

Odd Sounding Towns

Last year I put together a listing of U.S. towns, and I remember thinking as I was compiling the list just how *repetitive* town names were. It was terrible—Jackson, Jefferson, Columbus, Columbia, Riverside—the same names over and over again across the country. Good grief! There are even same-name towns in the same state! Then there were all the ‘spin-offs’—Jefferson, Jefferson City, Jeffersonville, Jeffersonburg, Jefferson Heights, Jeffersonia—For me, this overshadowed the more ‘creative’ names, but it’s worth a giggle or two to look at the latter. Here are a some from a listing that was started in the late 1950s *RMS Bulletin*, but I couldn’t find the last third, so I’ve added that, plus Connecticut and Delaware, which were left off the list, and some additional towns.

Alabama: Axis, Glass, Hatchechubbee, Holy Trinity, Homeward, Key, Reform, Six Mile, Whistler

Arizona: Apache Junction, Bulkhead, Cactus, Christmas, Congress, Date, Eager, Show Low, Skull Valley, Teec Nos Pos, Tombstone

Arkansas: Bald Knob, Cotton Plant, Dogpatch, Egypt, Evening Shade, Pea Ridge, Smackover, Stamps, Yellville

California: Angels Camp, Button Willow, Coarse Gold, Coyotte, Fiddletown, Pumpkin Center, Santa Claus, Valley of Enchantment

Colorado: Bountiful, Cripple Creek, Dinosaur, Hasty, Hygiene, Lime, Parachute, Romeo, Silt, Wild Horse, Yellow Jacket

Connecticut: Cos Cob, Moosup, Mystic, Pomfret, Poquonock, Scotland, Tariffville

Delaware: Bear, Long Neck, Slaughter Beach

Florida: Bayonet Point, Christmas, Howey-in-the-Hill, Niceville, Pass-a-Grille Beach, Sopchoppy, Venus

Georgia: Burning Bush, Coffee, Experiment, Social Circle, Thunderbolt, Ty Ty

Idaho: Bliss, Council, Horse Shoe Bend, Nezperce [*French for ‘pierced nose’*]

Illinois: Big Foot, Golf, Half Day, Joy, Loves Park, Prophetstown, Red Bud, Sleepy Hollow, Triumph, Woosung

Indiana: Chili, Cyclone, Deputy, Economy, English, Floyds Knobs, Needmore, Patriot, Rising Sun, Windfall

Iowa: Promise City, Rake, Soldier, Sac City, Story City, Sweat City

Kansas: Admire, Enterprise, Liberal, Pretty Prairie, Ransom, Sedan

Kentucky: Bowling Green, Dry Ridge, Horse Cave, Mays Lick, Neon

Louisiana: Bunkie, Cut Off, New Roads, Plain Dealing, Pointe a la Hache [*French for ‘point of the ax’*]

Maine: Bath, Caribou, Great Works, Meddybemps, Passadumkeag, Shin Pond, Steep Falls

Maryland: Four Corners, Indian Head, Ladiesburg, North East, Port Tobacco, Savage, Snow Hill

Massachusetts: Braintree, Buzzards Bay, Tea Ticket, Vineyard Haven, Woods Hole

Michigan: Bad Axe, Center Line, Dollar Bay, L’Anse [*French for ‘handle’*], Paw Paw, Temperance, Traverse City, White Pigeon,

Minnesota: Blackduck, Blue Earth, Elbow Lake, Fertile, Good Thunder, Thief River Falls

Mississippi: Alligator, Bobo, Guntown, Petal, Seminary, Shivers, Sunflower

Missouri: Arab, Bachelor, Blue Eye, Creve Coeur

[French for 'Heart Breaker'], Gumbo, Romance, Shell Knob

Montana: Froid *[French for 'cold']*, Lame Deer, Lolo, Pony, Sixteen, Wisdom

Nebraska: Bee, Doughboy, Friend, Magnet, Surprise

Nevada: Duckwater, Frenchman, Seven Troughs, Sulphur

New Hampshire: Center Sandwich, Short Falls, Unity

New Jersey: Colts Neck, Deal, Fellowship, Ship Bottom,

New Mexico: Dusty, Flying, Heck, Humble City, Organ, Pep, Pie Town, Truth or Consequences

New York: Big Indian, Bliss, Deposit, Kill Buck, Owls Head, Severance, Surprise

North Carolina: Bandana, Bat Cave, Kitty Hawk, Relief, Scotland Neck, Spot, Supply, Welcome

North Dakota: Cannon Ball, Lonetree, Souris *[French for 'mice']*

Ohio: Chagrin Falls, Good Hope, Harmony, Put In Bay, Torch, Union Furnace

Oklahoma: Big Cable, Bowlegs, Cement, Fame, Gene Autry, Good Water, Jester, Jet, Lone Wolf

Oregon: Boring, Bridal Veil, Brothers, Drain, Echo, Plush, Sisters, Spray

Pennsylvania: Bird in Hand, Coupon, Intercourse *[you knew that was going to make the list!]*, Library, Scalp Level, Shickshinny, Smokeless

Rhode Island: Block Island, Hope Valley, Little Compton, Misquamicut, Pawtucket, Peace Dale, Woonsocket

South Carolina: Catawaba, Cowpens, Cross Anchor, Denmark, Fair Play, Fingerville, Folly

Beach, La Fraance, Rains

South Dakota: Big Stone City, Bonesteel, Box Elder, Crazy Horse, Oral, Ralph, Sky Ranch, Spearfish, Wounded Knee

Tennessee: Bon Aqua *[French for 'good water']*, Bulls Gap, Chestnut Mound, Gruetli Laager, Hurricane Mills, Laurel Bloomery, Ozone, Soddy Daisy, Wartburg

Texas: Ben Franklin, Blessing, Corpus Christi, Dime Box, Flower Mound, Gun Barrel City, Ivanhoe, Mobeetie, Muleshoe, Nacogdoches, Palo Pinto, Sanatorium, The Colony, Von Ormy, Waxahachie, Winnie

Utah: Bountiful, Dutch John, Gunlock, Iapah, Mexican Hat, Montezuma Creek, Scipio, Virgin

Vermont: Adamant, Bread Loaf, Isle La Motte, Smugglers Notch, Sugarbush Valley, Winsooki

Virginia: Achilles, Assawoman, Ben Hur, Doe Hill, Free Union, King and Queen Court House, Meadows of Dan, Modest Town, Nuttsville, Syria

Washington: Black Diamond, Brush Prairie, Friday Harbor, Gold Bar, Medical Lake, Pe Ell, Sea Tac, Walla Walla

West Virginia: Auto, Bens Run, Big Chimney, Cucumber, Gypsy, Jane Lew, Jenkinjones, Jumping Branch, Left Hand, Man, Mount Gay, Shock, Wolf Pen

Wisconsin: Belgium, Black Earth, Combined Locks, Embarrass, Land O'Lakes, Oconomowoc, Phlox, Poy Sippi, Tomahawk, Wild Rose

Wyoming: Bar Nunn, Chugwater, Devils Tower, Frannie, Little America, Medicine Bow, Saddlestring, Smoot, Ten Sleep, Tie Siding