# Newgene, Fleener once Monroe communities

of them is a "Gene" or a "Eugene." The name was picked out by the town's two developers, Alexander Buchanan ad surveyor John Sedwick, who provided for 24 lots in 1836. However, the following year when Levi Sugart added four more lots, he renamed the community, Harrodsburg, origin also unknown.

**WHATEVER ITS NAME,** the writers of the *History* weren't much impressed when they looked it over in 1914. They wrote: "The traveler to this village of Clear Creek township experiences no little difficulty, as the residences and business houses are fully a mile, over winding roads and steep hills, from the one railroad station."

Inconvenient though it may have been, Harrodsburg boasted of general stores operated by Johnson & Jackson, Gore & Meredith, R.F. Voightchild and Sam McGlothlin. Other storekeepers were Tilford & Glass and A. & P. Carmichael. In 1839 Jacob Corman paid $25 for a liquor license.

**OTHER MERCHANTS** of Harrodsburg were three blacksmiths, James Buchanan and Treadway & Crum; barber, Ollie Graves; livery stable owner, Andreas Conder; and restaurant owner, A.W. Young. There were also a couple of tanneries, a live stock broker, and the inevitable grist and saw mills.

Through the remainder of the 19th century the community continued to thrive, although it was by no means the largest town outside of Bloomington.

The *History* contains a list of Monroe County communities and their 1910 populations:

Bloomington, 8,838; Bryant Creek, 149; Buena Vista, 75; Chapel Hill, 12; Clear Creek, 94; Cortelyou, 47; Ellettsville, 676; Fairfax, 25; Gable, 6; Godsey, 23; Harrodsburg, 358; Kirksville, 75; Lemons, 15; Payne, 50; Smithville, 375; Stanford, 120; Southern, 25; Stinesville, 497; Todd, 24; Unionville, 125; Victor, 75; and Yellowstone, 15.

**FLEENER, WHICH BECAME** Unionville, was the only village of any importance that developed in Benton Township. The earliest residents are reputed to be the Young family, who have given their name to several roads in the area.