

## LUNCH IN THE PARIS DEPOT

Charles H Bogart

Mary Ann and I during the first week of August took a Monday drive, retired people do Monday drives. Our leisurely outing saw us following the abandoned Frankfort & Cincinnati Railroad roadbed from Frankfort, Kentucky, to Paris, Kentucky. At Paris we had a late lunch at the Trackside Restaurant & Bar. This facility is housed in the former Paris Union Depot, which was built by the Louisville & Nashville Railroad circa 1910. The Paris depot was a union depot as the depot served both the Louisville & Nashville Railroad (L&N) and the Frankfort & Cincinnati Railroad (F&C).

In 1950, four rail lines converged on the Paris Depot, one F&C and three L&N. The F&C line ran west from Paris to Frankfort and was abandoned circa 1980. The three L&N lines were: Cincinnati, Ohio, via Paris, to Winchester, Kentucky; Paris to Maysville, Kentucky; and Paris to Lexington, Kentucky. The L&N rail line to Lexington was taken up circa 1955. The rail line to Maysville was sold circa 1990 to TransKentucky Transportation Inc and is now out of service. The rail line between Cincinnati and Winchester is still used by CSXT, but the track only sees two to four trains a day.

Trackside Restaurant & Bar is divided into two dining areas. An outdoor/indoor room separated from the track by large windows that can be opened or closed depending on the weather and an indoor bar restaurant area. We chose the indoor dining area as it was just too hot, in the 90s to sit trackside. The service at Trackside Restaurant & Bar was good and friendly. I had a cheeseburger with brown bean soup and Mary Ann a chicken salad sandwich with Kentucky Succotash. Our meals were washed down with ice tea. I need to state that the bar carries a large selection of expensive Kentucky bourbon, which Mary Ann said I did not need to sample at \$25 to \$50 a shot.

As we were leaving the restaurant we ran into a railfan friend we had not seen for a long time who was entering the restaurant, so we turned around and reentered Trackside Restaurant & Bar. This time we headed to the bar area and here we spent an enjoyable 30 minutes with our railfan friend drinking cold beer and catching up on current railroad affairs. After saying Adios to our friend we got into our car headed out to do some more railfanning.



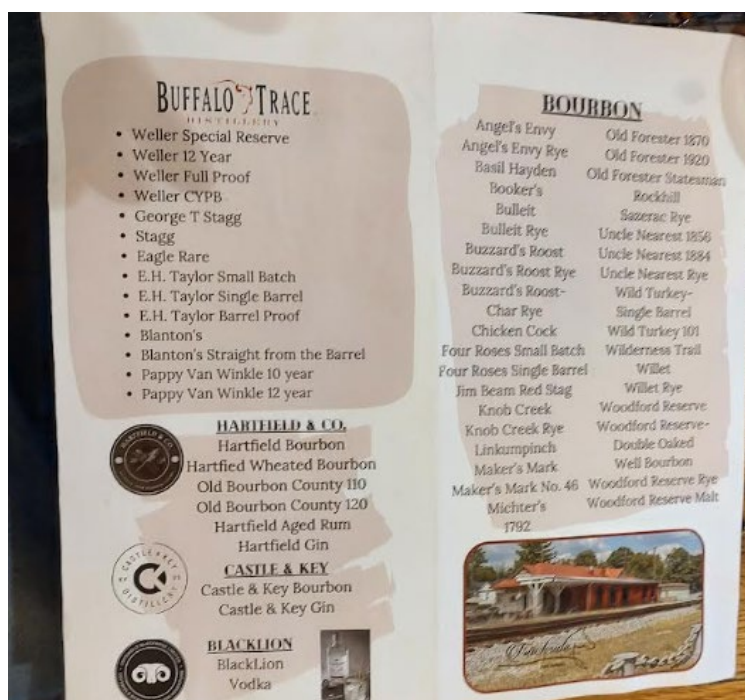
The former Paris Kentucky Depot is now Trackside Restaurant & Bar



The trackside indoor/outdoor seating area.



The inside bar area.



The bourbon list. Note no prices!! The last time I had a drink of Pappy Van Winkle 12-year-old bourbon was at a charity event some years ago, and I paid \$50 for a shot. It was good – Nectar of the Gods.



Mary Ann a graduate Villa Madonna Academy drinks her beer from a glass and I a graduate of Newport Catholic drink from a bottle



Paris Depot circa 1910.