

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH 9113 \*\* DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JUL 22 1975  
DATE ENTERED SEP 2 1975

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Downtown Versailles Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

Same

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Versailles

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

06

STATE

Kentucky

— VICINITY OF

CODE

021

COUNTY

Woodford

CODE

230 239

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER: Library

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Multiple private and public owners

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Woodford County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Versailles

STATE

Kentucky

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky (Supplement)

DATE

1974

— FEDERAL  STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Downtown Versailles Historic District consists of both sides of Main Street from Morgan Street at the south, including the Dean House on the corner of Morgan and Main, north to the Woodford County Senior Citizens Building on the eastern side of Main and the William Baker Building on the western side of Main. The district is also to encompass the three sides of the Courthouse Square, known as Court Street.

The focal point of this district is the Woodford County Courthouse, built in 1970 after a fire that destroyed the handsome post-Civil War courthouse. Behind the Courthouse is the jail and jailer's quarters. The Public Library is located on Main half a block north of the courthouse. On the corner of Morgan and Main Streets is the Versailles Municipal building, one block south of the Courthouse.

At the southern boundary is one of the oldest hotelries in Versailles, known in the late 19th century as the Dean House. The Woodford Hotel, erected in 1880 north of the courthouse, was its main rival and survives in rundown condition.

The remaining structures in the area are industrial, commercial, or professional in use and still constitute the central business district of Versailles. (Lexington Street remains a commercial cross axis, but has many incompatible intrusions east of Main Street.)

South of Morgan Street, the southern terminus of the district, lies the old Versailles cemetery at the junction of Macey and South Main. To the east of Main Street is a largely residential area including many fine houses soon to be recommended as a separate historic district. West of the Main Street area runs the stream in a shallow valley now mostly occupied by Big Spring City Park and the City Waterworks. Earlier development at the southwest and northwest corners of the district has been replaced by parking lots, gas stations, and supermarkets. At the north is the junction of the Frankfort and several other roads, as well as the L & N railroad line.

The land slopes up gently northward from Morgan and steeply from the Big Spring area toward the courthouse. The town was laid out as a grid adjacent to the Big Springs, north of the Courthouse Public Square at the junction of Main and Lexington, although not interrupting either vista.

Descriptions of individual structures are combined with their background in number 8.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW					
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

1880s

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Downtown Versailles Historic District is characterized by a large number of vigorous late nineteenth-century storefronts and is similar to other downtown commercial areas in the Bluegrass region of central Kentucky dating from the same period of construction; these include the county seats in surrounding counties, Georgetown in Scott County, Lexington in Fayette County, Richmond in Madison County, and Frankfort, Franklin County. The topography, the location of the Courthouse to one side of the main axis, the radial diffusion of roads at the ends of the vistas--all are features shared in some degree by these other neighboring county seats, yet the particular combination in Versailles leads to a distinctive identity.

The significance is both historical--as one of the oldest towns in central Kentucky--and architectural. A series of fires in the 1880s and in 1896 destroyed virtually all the older Main Street buildings, resulting, as in Georgetown, in a concentration of storefronts dating to the late 19th century, several of considerable intrinsic merit.

The District is within the oldest section of Versailles. The corporation limits of the town were set in 1792 extending 660 yards in every direction from the Courthouse, thus forming a circle superimposed on the grid. (See early maps attached). - not within

Versailles is situated in the middle of Woodford County, the ninth county to be formed before the entry of the state of Kentucky into the Union in 1792. Versailles was named by General Marquis Calmes, a native of Virginia and a noted Revolutionary War soldier, who assisted in laying out the town. He named it after the city in France but the word is pronounced "Vur-sales" and, commented one local historian, "has never been Frenchified, other than by outsiders."

Twelve miles west of Lexington and fourteen miles southeast of Frankfort in the heart of Bluegrass country, the land around Versailles is gently undulating and has proved excellent for growing burley, tobacco, hemp, corn, oats, wheat, rye, barley, and grazing fine thoroughbred horses. Thus the town, although never large, was an important trading center in its early days. Between 1792 and 1835, it was the only incorporated town in Woodford County, which meant settlers had to go either to Versailles, Lexington, or Frankfort to lay in for supplies and to sell their goods. From a population of 172 in the 1800s, the city grew to 1,407 by 1870.

(continued)

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Woodford County Deed Books.

Woodford Sun. July, 1971.

Collins, Lewis. History of Kentucky. Maysville: By the author, 1847.

Railey, William E. History of Woodford County. Frankfort: Roberts Printing Co., 1938.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approx. 25 acres

UTM REFERENCES

CE. 16/699130/4213720

DF. 16/699130/4213780

EG. 16/699060/4213790

FH. 16/699040/4214000

C X 1,6 | 6,9,9 | 1,6,0 | 4,2 | 1,4 | 0,0,0

H B 1,6 | 6,9,9 | 1,7,0 | 4,2 | 1,3 | 9,6,0

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

A X 1,6 | 6,9,9 | 2,0,0 | 4,2 | 1,3 | 9,6,0

E B 1,6 | 6,9,9 | 1,7,0 | 4,2 | 1,3 | 7,2,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

UTM OF 16/699040/4214000

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Abbie S. Brown

G. M.

ORGANIZATION

DATE

March, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

Route #3

TELEPHONE

875-3067

CITY OR TOWN

Versailles

STATE

Kentucky

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

SIGNATURE

Eldred W. Melton

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

7-14-75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Ernest A. Connally

DATE

8-2-75

Assistant Director, Professional Services

ATTEST:

Charles H. Harrington

DATE

8-29-75

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Acting

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Downtown Versailles Historic District

Through the years, the demands of population, industrial growth, proximity to a rapidly expanding Lexington have had their effect on the town. Parking lots, new business establishments, subdivisions have altered old Versailles. The downtown area, however, has been able to maintain its charm and architectural unity.

The buildings are mostly brick and vary from two to three stories. There is some variety in styles of architecture but the overwhelming majority are late Victorian. Starting from the north end of town they include the following:

Block A (East side of Main, nos. 1-3)

(1) (photo 1 and 2) The structure presently housing the Woodford County Senior Citizens' Center has three stories with a peaked gable over the center bay. The front wall projects slightly forward from its neighbor, the Woodford Hotel, but acknowledges it with a handsome castiron column with Corinthian capital supporting one corner of the facade. The universal fenestration of the upper stories is emphasized by rugged stone lintels.

(2) The handsome former Woodford Hotel (photo 2) was the first building erected in Versailles expressly for a hotel. It was designed by P. J. Lunden of Lexington for a Major Stitt. The brick facade has three tall stories and an attic. The building contained 26 rooms, 18 of which were bedrooms. The first floor boasted an office, reading room, dining room, reception room, bar, and baggage room. On the second floor was a parlor, bridal chamber, and bedrooms. All of the third floor was devoted to bedrooms. The building is seven bays in width, with elegantly restrained cornices and window detail.

The center section, three bays in width, is slightly recessed from the two-bayed end units. Triangular pedimented hoodmolds accent the third floor bays with segmental arched molds over the windows at the second floor. The cornice is supported by single and coupled Italianate brackets. Over what is now the main entrance is a shallow portico with elaborate supports. The "Federal" fan doors are not original but were altered when the hotel was remodeled during the 20th century. The two entranceways in the central section are recessed and separated by an original arched window. The ground level detail on the west end was removed for a modern store front and office (Trading Post). Bolivar Bonds Sons Real Estate occupy offices in the middle unit. The 2nd and 3rd floors are rented as rooms.

In September 6, 1889, the Woodford Sun commented on the Woodford Hotel: "quiet, attentive servants take (the traveler's) luggage and usher him up to a room furnished with modern

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Downtown Versailles Historic District (cont.)

furniture and hung with the cheerfulest paper. The counterpane is speckless... fresh towels are in abundance... a servant answers every touch of an electric bell. Then he goes down to the airy dining room and is served with a good old Kentucky meal." (Woodford Sun, July, 1971)

(3) The McCauley Building (photo 1) was constructed in 1879 by Johnson Miller on the site of the old Shelton Tavern, a rival of Watkins Tavern, then one block away. Originally the Neo-Romanesque building had the doorway located in the cylindrical base of the tower facing the corner toward the courthouse at the junction of Main and Lexington Streets. In 1968 a fire destroyed the old slate cupola. The upstairs windows have been bricked in to reduce their size. The machicolated cornice, rusticated stone trim and semicircular ventilator openings (a late adaptation of the earlier convention) must once have contributed to a bold effect.

Block B (West Side of North Main) 4-8

(4) On the west side of Main slightly north of the Woodford County Senior Citizens Building and the Woodford Hotel is the William F. Baker Building (Photo 3), two-story, three bays in width, with a stone band above the second floor windows. It was constructed in 1898 and originally housed Woodward's Dry Goods Store.

(5) R. H. Hobbs Store, two-story, with the upper portion painted white, occupies the adjacent building. The windows are widely spaced with wide stone lintels. A concave half-moon pediment is centered above the bracketed cornice.

(6) The very imposing and massive Logan Helm-Woodford County Public Library (photo 3 and 4) was constructed in 1907. Money for the completion of the building was donated by Margaret C. Logan in the name of her nephew. The building was designed by Copland & Dale of Lexington in the full-blown Beaux-Arts manner. Splendid in conception, it is somewhat weak in execution. An engaged, unfluted Ionic portico in the lettered frieze and close-spaced balustrade above, is superimposed on a facade whose fenestration has a cluttered and unconvincing functional expression. The exaggerated width of the central bay is hardly compensated for by minuscule colonettes that flank the central lunette which is extended laterally into an implied Palladian window. The entrances in the outer bays are heavier in effect, with a richly carved pediment placed with the thermal opening whose keystone in turn serves as the central bracket for the windows above. Heavy swags reinforce this ambiguity, which contrasts with the frank and unadorned band of mullioned windows that

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Downtown Versailles Historic District (cont.)

light the reading-room on the upper story. Nevertheless, the overall effect is of an almost overwhelming monumentality in the context of the smaller scale of adjoining buildings.

(7) The older facade of the United Bank & Trust Company building (photo 3) is undistinguishable because of its modern facing. The bank was organized in 1890 as the Harris Seller Bank by Nat Harris, Thomas Seller, and James Smith. The older building burned in 1895 and was rebuilt in 1896.

(8) On the corner of Court Street and Main is the Woodford Bank and Trust Company (photo 3) building, occupied by the third oldest banking concern in Kentucky. It was founded in 1852 as a branch of the Commerce Bank of Kentucky and was located on the corner of Main and Morgan in the Dean House. It acquired its present name in 1909, the same year an older building on the present site was located. In 1926, the present building was constructed of limestone block.

Block C (Courthouse) 9

(9) The Courthouse (photo 5) which dominated the Main Street commercial district is of recent construction (1965). It was on this same site that the original 1793 log courthouse was built, to be replaced in 1812 by one of stone. Approximately thirteen years later a larger brick building was constructed which burned in 1965.

The present courthouse is three-stories, brick, 11 bays in width. There is a central entrance--double-doored with a large multi-paned arched window above. The roof is shallow pitched with two chimneys on each end. A narrow cupola caps the roof with a clock on the lower section. The building is trimmed on the end with stone quoins.

The most distinct feature is the Greek Revival portico extending to the second floor, the stone porch rising to meet the six Ionic columns. The pediment trim is denticulated, matching the cornice of the main block and the two-layered pedistal of the cupola. A wrought-iron railing encloses the portico and the two leveled stone stairway leading down from both sides of the portico. A decorative swag accents the pediment.

Block D (10-15)

Adjacent to the Woodford Bank and Trust Company but facing south toward Court Street is the two-story brick building, painted white housing the (10) Rouse, Rouse, and Hellard Law Offices (photo 6). It was built by Joseph & John Kinekead prior to 1811. The Woodford Weekly (present Woodford Sun) was published here on the second floor from 1872-86. In 1930

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Downtown Versailles Historic District (cont.)

the structure was remodeled at which time hewn ash timbers were found, joined by wooden pegs.

The house was later sold to Colvin P. Rouse, Sr., who quarters his law firm there.

(11) Continuing around the curve is Versailles Methodist Church (photo 7) facing east toward Main Street. The modern education building is to the church's side, adjacent to the Rouse law office. The church building represents an enlargement of a 1923 brick structure. The facade and steeple were added and the sanctuary lengthened by 55 feet.

Between the church and education building is located a landscaped area which extends into the Big Spring Park to the rear of the Church.

(12) This two-story brick house, painted white was built in 1902 and is now used for the county jail. (photo 8)

(13) The Range Building (photo 9) is two-stories, brick with facade painted white and has been extensively remodeled. In the past it has been used by the city of Versailles for offices and the fire department. Note iron bars on the second floor, right windows--where the old city courtroom and holdover were located.

Facing the south side of the courthouse are two buildings now owned by the city--the (14) Brown House (photo 10) and adjacent to it, (15) a house occupied by the Versailles Police Department. The exact date of construction of the Brown House has not been established. However, it is known that the present structure was standing in 1847 when it was purchased by Harriet Isett. In 1858 the house was sold to D. L. Thornton in whose family it remained until 1920, when it was bought by Edman Brown.

It is thought that the 1896 fire which caused extensive damage to Main Street also did damage to the Brown house, which could possibly explain the house's present odd proportions. The windows are not centered on the facade, giving the east end the appearance that it has been "cut short." It is two-stories, four bays in width, brick laid in Flemish bond. The original doorway and windows have been altered, the old sashes were found in the basement.

In 1974, the property was acquired by the City of Versailles. (15) The brick building adjoining the Brown House was constructed sometime after 1878 as it is mentioned as having a

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Downtown Versailles Historic District

"common wall" with the Brown House when the Brown House was bought by Edman Brown in 1920. In the 1910s, the building was used as a rooming house, and known as "Sweeny House." In 1935, the first floor was converted to a doctor's office, the second floor continued to be used as a residence. Since 1960, it has been used primarily for office space. In 1974, the house was purchased by the City of Versailles.

Block E (East side of Main, 16-22)

(16) At the north end of the block is a two-story building which dates to the 1880s. A fire in 1962 resulted in extensive alterations and the removal of the cupola. (photo 12)

(17-20) The next four buildings (photo 13) are all of approximately 1880 construction, brick, two-stories. Although the group presents an even roofline and the second floor windows are at exact levels, the detail of each exterior differs. The hoodmolds and cornice work are all very distinct with the attic windows varying from very small rectangular openings to round, to larger rectangular to the slightly arched.

(21) The more elaborate three-story Masonic Hall (photo 14 and 15) was built in 1881 with Governor Luke P. Blackburn attending the ceremonies. The first floor was occupied by the Lansberg Store, the second floor were Masonic meeting rooms and a ball room was located on the third floor. In the early 20th century the first floor was occupied by the Lyric Theatre.

Home Federal Savings and Loan occupies the first floor of the Masonic Hall and in the fall of 1974, restored their portion of the building. It is the climax of the Victorian architecture of the district. It rises a full story above its congenial Victorian neighbors and outdoes them in richness of ornament and rhythmic verve as well. Although some of the vivid effect of contrast between the original wall and stone trim has been lost by the closer-hued greenish tones of the present paint, the effect is still in keeping. The remodelled first floor, although closed, features window and door frames matching in outline those above.

The facade has two and a half stories above the first-story cast-iron piers and plain entablature. The second and third stories are each actually about the same height as the others on the block, but seem taller because they are linked vertically by the raised pediments of the alternating bays. The upper series of pediments alternate with the attic windows, which in turn pierce the paneled cornice between its Italianate brackets. The pediments of the second-story also interrupt the belt-course between floors. Furthermore, both second and third stories have continuous bands at the impost level that break and rise over the window openings; these have alternating triangular and segmental outlines on the second floor, triangular and round-arched on the third. All these features, both vertical

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Downtown Versailles Historic District (cont.)

and horizontal, are raised from the surface, which is further enlivened by keystones, brackets flanking the openings, and incised or embossed detail within the pediments. The overall effect is of an extraordinary syncopation that seems to pull together the varying elements of the street facades around it into a dramatic or symphonic fortissimo.

Beyond it to the south both the slope of the street and the architectural elaboration of the facades declines, although the somewhat later "J. Amsden & Co." block on the opposite corner, before it was deprived of its cupola, must have provided some competition. Here the rough stone trim on the still-unpainted brick surfaces has a bolder character. The contrasting round and rectangular openings are fewer in number than on the earlier building, and are here grouped by stone lintels, sills, and impost courses to emphasize the horizontal rather than the vertical except at the corner entrance.

(22) Harberson's Furniture Store was built in 1881 and operated then as a Dry Goods Store. It is six bays in width, two-stories of brick painted white. There is a denticulated cornice with six small rectangular attic windows underneath. (photo 15)

Block F (23-<sup>28</sup>) (see 8/20/75 letter with)

(23) C & D Market (photo 16) which has been a grocery since its construction in 1877. It is brick, two-stories, with close-set windows extending the front width and "rounded" side. The grocery is noted as having the last cupola left on the older downtown buildings.

(24) The 1891 building containing a beauty shop and florist is two-stories, brick with denticulated cornice, four bays on the second floor, with four circular attic windows underneath.

(25) The Woodford Sun Building was constructed in 1891 on the site of the old Macey Stables which had burned. Newspaper offices were located on the second floor with a merchant-tailor and a grocery/meat market on the first floor. It is two-storied with heavy stone lintels above the second floor bays. The architects were Aldenberg & Scott of Lexington. One section is presently vacant.

(26) The Bogess Jewelry Store was constructed 1890-95 and, has a paired bay united by stone lintels above and below the windows.

(27) The Holly Forkner Real Estate is a late 19th century building with three windows in its second story, accented by stone lintels.

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(28) On the corner of Main and Morgan is City Hall built on a site originally occupied by a Blacksmith Shop and a Carriage Manufacturing Shop (1839). The older structure burned and another was constructed in 1892 and used for several years as a trade school. In 1920, the present building was constructed by the U. S. Government as a Post Office. Since 1968 it had been the Versailles Municipal Building. It is a standard Beaux Art design executed in brick with a recessed portico.

Block G (29-34)

Across from Block F, on the south side of Main Street, adjacent to the Courthouse Square is a group of buildings all dating to the post 1880 period. A fire swept the block in the early 1880s and burned the entire block from Court Street to Morgan.

(29) The Old Amsden Bank Building (photo 17) is a large two-story brick Victorian structure with its entrance on the corner of Main and Court Streets. It was built in 1889 for J. Amsden & Company. The architect was Aldenberg and Scott and the builders, Naive and Dawson. It was first occupied by D. B. Price Grocery Company and a banking concern.

The building is on the site of the Old Watkins Tavern owned by the mother and step-father of Henry Clay. The Tavern was destroyed in the 1880s fire. It was a stone building, constructed under the supervision of Thomas Metcalfe, later governor of Kentucky. It was here Lafayette stopped for a banquet in 1825 and from its second story balcony addressed the gathered crowd.

The Court Street side of the former Bank Building has three distinct sections, separated on the second story by stone quoins. The two sections on either end on the top story have large arched windows with a long stone bank linking the five windows in the mid-section on ground level. The Main Street facade has a similar large arched window with 6 smaller arched windows on the southern end.

(30) The Haymond Building (photo 17) was first occupied January 1, 1897 by Taylor and Son and is a two-story brick structure, with the only oriel window on Main Street. Half-moon attic windows accent the paired windows on either side of the oriel. A fifth attic window is high above the oriel, directly underneath the gable in the roofline.

(31) The J. S. Minary Hardware Store (photo 18) has been used since its construction in 1881 for a hardware store. It is two-story brick, three bays in width with the segmental cornice interrupted by the semi-circular pediment.

(32) This building was occupied during the early part of this century by D. R. Duell Funeral  
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Home. The embalming room remains in the basement. It is a tall slender building with Corinthian fluting along the end pilasters. There is a large triple window centered on the second floor. It is also used as a hardware store.

(33) Constructed in 1891 for Miss Jo Carter, the storefront a heavy, denticulated cornice over the three elliptical attic windows.

(34) The Gay Law Office was built in 1891 and occupied by Theodore Kessler's store. The building is two-stories with rough stone lintels above and under the three second floor bays.

On the corner of the block is a gasoline service station.

Block H (No. 35)

Across the street from the service station, on the corner of Main and Morgan, is the old Dean House (photo 19) or as it was more commonly known as the Woodford House.

It was built in 1852 probably for a residence. From 1853-1871, the house was occupied by Commerical Bank of Kentucky and later Commercial Bank of Versailles. In 1877, the building was sold to G. Y. Neal and used by the Dean family as a residence. Within eight years it was repurchased by Mrs. Martha Dean and became known as the W. R. Dean Boarding House.

Testifying to the fine food and lodging was this article appearing in the Woodford Sun in 1904:

"Most of the Sun's readers know all about the fine cuisine of Mr. Dean's hotel, how different it was from all other hotel fare, being typical of the good living in the fine old fashioned homes of the Bluegrass. Mr. Dean would have made lots more money if he hadn't fed his guests so high." The "matchless country ham, pie and greens, fine bread and superior old fashioned Kentucky dishes" appeared well-known to all area residents.

Unfortunately, Dean ran into financial difficulties and closed his hotel, but later opened it as a restaurant.

The mid-19th century house is a rambling two-story building with a long gallery stretching the length of the facade. It is brick, two-story, and has hipped roof with a gable centered on the Morgan side of the house. The cornice work visible on the Main Street (continued)

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8

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side leads one to suspect the porch with railing is a later addition.

The Downtown Versailles Historic District is an extremely charming part of the city, with a definite charm and unity resulting from a similar period of construction and style of architecture, although varied by the Beaux Arts Library and Municipal Building.

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Downtown Versailles Historic District, Woodford County, Kentucky, Building No. 30

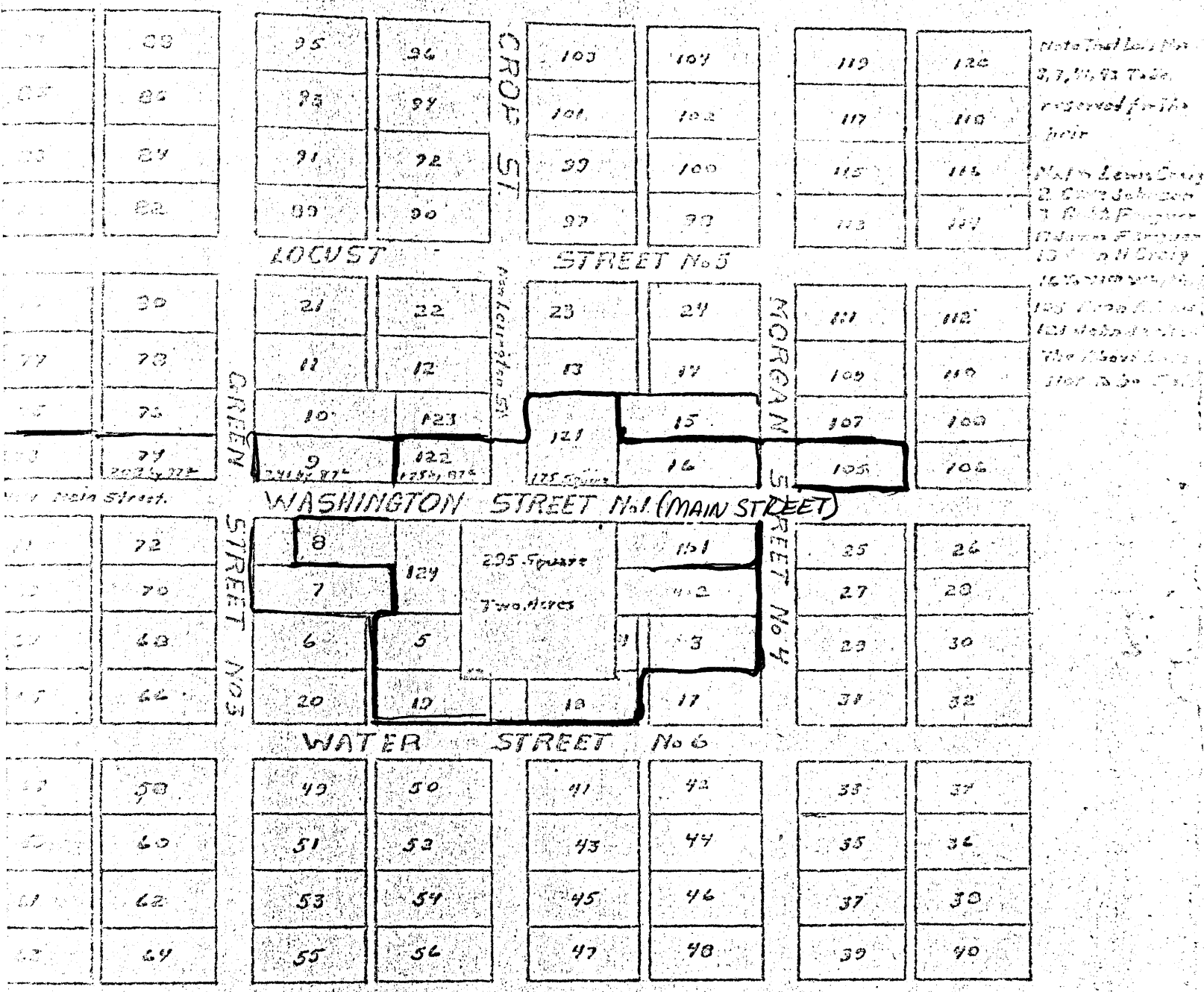
CONTINUATION SHEET

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In the 1880's, a fire in downtown Versailles resulted in extensive damage to the Washington (now Main) Street buildings. After the fire, J. Amsden built the bank on the corner of Main and Court Streets and the adjacent building on Main Street. Date of construction of both structures is believed to be 1889. It is not known, however, if the architect for the bank building, Aldenberg and Scott, also designed the other Amsden building.

Although at first glance unobtrusive, this facade (Building No. 30) is distinctive, whether through the designer's (or builder's) naivete or his sophistication, would be hard to say. The strong horizontals of rough-surfaced stone parallel those of the adjacent Amsden Building, although at markedly different levels. The bands linking the two groups of three round-arched windows on the second story split in the center over the raised checkerboard-brick entrance feature between the plain castiron shopfronts. The finely-laid Roman brick voussoirs of the second-story arches reappear over the lancet-like third-floor openings, coupled over the central space below, which with their continuous corbelled sill evoke a medieval fortification. The overall effect is both stolid as a whole and playful in detail.

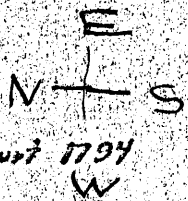
Lots 43, 44, 51, 52, 15 One Acre The whole Plat both Streets & Lanes - 1757-8 by 1758 which make 80 Acres. The Content of The Town at Present May 10th 1793



Lots Nos. 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 15  
 by 87. The other Lots in The Farm  
 reserved on The Main N & S  
 lot is 208 by 87 only

John A. Craig  
 Lot 175714

The Streets are 66' wide to The Alleys 16' The Public  
 Square Contain being 295 Foot Square. The Main N & S  
 Lot is 208-0 by 101-4



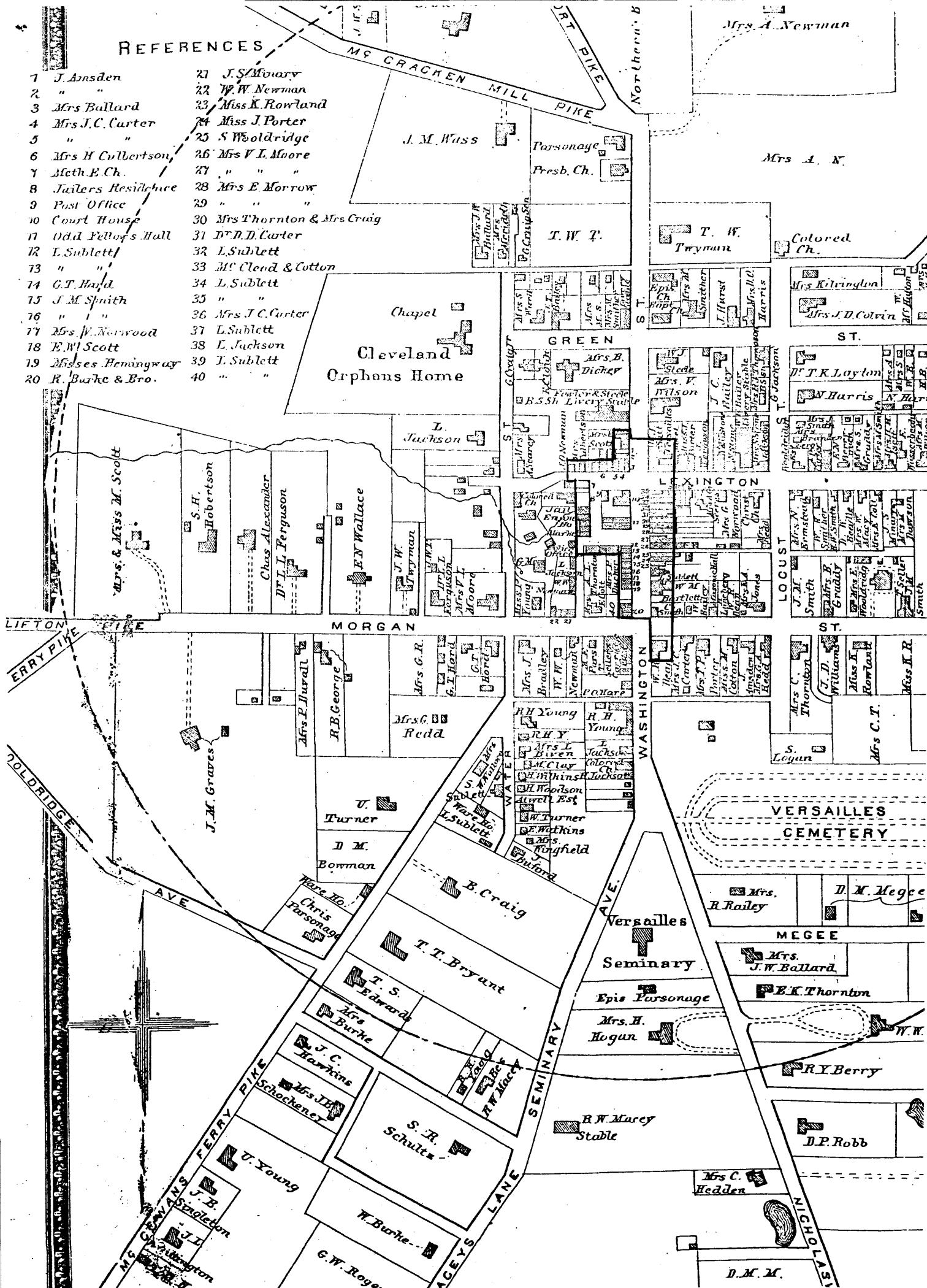
Madison County March Court 1794

This Plan and Draft of The Town of Versailles was Produced in Court and ordered to be  
 recorded

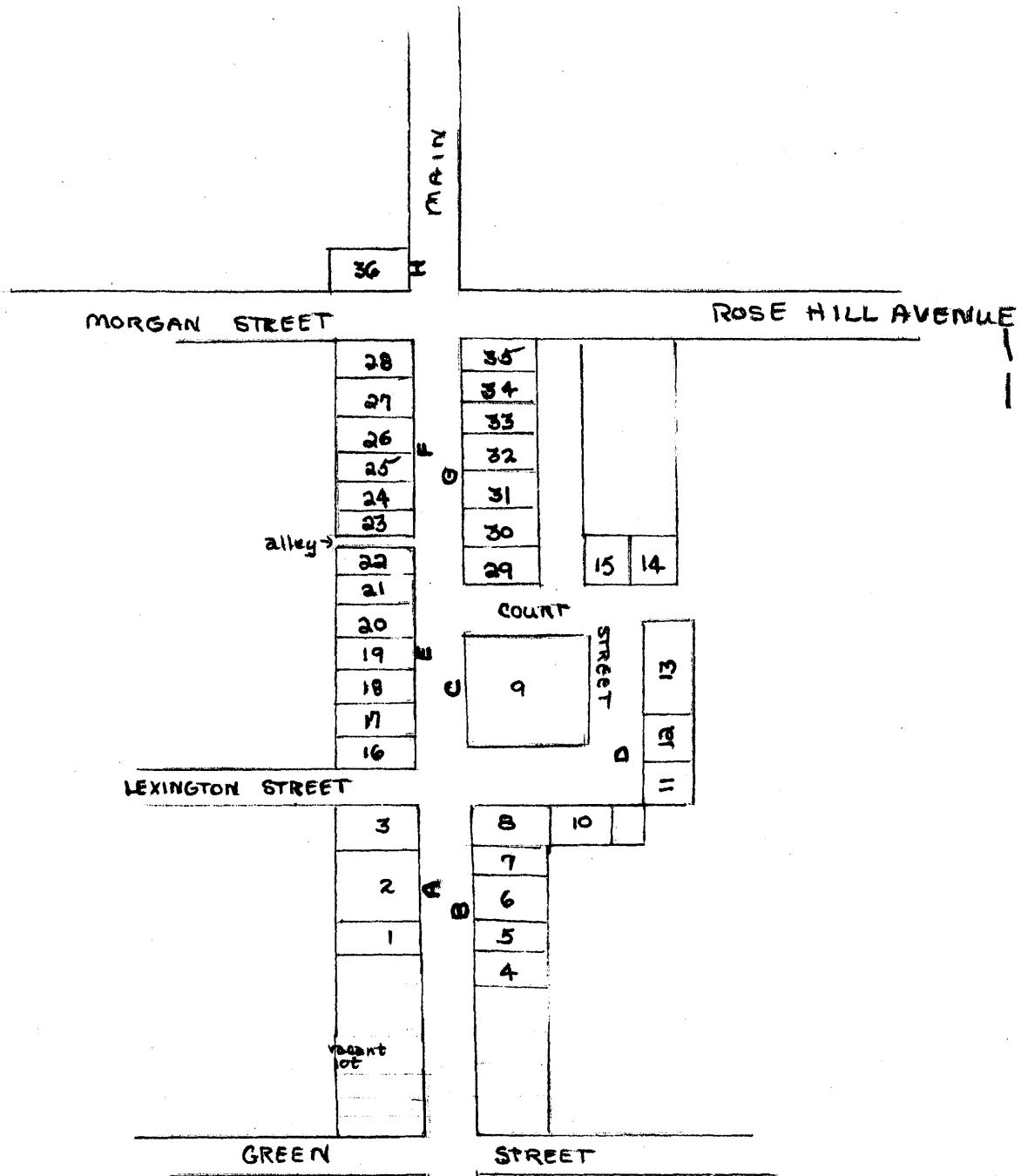
Tested Cave Johnson CWC.

REFERENCES

- |                     |                             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 J. Ansdan         | 21 J. S. Minory             |
| 2 " "               | 22 W. W. Newman             |
| 3 Mrs Bullard       | 23 Miss K. Rowland          |
| 4 Mrs J. C. Carter  | 24 Miss J. Porter           |
| 5 " "               | 25 S. Weoldridge            |
| 6 Mrs H. Culbertson | 26 Mrs V. I. Moore          |
| 7 Meth. E. Ch.      | 27 " " "                    |
| 8 Tailors Residence | 28 Mrs E. Morrow            |
| 9 Post Office       | 29 " " "                    |
| 10 Court House      | 30 Mrs Thornton & Mrs Craig |
| 11 Odd Fellows Hall | 31 D. D. D. Carter          |
| 12 L. Sublett       | 32 L. Sublett               |
| 13 " "              | 33 M. Cleand & Cotton       |
| 14 G. T. Hurd       | 34 L. Sublett               |
| 15 J. M. Smith      | 35 " "                      |
| 16 " "              | 36 Mrs J. C. Carter         |
| 17 Mrs W. Norwood   | 37 L. Sublett               |
| 18 E. W. Scott      | 38 L. Jackson               |
| 19 Misses Hemingway | 39 L. Sublett               |
| 20 R. Burke & Bro.  | 40 " "                      |







Downtown Versailles Historic District

- Block A 1 - 3
- B 4 - 8
- C 9
- D 10 - 15
- E 16 - 22
- F 23 - 28
- G 29 - 35
- H 36

