational offerings are abundant in Bell County. Pine Mountain State Resort Park, the home of the Mountain Laurel Festival, and the choral drama, "The Book of Job," is located in Pineville. The park has scenic trails, a nature center, and other recreational facilities such as: pool, 9-hole and miniature golf courses, horseback riding, hiking, shuffleboard, picnic shelter, supervised recreation, and playground. Accommodations at the park include a lodge, cottages, and camping area.

The western boundary of the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park is just outside the city limits of Middlesboro. The park contains 20,168 acres of land and is the largest historical park in the United States. Cumberland Gap is a startling break in the Cumberland Mountains, which was the passage for the first pioneers to Kentucky, and the west. The park lies in three states, and one of its highlights is the Tri-State Peak where Kentucky, Virginia, and Tennessee meet. The park contains a museum with exhibits of frontier days, Hensley Settlement, hiking trails, the ruins of an early iron furnace, Civil War Fortifications, and Cudjo's Cave.

Other tourist attractions in Middlesboro are the Coal House and the Sidewalk Art Show.

Other state parks and shrines within easy driving distance are: Cumberland Falls State Resort Park, Dr. Thomas Walker State Shrine, Kingdom Come State Park, and Levi Jackson Wilderness Road State Park.

THE LABOR MARKET

POPULATION TRENDS <sup>1/</sup>

Area	Population			Percent Change	
	1970	1960	1950	1960-70	1950-60
Middlesboro	11,844	12,607	14,482	- 6.1	-12.9
Pineville	2,817	3,181	3,890	-11.4	-18.2
Labor Market Area	146,395	169,205	220,355	-13.5	-23.2
Bell County	31,087	35,336	47,602	-12.0	-25.8
Knox County	23,689	25,258	30,409	- 6.2	-20.1
Whitley County	24,145	25,815	31,940	- 6.5	-19.2
Clay County	18,481	20,748	23,116	-10.9	-10.2
Harlan County	37,370	51,107	71,751	-26.9	-28.8
Leslie County	11,623	10,941	15,537	+ 6.2	-29.6

GENERAL EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS, 1969 <sup>2/</sup>

Major Employment Group	Employment	
	Bell County	Labor Market Area
TOTAL	7,400	31,700
Agricultural	100	1,800
Nonagricultural	7,300	29,900
Manufacturing	1,600	4,062
Trade and Services	2,445	9,145
Government	1,500	7,100
Other	1,755	2,293

MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT TRENDS BY INDUSTRY  
SEPTEMBER 1970 AND 1960 <sup>3/</sup>

Industry	Bell County			Labor Market Area		
	1970	1960	%Change	1970	1960	%Change
TOTAL	1,483	807	+ 83.8	4,293	2,569	+ 67.1
Food & Kindred Products	211	205	+ 2.9	526	620	- 15.2
Apparel, Textiles, Leather	492	96	+413.0	1,133	283	+300.4
Lumber & Furniture	324	370	- 12.4	869	1,405	- 38.1
Printing, Publishing, Paper	46	29	+ 58.6	532	115	+363.0
Chemicals, Petroleum, Coal, Rubber	72	40	+ 80.0	72	40	+ 80.0
Stone, Clay & Glass	23	11	+109.1	62	40	+ 55.0
Machinery & Metal Products	314	55	+471.0	1,026	59	+1639.0
Other	1	1	-	73	7	+942.9



MAJOR BELL COUNTY MANUFACTURING FIRMS,  
THEIR PRODUCTS AND EMPLOYMENT <sup>4/</sup>

<u>Firm</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Employment</u>		
		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
<u>Middlesboro</u>				
Citizens News Company	Newspaper, job printing	26	20	6
Coppinger Machinery	Sprockets, gears, shafts	23	22	1
Cumberland Gap Corp.	Lumber	51	51	0
Excello Shirt Company	Men's shirts	345	25	320
Giles Industries, Inc.	Mobile homes	203	197	6
J. R. Hoe & Sons, Inc.	Coal mining equipment, gray iron castings, fabricated structural steel	58	56	2
Martin Manufacturing Corp.	Yarn bleaching, dyeing, athletic supporters			
Middlesboro Coca Cola Bottling, Inc.	Soft drinks	40	37	3
Middlesboro Tanning Co. of Delaware	Tanning and coloring leather	167	165	2
Millet Hardwood Lumber Co.	Lumber, wood chips	34	33	1
Perma Pipe Corp.	Extruded plastic pipe, tubing	24	21	3
J. F. Schneider & Son, Inc.	Meat packing	40	28	12
Tenn-Flake of Middlesboro, Inc.	Flake board	184	180	4
<u>Pineville</u>				
Delaware Powder Company	Explosives	23	21	2
<u>Tinsley</u>				
Davidson Lumber Co.	Lumber, crossties, wood chips	52	50	2

WAGE RATES FOR SELECTED OCCUPATIONS  
MIDDLESBORO, KENTUCKY 5/

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Wages Per Hour</u>		
	<u>Starting</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Prevailing</u>
<u>Production Employees</u>			
Assembler	\$1.60	\$2.10	\$1.60
Inspector	1.80		1.80
Production Laborer	1.68	1.88	1.68
Welder, Arc or Acetylene (Class-A)	1.60		1.60
<u>Service Employees</u>			
Electrician (Class-A)	\$3.88	\$3.98	\$3.88
Laborer	1.00	1.75	1.00
Machinist	1.60	2.40	1.60
Mechanic, Maintenance	3.25	3.35	--
Truck Driver, Industrial (Class-A)	1.60	4.25	1.60
<u>Office Employees</u>			
Bookkeeper	\$1.60	\$2.00	\$1.60
File Clerk	1.60	2.00	1.60
Receptionist	1.60	2.00	1.60
Secretary	1.60	2.00	1.60
Typist	1.60	1.80	1.60

WAGE RATES FOR SELECTED OCCUPATIONS  
PINEVILLE, KENTUCKY 5/

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Wages Per Hour</u>		
	<u>Starting</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Prevailing</u>
<u>Production Employees</u>			
Inspector	\$1.60	\$2.00	\$1.60
Welder, Arc or Acetylene (Class-A)	1.60		1.60
<u>Service Employees</u>			
Electrician (Class-A)	\$2.00	\$4.00	\$2.00
Laborer	1.60	1.75	1.60
Truck Driver, Industrial (Class-A)	1.60	3.00	1.60

(contd.)

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Wages Per Hour</u>		
	<u>Starting</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Prevailing</u>
<u>Office Employees</u>			
Bookkeeper	\$1.45	\$2.00	\$1.45
File Clerk	1.25	1.75	1.25
Receptionist	1.35	1.60	1.35
Secretary	1.45	2.00	1.60
Typist	1.25	1.60	1.50

#### LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

<u>Union</u>	<u>Representing workers at:</u>
International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers	Giles Industries, Inc.
Amalgamated Meat, Leather, Clerks, and Allied Food Workers of North America	Middlesboro Tanning Company of Delaware
Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America	J. F. Schneider & Son, Inc.
International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers	Tenn-Flake of Middlesboro, Inc.
Allied and Technical Workers	Delaware Powder Company
Amalgamated Clothing Workers of the United States and Canada	Excello Shirt Company

CURRENT AND FUTURE LABOR SUPPLY -  
BELL COUNTY LABOR MARKET AREA

Area	Current Labor Supply, 1971 <sup>6/</sup>			Future Labor Supply by 1977 <sup>7/</sup> (Becoming 18 Years of Age)		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Labor Market Area	17,068	6,889	10,179	20,176	10,377	9,799
Bell	3,857	1,631	2,226	4,134	2,155	1,979
Clay	2,317	923	1,394	2,748	1,413	1,335
Harlan	4,417	1,475	2,942	5,261	2,693	2,568
Knox	2,600	1,111	1,489	3,021	1,455	1,566
Leslie	1,577	748	829	1,927	977	950
Whitley	2,300	1,001	1,299	3,085	1,684	1,401

TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME <sup>8/</sup>

Area	1969*	1959	% Change
Bell County	\$ 58,437,000	\$ 29,995,000	+94.8
Labor Market Area	237,202,000	132,526,000	+79.0
Kentucky	9,202,000,000	4,655,000,000	+97.7

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME <sup>9/</sup>

Area	1969*	1959	% Change
Bell County	\$1,740	\$ 862	+101.8
Labor Market Area	\$2,180 to 860	\$1,012 to 596	NA
Kentucky	2,847	1,552	+ 83.4

\*Preliminary.

## EDUCATION

### Public Schools

	<u>Middlesboro</u>	<u>Pineville</u>	<u>Bell County</u>
Total Enrollment	2,708	599	4,928
Elementary	1,466	437	3,614
Junior High	473		
High School	769	162	1,314
Student-Teacher Ratio	27-1	22-1	25-1
Elementary	28-1	29-1	26-1
Junior High	24-1		
High School	25-1	14-1	23-1
State Rating of High School	Comprehensive	Basic	Comprehensive, Basic, Standard
Other Accreditations	The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools	The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools	The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
Percent High School Graduates to College	42.3	68.0	23.4
Current Expenditures Per Pupil	\$365.83	\$382.12	\$399.07
Bonded Indebtedness, June 30, 1970	\$2,173,000		\$1,489,000

### Parochial Schools

#### St. Julian Elementary

Total Enrollment	66
Student-Teacher Ratio	22-1

Vocational Schools

Nearest Area School

Harlan Area Vocational School  
 Location Harlan  
 Miles Distant 33  
 Curriculum Clothing Service  
 Food Service  
 Practical Nursing  
 Electronics (Industrial)  
 Air Conditioning and Refrigeration  
 Auto Body Repair  
 Auto Mechanics  
 Carpentry  
 Drafting  
 Electricity  
 Machine Shop  
 Mine Machinery Mechanics  
 Welding

Nearest Extension Center

Bell County Extension Center  
 Location Pineville  
 Curriculum Appliance Repair  
 Auto Mechanics  
 Carpentry  
 Drafting  
 Electricity  
 Welding  
 Radio and TV Repair

Colleges and Universities

<u>Name</u>	<u>Area - Within 50 Miles</u>		<u>Highest Degree Conferred</u>
	<u>Location</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	
Lincoln Memorial University	Harrogate, Tennessee	644	Baccalaureate
Cumberland College	Williamsburg	1,858	Baccalaureate
Union College	Barbourville	926	Masters
Sue Bennett Junior College	London	192	Associate

TRANSPORTATION

Rail

Lines serving Middlesboro - Louisville & Nashville Railroad and  
 Southern Railway System  
 Services - Team tracks, switching, carload freight, REA Express

Line serving Pineville - Louisville & Nashville Railroad  
 Services - Team tracks, switching, interchange track, carload freight,  
 REA Express

RAILWAY TRANSIT TIME FROM MIDDLESBORO, KENTUCKY, TO: 10/

City	No. of Days		City	No. of Days	
	CL			CL	
Atlanta, Ga.	3		Los Angeles, Calif.	6	
Birmingham, Ala.	4		Louisville, Ky.	2	
Chicago, Ill.	3		Nashville, Tenn.	3	
Cincinnati, Ohio	2		New Orleans, La.	4	
Cleveland, Ohio	3		New York, N. Y.	4	
Detroit, Mich.	4		Pittsburgh, Pa.	4	
Knoxville, Tenn.	2		St. Louis, Mo.	4	

Truck Service

Company

Home Office

Middlesboro and Pineville

United Trucking Service  
 Consolidated Freightways, Inc.  
 Hogan Storage & Transfer Co.  
 Mason & Dixon Lines, Inc.  
 McLean Trucking Company  
 Skyline Transportation, Inc.

Detroit, Michigan  
 Menlo Park, California  
 Williamson, West Virginia  
 Kingsport, Tennessee  
 Winston-Salem, North Carolina  
 Knoxville, Tennessee

HIGHWAY MILES AND TRUCK TRANSIT TIME IN DAYS FROM  
MIDDLESBORO, KENTUCKY, TO SELECTED MARKET CENTERS

City	Highway Miles	Delivery Time $\frac{11}{/}$		City	Highway Miles	Delivery Time	
		LTL	TL			LTL	TL
Atlanta, Ga.	254	3	2	Los Angeles, Calif.	2,315	-	-
Birmingham, Ala.	317	3	2	Louisville, Ky.	208	3	2
Chicago, Ill.	509	4	2	Nashville, Tenn.	245	3	2
Cincinnati, Ohio	221	3	2	New Orleans, La.	402	-	-
Cleveland, Ohio	562	4	2	New York, N. Y.	977	5	2
Detroit, Mich.	583	4	2	Pittsburgh, Pa.	602	4	2
Knoxville, Tenn.	60	1	1	St. Louis, Mo.	472	-	-

Air

	<u>Local</u>	<u>Nearest Commercial</u>
Location:	Middlesboro-Bell County Airport 1.2 miles west of Middlesboro	London-Corbin War Memorial Airport London, 47 miles north
Runways:	1 paved	1 paved
Length:	3,650 feet	6,000 feet
Traffic Control:	Wind sock	Wind sock, radio
Lighting:	None	Beacon, runway and obstruction lights
Services:	80 and 100 octane, major and minor A & E repairs, general flying service, taxi, aircraft inspection and authorization, air freight	80 and 100 octane, JP-A-50, Piedmont Airlines, taxi, U-Drive-It, Weather Bureau, flight training, charter and ambulance service, vending machines

Bus

<u>Middlesboro</u>	<u>Pineville</u>
Southern Greyhound Bus Line	Southern Greyhound Bus Line

Taxi

4 taxicab companies	3 taxicab companies
---------------------	---------------------

Rental Services

Car, truck, and trailer rentals are available.	Trailer and truck rentals are available.
---	---



## POWER AND FUEL

### Electricity

Company serving Middlesboro and Pineville - Kentucky Utilities Company  
Source of power - Kentucky Utilities Company  
Total generating capacity - 773,000 KW  
Industrial rates furnished by - Kentucky Utilities Company, Industrial  
Development Department, Lexington, Kentucky

Company serving Bell County - Cumberland Valley Rural Electric  
Cooperative Corporation  
Source of power - East Kentucky Power Cooperative  
Total generating capacity - 515,000 KW  
Industrial rates furnished by - Cumberland Valley Rural Electric  
Cooperative Corporation, Gray, Kentucky

### Natural Gas

Company serving Middlesboro - Gas Service Company, Inc.  
Source of supply - Cumberland Valley Pipeline Company  
Size of transmission lines - 6 and 8 inches  
Distribution lines - 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 inches  
BTU content - 1,150; Specific gravity - .59  
Distribution pressure - 10 to 15 psi

#### Rates (Industrial)

First	2 mcf	\$3.40 (minimum)
Next	8 mcf	1.25 per mcf
Next	5 mcf	1.15 per mcf
Next	2,985 mcf	.90 per mcf
All over	3,000 mcf	.71 per mcf

Company serving Pineville - Pineville Gas Company  
Source of supply - Cumberland Valley Pipeline Company  
Size of transmission lines - 6 and 8 inches  
Distribution lines - 2, 3, 4, and 6 inches  
BTU content - 1,150; Specific gravity - .59  
Distribution pressure - 5 to 10 psi

#### Rates (Residential and Commercial)

First	2 mcf	\$3.40 (minimum)
Next	8 mcf	1.25 per mcf
Next	5 mcf	1.15 per mcf
All over	15 mcf	.90 per mcf

## WATER AND SEWERAGE

### Water

Company serving Middlesboro - Kentucky Water Service Company, Inc.

Source - Fern Lake Company

Treatment plant capacity - 2,000,000 gpd

Average daily consumption - 1,000,000 gallons

Peak daily consumption - 1,500,000 gallons

Type treatment - coagulation, settling, filtration, chlorination

Storage capacity - 1,300,000 gallons; Average pressure - 100-130 psi

Average temperature - 50 degrees

Size mains - 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 24 inches

### MONTHLY WATER RATES FOR WHOLESALE AND INDUSTRIAL CONSUMERS

First	1,000 gals. per month	\$3.15 (minimum)
Next	9,000 gals. per month	.90 per M gals.
Next	15,000 gals. per month	.85 per M gals.
Next	25,000 gals. per month	.75 per M gals.
Next	50,000 gals. per month	.65 per M gals.
Next	100,000 gals. per month	.60 per M gals.
Over	200,000 gals. per month	.50 per M gals.

### Minimum Monthly Charge

5/8 or 3/4-inch meter	\$ 3.15
1 or 1 1/4-inch meter	7.00
1 1/2-inch meter	13.00
2-inch meter	19.50
3-inch meter	52.50
4-inch meter	87.00
6-inch meter	175.00

Company serving Pineville - Pineville Water Company

Source - Cumberland River

Treatment plant capacity - 900,000 gpd

Average daily consumption - 250,000 gallons

Peak daily consumption - 400,000 gallons

Type treatment - settling and gravity sand filtration

Storage capacity - 340,000 gallons; Average pressure - 95 psi

Size mains - 4, 6, and 8 inches

MONTHLY WATER RATES FOR WHOLESALE  
AND INDUSTRIAL CONSUMERS

---

First	1,000 gals.	\$2.80 (mimimum)
Next	9,000 gals.	1.25 per M gals.
Next	20,000 gals.	.90 per M gals.
Next	30,000 gals.	.70 per M gals.

Surface water sources - Cumberland River

Average discharge - Cumberland River near Pineville 1,319 cfs  
(31-year record, USGS)

Expected ground water yield - belts extending through central and southern  
portions 5 to 50 gpm, with small portions having 200 to 500 gpm;  
remainder of county yields 50 to 200 gpm

Sewerage

Company serving Middlesboro - Middlesboro Sewerage Commission

Design capacity - 1,500,000 gpd

Average daily flow - 1,000,000 gallons

Treatment - primary and secondary

Type treatment - clarifier and drying beds

Treated effluent discharged into - Yellow Creek

Size of sanitary mains - 2- to 24-inch; Size of storm mains - 8- to 72-inch

Monthly rates - 5 rooms and under - \$3; 6 rooms and over - \$4;  
commercial users - 70 percent of water bill

Company serving Pineville - Pineville Municipal Sanitation Commission

Design capacity - 400,000 gpd

Average daily flow - 150,000 gallons; Treatment - primary

Type treatment - activated sludge and aeration

Treated effluent discharged into - Cumberland River

Size of sanitary mains - 10, 12, and 15 inches

Size of storm mains - 15, 24, and 36 inches

Monthly rates - 57 percent of water bill

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

City

Middlesboro

Structure - Mayor - 4-year term; 12 councilmen - 2-year terms  
 Budget 1970-71 - General Fund \$487,500; Water and Sewer Fund \$135,000  
 Fees and licenses - vehicle - annual; auto - \$5; small truck - \$7.50,  
 large truck - \$10, out-of-town vehicle - \$5; professional fee - \$50 to \$300;  
 retailers and wholesalers - retailers \$10 to \$500; wholesalers \$8 to  
 \$400; occupational license tax - 1 percent

Pineville

Structure - Mayor - 4-year term; 8 councilmen - 2-year terms  
 Budget 1970 - General Fund \$199,488  
 Fees and licenses - privilege license - retail merchants \$35 to \$500,  
 wholesalers \$40 to \$140 plus \$25 for each additional \$25,000 above  
 \$150,000 of cash receipts; auto privilege license - \$5 per car

County

Structure - County Judge - 4-year term; 8 magistrates - 4-year terms  
 Budget 1970-71 - General Fund \$164,974; Road Fund \$32,600

Assessed Value of Property, 1970

<u>Classes of Property*</u>	<u>Pineville</u>	<u>Middlesboro</u>	<u>Bell County</u>
Real Estate	\$8,897,304	\$32,131,587	\$64,414,140
Tangibles	2,028,682	8,263,783	24,969,040
Public Service	2,295,852	6,148,885	22,214,946 (1969)

Local General Property Tax Rates Per \$100 of Assessed Valuation, 1970 <sup>12/</sup>

<u>Taxing Unit**</u>	<u>Pineville</u>	<u>Middlesboro</u>	<u>Bell County</u>
State	\$ .015	\$ .015	\$ .015
County	.194	.194	.194
School	.573	.878	.474
City	.573	.322	
Total	\$1.355	\$1.409	\$ .683

\*Property assessed at 100 percent of fair value.

\*\*Manufacturing machinery, raw materials inventories and goods in process inventories are not subject to local tax. State rate is only \$0.15 per \$100.

Planning and Zoning

Pineville

Agency - Pineville Planning Commission

Plans completed - Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision Regulations, Zoning Ordinance, Parking Study

Codes adopted - Pineville has adopted all major codes and enforces them.

Middlesboro

Agency - Middlesboro Planning Commission

Plans completed - Comprehensive Plan, Subdivision Regulations, Zoning Ordinance, Capital Improvements Budget, Public Improvements Program

Codes adopted - Middlesboro has adopted all major codes and enforces them.

Safety

<u>Police</u>	<u>Middlesboro</u>	<u>Pineville</u>	<u>Bell County</u>
Total staff	20	5	8
Radio-patrol cars	4	1	5
Other equipment	standard	standard	standard

Fire

American Insurance

Association Fire Rating                      6                      7

Full-time staff                                      15                      2

Volunteers    14                      8

Equipment:

750 gpm pumpers                                      2                      1

500 gpm pumpers                                      2                      2

ladder truck - 75-foot                              1

centrifugal pump    1

other    breathing equipment

Rescue Service

Middlesboro and Bell County Emergency Rescue Squad, Inc.

Number of volunteers - 25

Equipment - crash truck, jeeps, boats, motors, scuba diving equipment, staff car, station wagon (radio equipped)

Personnel training - first aid, fire fighting, dragging

Sanitation

	<u>Middlesboro</u>	<u>Pineville</u>
Type service	private	municipal
Cost:		
residential	\$3 for once a month; \$4.50 for twice a month	\$1.25 per month
business	negotiable	\$10 per month
Collection frequency:		
residential	1 to 2 times weekly	monthly
business	1 to 6 times weekly	monthly
Trash pickup	1 to 2 times weekly	residential - weekly; business - varies
Disposal method	sanitary land fill	open dump

## HEALTH

### Hospitals

#### Middlesboro

<u>General Hospitals</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Beds</u>
The Middlesboro Appalachian Regional Hospital	Middlesboro	88
The Middlesboro Hospital and Clinic	Middlesboro	20

The Middlesboro Appalachian Regional Hospital facilities - radiology department, clinical laboratory, 2 operating rooms, 2 delivery rooms, newborn nursery, emergency unit

Medical staff - 13 active medical staff (2 surgeons, 2 pediatricians, 2 OBGYN specialists, 1 EENT specialist, 4 general practitioners, 2 internists); 1 dentist, 20 registered nurses, 4 licensed practical nurse specialists, 23 licensed practical nurses, 29 nurse aides, 3 anesthesiologist, 5 doctors on courtesy staff, 11 consulting doctors

The Middlesboro Hospital and Clinic facilities - X-ray room, emergency room, laboratory department, operating room, outpatient clinic

Medical staff - 3 doctors, 8 registered nurses, 15 licensed practical nurses, 3 nurse aides, 4 orderlies, 30 other

#### Pineville

<u>General Hospital</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Beds</u>
The Pineville Community Hospital	Pineville	207
The Daniel Boone Clinic	Middlesboro	

The Pineville Community Hospital facilities - X-ray department, delivery room, 2 operating rooms, urology room, obstetric and diagnostic services, 207 beds (134 acute, 32 nursing home, 35 extended care, 6 intensive and cardiac care)

Medical staff - 11 physicians, 3 dentists, and specialists available on a consultation basis, 2 medical doctors on duty at night in emergency room. The hospital has a total staff of 300 persons.

The Daniel Boone Clinic facilities - doctors' offices, examination rooms,  
and laboratory

Medical staff - 8 doctors, 5 consulting doctors, 6 licensed practical  
nurses, 2 nurse aides, 12 office clerks

Nursing Homes

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Beds</u>
Extended care home	1	67
Personal care home	1	44

Public Health

Facility - Bell County Health Department (offices in Middlesboro and  
Pineville)

Staff - 4 nurses, 1 sanitarian, 4 clerks, 1 administrative assistant

Budget 1970-71 - \$66,520



## OTHER LOCAL FACILITIES

### Communications

#### Middlesboro

Telephone - South Central Bell Telephone Company  
Services - central office

Telegraph - Western Union  
Services - office in Greyhound Bus station

Postal - U. S. Post Office  
Class - First  
Mail received - three times daily  
Mail dispatched - twice daily

Newspapers - Middlesboro Daily News  
Daily and circulation - 7,000  
Other papers received from - Knoxville, Tennessee; Louisville and  
Lexington, Kentucky

Radio - WAFI and WMIK  
Stations received from - Knoxville, Tennessee; Pineville, London,  
and Corbin, Kentucky

Television -  
Reception from - Knoxville, Tennessee; Lexington, Kentucky; Bristol,  
Virginia; Asheville, North Carolina  
Kentucky Educational Television - Hazard, Channel 35

#### Pineville

Telephone - South Central Bell Telephone Company  
Services - substation

Telegraph - Western Union  
Services - office in Greyhound Bus station

Postal - U. S. Post Office  
Class - First  
Mail received - twice daily  
Mail dispatched - twice daily

Newspapers - The Sun Courier

Weekly and circulation - 2,800

Other papers received from - Louisville and Lexington, Kentucky;  
Knoxville, Tennessee

Radio - WANO

Stations received from - Knoxville, Tennessee; London, Barbourville,  
and Corbin, Kentucky

Television -

Reception from - Knoxville, Tennessee; Lexington, Kentucky; Asheville,  
North Carolina

Kentucky Educational Television - Somerset, Channel 29

### Library Services

Public Libraries - The Middlesboro Public Library

Size collection - 25,000 volumes

Circulation, 1970 - 62,000 (combined library and bookmobile)

Services - magazines, newspapers, books, story hour, bookmobile,  
talking books for the blind, art prints, public photocopier, films,  
records, and has direct communications with Department of Libraries  
in Frankfort

Public Libraries - The Pineville Public Library

Size collection - 16,000 volumes

Circulation, 1970 - 58,000 (combined library and bookmobile)

Services - bookmobile, reference books, encyclopedia, magazines,  
story hour, books, films, records, talking books, art prints, public  
photocopier, newspapers, and direct communications with Department  
of Libraries in Frankfort

### Religious Institutions

	<u>Middlesboro</u>	<u>Pineville</u>
Number of churches -	26	7
Denominations -	Ame Zion	Methodist
	Baptist	Catholic
	Christian	Baptist
	Methodist	Church of God
	Presbyterian	Nazarene
	Pentecostal	Presbyterian
	Nazarene, Salvation Army	Christian
	Jehovah's Witnesses	
	Church of God	
	Episcopal, Catholic	
	Seventh Day Adventist	
	Christian Science	

Financial Institutions

Middlesboro

<u>Bank</u>	<u>Statement as of December 31, 1970</u>	
	<u>Assets</u>	<u>Deposits</u>
The National Bank	\$16,479,752.85	\$15,473,327.04
Commercial Bank	18,043,321.55	16,583,131.91

Pineville

First State Bank	\$10,462,878.26	\$ 9,285,483.84
------------------	-----------------	-----------------

<u>Savings and Loan Associations</u>	<u>Assets</u>	<u>Shared Accounts</u>
--------------------------------------	---------------	------------------------

Middlesboro

Middlesboro Federal	\$10,110,354.83	\$ 9,202,633.40
Home Federal	8,522,481.67	7,974,420.12

Pineville

First Federal	\$ 7,319,465.69	\$ 6,700,542.08
---------------	-----------------	-----------------

Hotels and Motels

	<u>Middlesboro</u>	<u>Pineville</u>
Number -	11	5
Units -	351	109

Clubs and Organizations

Middlesboro

Business and Civic - Chamber of Commerce, Jaycees, Kiwanis, Lions, Optimist, Rotary, Cumberland Valley Life Underwriters Association, Community Chest, Retail Merchants Association, Junior Chamber of Commerce

Fraternal - American Legion, Masonic Lodge, Odd Fellows Lodge, Redman's Lodge, Junior Order of American Mechanics, Elks, VFW

Women's - Business and Professional Women's Club, Junior Woman's Club, DAR, American Legion Auxiliary, Alpha Mu Chapter, Beta Sigma Phi, Eastern Star, Mountain Laurel Garden Club, Middlesboro Garden Club, Cumberland Park Garden Club, Middlesboro Federated Music Club, Jaycettes

Youth - Key Club, 4-H, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, Brownies, FHA, FFA

Other - PTA, Middlesboro Ministerial Association, Art Club, Tri-State Saddle Club, Tri-State Citizens Band Radio Club, American Association of Retired Persons

Pineville

Business and Civic - Bell County Bar Association, Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis, Lions, Rotary, City Improvement Committee

Fraternal - American Legion, Masonic

Women's - Business and Professional Women's Club, Junior Woman's Club, Junior and Senior Homemakers, Senior Women's Club, Eastern Star, Mountain Laurel Garden Club, Pineville Garden Club, PTA

Youth - Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, FHA, FFA, 4-H, Little League baseball

## RECREATION

### Local

	<u>Middlesboro</u>	<u>Pineville</u>
<b>Public Recreation Facilities</b>		
Supervised program -	yes	yes
Playgrounds -	2	4
Swimming pool -		1
Golf course -		1
Tennis courts -	2	2
Little League baseball park -	1	1 (baseball diamond)
Football fields -	1	1
Other -	Youth Center main- tained by various church denominations	Lions Lair Youth Center

### Private Recreation Facilities

Country club -	1
Golf course -	1
Swimming pools -	2
Movie theater -	1
Bowling lane -	1
Drive-In -	1
Skating rink -	1

### Tourist Attractions

The Coal House

### Cultural Events

Sidewalk Art Show, The Book of Job, The Kentucky Mountain Laurel Festival

### Area (Within 60 miles)

Daniel Boone National Forest  
 Cumberland Falls State Resort Park  
 Cumberland Gap National Historical Park  
 Dr. Thomas Walker State Shrine  
 Kingdom Come State Park  
 Levi Jackson Wilderness Road State Park  
 Pine Mountain State Resort Park

AGRICULTURE - NATURAL RESOURCES - CLIMATE

Agriculture <sup>13/</sup>

	<u>Bell County</u>	<u>Labor Market Area</u>
Total land area (acres)	236,800	1,636,480
Percent of area in farm land	4.9	21.3
Number of farms	155	3,780
Average size of farms (acres)	75.4	92.3
1964 value of all farm products	\$ 71,885	\$ 4,062,572
Value per farm	464	1,075
Total crop sales	27,707	2,591,291
Total livestock & livestock products	44,178	1,465,241
1968 agricultural production included:		
Burley tobacco (lbs.)	20,000	4,223,000
Corn (bu.)	2,600,000	395,000
Cattle and calves (number)	968,000	23,100
Hogs and pigs (number)	497,000	7,700
Milk production (1967) (lbs.)	1,125,000	24,255,000

Natural Resources

Principal mineral resources	Coal, petroleum, and natural gas
Other mineral resources	Sand and gravel, sandstone, limestone, and clay
Acres of commercial forest land	197,900
Most abundant tree species	Red oaks, white oaks, hickories, yellow poplar, beech, soft maple, and blackgum

Climate <sup>14/</sup>

	<u>Bell County</u>
Temperature	
Annual mean (30-year record)	59.6 degrees
Average annual 1969	59.0 degrees
Record highest August, 1968 (10-year record)	99 degrees
Record lowest January, 1966 (10-year record)	- 9 degrees
Seasonal heating degree-days (30-year record)	3,494
Precipitation	
Mean annual total (30-year record)	45.85 inches
Mean annual snow and sleet (28-year record)	12.9 inches
Total precipitation 1970	43.43 inches
Mean number days precipitation (.01 inch or more) (28-year record)	126
Average number days thunderstorms (28-year record)	47
Prevailing winds (14-year record)	Northeast

## HISTORY

Bell County lies in the southeastern corner of Kentucky, bordered by both Tennessee and Virginia, and is at the site of historic Cumberland Gap. It covers 370 square miles of territory and is bisected by the Cumberland River. The surface is mountainous, with thin soil on the mountain-side and some rich bottom lands along the Cumberland. Some of the largest seams of bituminous coal in the state are found here. Much of the land is forested, with portions of several state and national forest areas lying here. Best known of its mountains is Pine Mountain in the western part of the county.

The earliest explorers in Kentucky came into Bell County at Cumberland Gap. Dr. Thomas Walker led a hunting and surveying party through the gap and Bell County in 1750 and built the first house in Kentucky in neighboring Knox County. It was Walker who named the Cumberland Mountains and River for the Duke of Cumberland, a son of King George II. Several groups of explorers came in the 1760's, and in 1769 Daniel Boone made his first visit to Kentucky through Cumberland Gap. Settlements in Bell County were late in developing due to the advantages offered by the Bluegrass area.

A fierce Civil War battle was fought in Bell County for Pinnacle Mountain and Fort Lyon in 1863. Ruins of the fort can still be seen. Four years afterwards, in 1867, Bell became Kentucky's one-hundred-twelfth county, then called Josh Bell County after Joshua Fry Bell, a descendant of Dr. Thomas Walker, who served in the U. S. Congress and was distinguished in Kentucky politics.

Middlesboro, the largest town in southeastern Kentucky, is a trading center lying at the foot of Cumberland Gap. It was founded by British investors who supplied the capital to purchase its site and was named for the iron city in the English Midlands. A thriving progressive city, Middlesboro had a population of 11,844 in 1970. Pineville, named for Pine Mountain at whose base it lies, is the county seat of Bell County. It grew up around the site of the first tollgate along the Wilderness Road, which was constructed in 1797 when the Legislature appropriated some \$20,000 to repair the road.

The county's population was only 3,731 in 1870, but it grew rapidly to 47,602 in 1950. In the next decade there was a significant decline to 35,336; and although population was again down to 31,087 in 1970, the rate of decline was only one-half that of the previous decade.

Agricultural production is small in Bell County, with agricultural employment accounting for only 100 of a total 7,400 workers in 1969. Cattle, poultry, and burley tobacco are the main products. Manufacturing activity has shown very significant growth since 1959, providing 1,600 jobs in 1969. Heaviest concentration of production is in clothing, leather, lumber, and wood products. The county's largest firms at Middlesboro are: Excello Shirt Company, which makes men's shirts; Giles Industries, making mobile homes; Tenn-Flake of Middlesboro, Inc., flake board; and Middlesboro Tanning Company of Delaware, tanning leather.



## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- 1/ U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Census of Population, 1950, 1960, 1970.
- 2/ Kentucky Department of Economic Security, Division of Research and Statistics.
- 3/ Kentucky Department of Economic Security, Number of Workers in Manufacturing Industries Covered by Kentucky Unemployment Insurance Law Classified by Industry and County, September 1960, September 1970.
- 4/ Kentucky Department of Commerce, 1971 Kentucky Directory of Manufacturers.
- 5/ Kentucky Department of Economic Security, Division of Employment Services, Middlesboro Office.
- 6/ Kentucky Department of Economic Security, Kentucky Labor Supply Estimates by County, January 1971.
- 7/ Kentucky Department of Commerce, Future Labor Supply by 1977.
- 8/ University of Kentucky, Office of Development Services and Business Research, Total Personal Income for Kentucky.
- 9/ University of Kentucky, Office of Development Services and Business Research, Per Capita Income in Kentucky.
- 10/ Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company, Louisville, Kentucky.
- 11/ McLean Trucking Company, Winston-Salem, North Carolina; The Mason & Dixon Lines, Inc., Kingsport, Tennessee.
- 12/ Kentucky Department of Revenue, Kentucky Property Tax Rates, 1970.
- 13/ U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Census of Agriculture, 1964. U. S. Department of Agriculture and Kentucky Department of Agriculture, Kentucky Agricultural Statistics, 1969.
- 14/ U. S. Department of Commerce, Environmental Science Services Administration, Climatological Data, 1970.

All other information was obtained from governmental offices, local businesses and organizations.