Where I come from

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As I sit in the entry way of the Richmond courthouse I see a needle work quilt that is displayed behind a frame. It is filled with 24 beautiful places around Richmond. Some are buildings, others are symbols of Kentucky, and a few are locations. This makes me wonder, does Paris have this same beauty? Let me give it a try:

1. Clairbourn Farm- This would of course make the top of the list, home of the famous Secretariat. He is the last racehorse to win a triple crown.

2. The Wallis Home- This old historical home is the meeting place for the state gardening club. It is surrounded with great beauty from all of the plants that the club maintains.

3. Duncan Tavern- This once was a place to stay. Back in its prime, people would travel to come stay are the lavish hotel, not it is home to the genealogy records.

4. Hopewell Museum- This is a place that holds different types of Kentucky/Paris artifacts throughout the year. It is a wonderful place to learn about the history of our founders.

5. Cane Ridge Shrine- This old building was once a congregation. People would cram into the small church that only held 500 but was over capacity every meeting to receive the word of the lord.

6. Stoner Creek Country Club/Golf Course- Bordering the Stoner Creek this country club has been around for many decades. It has held many special events throughout my life and will continue to do so.

7. Clintonville School- Although this school has been closed for nearly 35 years, it still stands. It serve the community with education for many years.

8. Garrard Park- The home of the local baseball leagues, the lead paint swing sets, the old army tank, and the most likely place to flood on raining days, thanks to the Stoner Creek that borders it.

9. Homers- Now call Jay's, Homers was the place to go after winning that baseball game. They had the best soft served ice cream and the greatest mini burgers.

10. Bourbon County Courthouse- With this being the original building that once served as our main courthouse until 2004, its beauty is breathtaking on the inside as well as out.

11. Legion Park- Where the fair takes place!

12. TB Hospital- A place that once helped people is now a potential harm for those around that area now.

13. Eye Ball bridge- an old covered bridge that is still standing and in use. The legend says, that on full moon nights there are sites of eye balls floating in the water below it.

14. Colonel- This symbol represents anyone that is a Bo Co alum. We stand proud yet divided from the "city school"

--- and if I am being fair---

15. Grayhound- This symbol represents those city folks!

16. The Barr house- this is anything but small house sits on Cypress Street. If there is snow on the ground you are on the Barr property using their hill. This hill has been blamed for many bumps, bruises, and breaks.

17. The Drive In- only 1 of 448 in the world, 1 of 356 in the United States, and 1 of 17 in Kentucky. This is the place where no first dates were allow.

18. Military School- Located in Millersburg, this is a private school that still produces well mannered and behaved children. After completion you can enter into the military and have a higher rank.

19. Railroad crossing on 15th- This use to be a train station (how cool). I can see it now, the people standing in line waiting to take the train across the state or country. It then became a restaurant that I use to go to as a child.

20. Louie's- This use to be a little hole in the wall restaurant that had the best hot browns, it has since been torn down due to the poor foundation that it was once standing on.

21. The tall building on 8th and Main- This is the worlds largest 3 story building. Yes, I know it is hard to believe but yes the largest in the world.

22. The cemetery on Castle- discovered on the early 1990's down the street from me. The graves date back to the early 1800's but no one knows anything about them. For us growing up next to it, we use to have Halloween parties and scavenger hunts there.

23. The old JC Penny's building- This is an old building downtown on Main Street that has served many purposes. It use to be a department store where I would shop at as a little child, to a place that I use to attend gymnastics classes at call CATS, to a boutique store that my best friend worked at, to now a wedding rental company.

---last but not least---

24. Ken's- the locally owned grocery store that has the best donuts that are freshly made every morning. These are requested even by Lexingtonian's every fieldtrip morning!

So I did it! Paris is full of many beautiful places. It makes me smile from ear to ear knowing that I am from Paris. Paris is where I was raised as a child and where I plan to raise my own children. I hope that these beauties continue to stand strong so my children’s' children can enjoy these forgotten beauties in Paris.