

MULTIPLE NOMINATION HISTORIC DISTRICT SUMMARY FORM

88001815

MRA/THEMATIC NOMINATION TITLE: Historic Resources of Hardin County - Partial Inventory

HISTORIC DISTRICT NAME: Vine Grove Historic District

AUG 26 1988

OWNER OF PROPERTY: Multiple Ownership

(On Continuation Sheets list all properties by address which are included within the district and provide the names and addresses of their owners.)

DESCRIPTION:

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

(Use Continuation Sheets)

SIGNIFICANCE

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates Ca. 1870-Ca. 1935 **Builder/Architect** N/A

Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)

(Use Continuation Sheets)

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of nominated property Approx. 3 acres

Quadrangle name Vine Grove

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	6	5	8	9	3	9	0	4	1	8	5	0	7	5
Zone	East	ing			North	ing								

B

1	6	5	8	9	5	4	0	4	1	8	5	0	3	0
Zone	East	ing			North	ing								

C

1	6	5	8	9	3	9	0	4	1	8	4	9	9	0
Zone	East	ing			North	ing								

D

1	6	5	8	9	5	8	0	4	1	8	4	9	7	0
Zone	East	ing			North	ing								

E

Zone	East	ing			North	ing								

F

Zone	East	ing			North	ing								

G

Zone	East	ing			North	ing								

H

Zone	East	ing			North	ing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

(Use Continuation Sheets)

DISTRICT MAPS ATTACHED:

1. District Boundary Map Showing Contributing & Noncontributing Properties.
2. District Map Showing Location & Direction of Numbered Photographs.

Vine Grove Historic District

Description

The Vine Grove Historic District is composed of 21 commercial and residential buildings in the downtown area of Vine Grove, Kentucky. The buildings are primarily of brick construction and one to three stories in height. Most structures were built prior to 1925 in vernacular commercial forms of the period. Of the 21 buildings in the district 18 are contributing and 3 are non-contributing. The majority of non-contributing structures are pre-1930 buildings which have been significantly altered. All structures in the district are used for commercial purposes.

The area encompassed by the district is along Main Street in a small valley between low hills. The area is bounded on the east by the Seaboard Line Railroad tracks and on the north, west and south by residential areas. Within the district are ca. 1940 concrete sidewalks and ca. 1980 brick sidewalks and wooden street lights.

The buildings in the district are primarily vernacular commercial designs of the late 19th and early 20th century. While several have original cast iron columns on the storefront and sheet metal decoration on the upper facade, the majority are relatively simple designs with minimal detailing. Most buildings are brick construction with uniform setback, scale and height. With only a few exceptions the original storefronts have been altered or replaced with modern materials. Several of the upper facades have also been altered with new materials and enclosed windows. Despite these changes the district retains its original character and setting and are collectively one of the largest concentrations of historic commercial architecture in the county.

1. 104 W. Main St. - Two story hollow core concrete block building constructed in 1909 following fire of 1908. Upper facade has one-over-one sash windows. (C)
2. 106-108 W. Main St. - Ca. 1910, two-story brick building. Altered storefront but upper facade retains original arched one-over-one sash windows. (C)
3. 110-112 W. Main St. - Two story brick building constructed in 1950. (NC)
4. 114 W. Main St. - Ca. 1910, two-story brick building. The storefront has been altered but the upper story details are visible. These include one-over-one sash windows with stone lintels and brick corbelling at the roofline. (C)
5. 116-118 W. Main St. - Built in 1909, this two-story building has been altered with a new storefront and blocked in second story windows. Above the windows are stone lintels and there are rectangular panels below the roofline. In the center of the upper facade is a concrete date panel. At the roofline is a corbelled brick cornice. (C)
6. 120 W. Main St. - One-story building with and added stone facade. (NC)
7. 123 W. Main St. - Two-story brick building with a ca. 1970 added facade. (NC)
8. 124 W. Main St. - Ca. 1910, one-story brick building with minimal detailing

and altered storefront. (C)

9. 126 W. Main St. - Oates General Store: Two-story frame building with a pressed metal facade to resemble stone blocks. Built ca. 1900, this two-story building has been altered on its storefront but retains its upper facade detailing. On the second story are original two-over-two sash windows and a decorative sheet metal cornice. This building housed the Oates General Store during much of the early 20th century. (C)

10. 127 W. Main St. - Two-story brick building constructed in 1909. The building has an altered storefront with new glass and doors. Dividing the two floors is a rusticated stone belt course. The upper facade windows have been replaced with louvered windows. At the roofline is a corbelled brick cornice and concrete date panel. (C)

11. 200-204 W. Main St. - Howell and Nelson Druggists: Ca. 1883, two-story brick building. The storefront retains its original doors, transoms and metal canopy. On the upper facade are arched one-over-one sash windows with brick hood molding. At the roofline is a corbelled brick cornice. The building was constructed as a drugstore for Howell and Nelson with dentist J.R. Hopkins occupying the second floor. (C)

12. 201 W. Main St. - Carter Brothers General Merchandise: Two-story brick building constructed ca. 1900. The storefront has been altered and recessed but retains original cast iron pilasters. On the second story are one-over-one sash windows with decorative sheet metal hood molding. At the roofline is a corbelled brick belt course and ornate sheet metal cornice. Built to house the Carter Brothers General Merchandise Store and presently the City Hall. (C)

13. 205 W. Main St. - Two-story frame late Queen Anne style residence constructed ca. 1905 and built in a Tee-plan. The exterior has added tile siding on the second floor with original fish scale shingles and weatherboard siding on the first story. On the south and east facades is a one-story porch with Doric porch posts. House retains original one-over-one sash windows and main entrance has double doors and transoms. (C)

14. 206 W. Main St. - Two-story frame building constructed ca. 1883 with a pressed metal upper facade. The original storefront has been replaced with a modern brick design. Original two-over-two sash windows remain on the upper facade along with a decorative sheet metal cornice applied to the parapet. (C)

15. 208 W. Main St. - Palace Restaurant: Ca. 1883, two-story brick building. Altered storefront with extended bay. On the upper facade are four-over-four arched sash windows and a corbelled brick cornice. This building originally housed the Palace Restaurant. (C)

16. 212 W. Main St. - One-story brick building with a stucco exterior, ca. 1925. One storefront has been altered while other has original structural glass. Stepped parapet at the roofline. (C)

17. 213 W. Main St. - One-story commercial building constructed ca. 1910. Storefront is presently enclosed with plywood panels. Exterior has weatherboard siding and four-over-four sash windows and a gable roof. (C)

18. 214-16 W. Main St. - One story brick building constructed as the "Service Garage Company, 1920." The storefront has been altered with the original garage bays enclosed with glass display windows. Upper facade retains original rectangular and glazed brick decoration. At the roofline is a stepped and pedimented parapet. (C)

19. 217 W. Main St. - One-story frame commercial building constructed ca. 1910. Building retains its original storefront with large display windows, transoms and double doors. The storefront also has a ca. 1970 frame canopy. The exterior frame has been covered with composition siding. (C)

20. 218 W. Main St. - One-story brick building with a stucco exterior built ca. 1930. (C)

21. 219-221 W. Main St. - Two-story frame commercial building with an added composition paper exterior. The building has a gable roof and four-over-four sash windows. On the east and west facades is original pressed metal siding to resemble stone. The second story extends slightly over the first story porch. Built ca. 1910. (C)

Significance

The Vine Grove Historic District is a notable collection of late 19th and early 20th century residential and commercial architecture. The district is significant under criterion C for its architectural character and under criterion A for its role in the commercial history of northern Hardin County. The district represents one of the few groupings of historic commercial architecture in Hardin County and was significant from the late 19th century until the early 1930s.

For many years Vine Grove was the second largest town in the county and its commercial area reflects its character when it was a commercial center of the region. The district contains 18 contributing and 3 non-contributing brick and frame structures constructed prior to 1930. Most buildings were constructed between 1900 and 1930 along Main Street adjacent to the railroad tracks and station. While alterations have occurred to many of the storefronts, most upper facades remain unaltered.

The community of Vine Grove was originally founded on Otter Creek in 1850. When the Illinois Central Railroad was being built in the 1860s the small settlement moved approximately one mile to the east to be astride the railroad line. By 1900 Vine Grove was an important commercial center of the northern part of the county with many stores locating along Main Street. Fires destroyed much of the downtown area in 1905 and 1908 but property owners promptly rebuilt and many structures in the district date from 1909-1910.

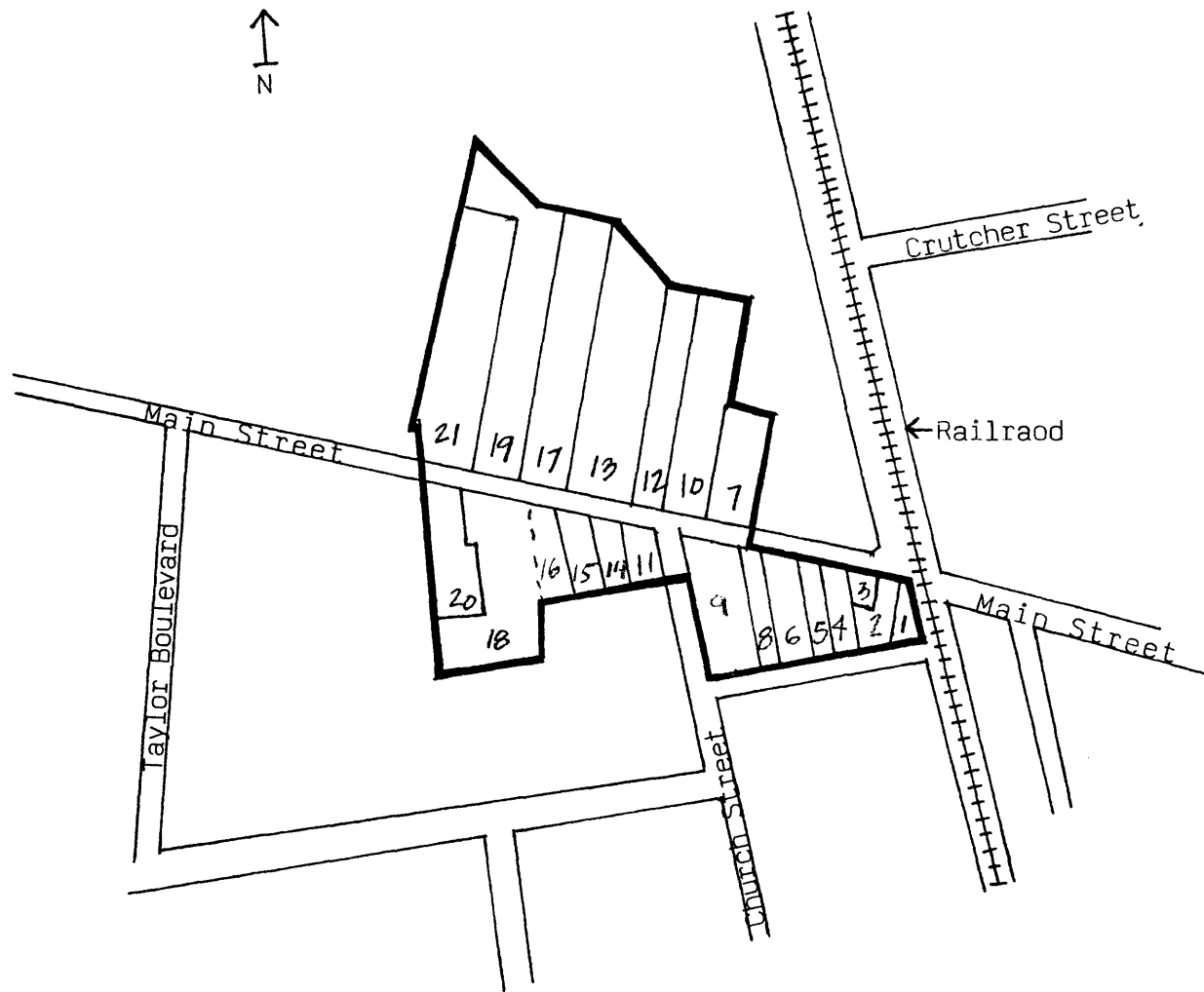
Important businesses of the early 20th century in Vine Grove included the Oates General Store, Palace Restaurant and Carter Brothers General Merchandise. The Farmer's Bank was also a major institution in the community. By 1920 the downtown area was comprised of over a dozen important brick and frame buildings which served the residents and farmers of this section of the county. The commercial area continued to thrive until the decline of freight and passenger traffic to the community in the 1930s. In recent decades the commercial area has been eclipsed by the prominence and growth of nearby

Radcliff. Today, the commercial area of Vine Grove is characterized by small shops which occupy the first floors of the buildings. Renovation of the Carter Brothers store into the City Hall has spurred new interest in this historic commercial area.

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

The boundary for the Vine Grove Historic District is shown as the dotted line on accompanying Hardin County tax map 118-4. The boundary includes the following lots: Block 2, lots 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44; Block 6, lots 5, 6, 7, 8; Block 7, lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9. This boundary is drawn to include all non-altered historic commercial buildings in the downtown section of Vine Grove. The district is bounded on the east by the Illinois Central Railroad tracks, on the north by a wooded ravine, and on the south and west by residential neighborhoods. The boundary includes sufficient property to protect the historical setting of the site.

Vine Grove Historic District
Vine Grove, Kentucky
Scale: 1"= 200'





- Non-contributing principal buildings

Vine Grove Historic District
Vine Grove, Kentucky
Scale: 1" = 200'

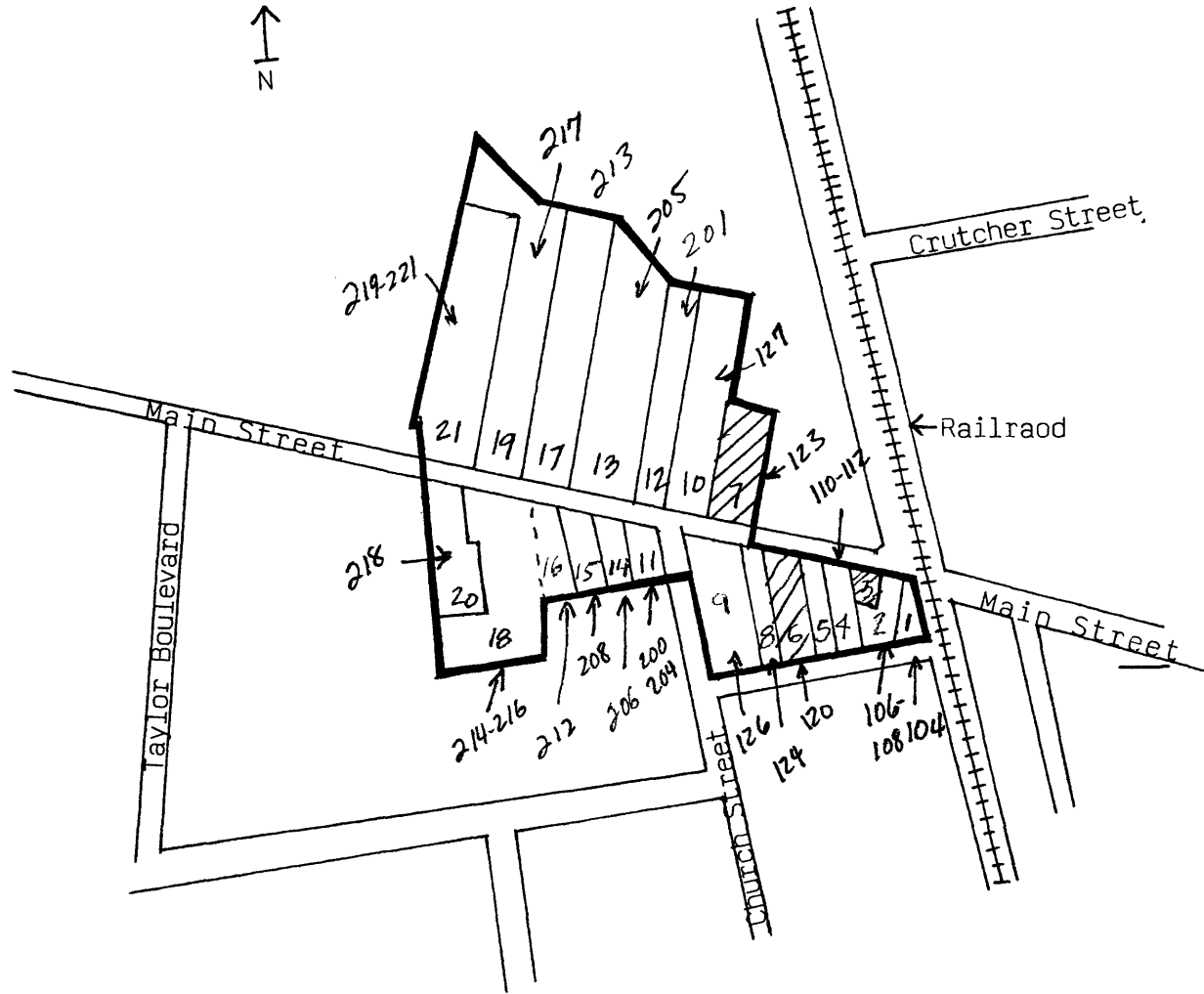


Photo Key
Vine Grove Historic District
Vine Grove, Kentucky
Scale: 1"= 200'

