

Iron Furnace, Cumberland Escarpment Region



Fitchburg Furnace, Estill County. Located 6 miles north on Ky. 975 from Ky. 52. The Fitchburg Iron Furnace produced pig iron from 1870 to 1874, and was the largest furnace built in Kentucky. It had such a high capacity that the local timber and ore supply was depleted too rapidly, resulting in the closing of the furnace. Kentucky ranked third in the nation in iron production in 1830, and 11th in 1965. Photo by John F. Stickney.