

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

FEB 14 1994

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Auburn Historic District other names/site number N/A

2. Location Properties primarily along E. & W. Main, N. Lincoln, Perkins, Pearl, Caldwell, street & number Wilson, Maple, and Viers Streets. city, town Auburn state Kentucky code KY county Logan code 141 zip code 42206

3. Classification

Table with 3 columns: Ownership of Property, Category of Property, and Number of Resources within Property. Includes sub-rows for Contributing and Noncontributing resources.

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet. David L. Morgan, Executive Director/SHPO

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet. Signature of commenting or other official Date State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is: entered in the National Register. determined eligible for the National Register. determined not eligible for the National Register. removed from the National Register. other, (explain:) Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

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**Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)**DOMESTIC/single dwellingCOMMERCE/specialty storeRELIGION/religious facilityINDUSTRY/manufacturing facility**Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)**DOMESTIC/single dwellingCOMMERCE/specialty storeRELIGION/religious facilityDOMESTIC/multiple dwelling

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**7. Description**

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**Architectural Classification****(enter categories from instructions)**LATE 19th/EARLY 20th C.AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/  
Bungalow/CraftsmanLATE VICTORIAN/Other: One-story T-planLATE VICTORIAN/Other: Two-story T-plan**Materials (enter categories from instructions)****foundation** STONE/limestone**walls** WOOD/weatherboardBRICK**roof** ASPHALT**other** WOODBRICK

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**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

6. continued

COMMERCE/financial institution

DOMESTIC/hotel

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

SOCIAL/meeting hall

RELIGION/church-related residence

TRANSPORTATION/railroad

TRANSPORTATION/highway

INDUSTRY/manufacturing facility

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

TRANSPORTATION/railroad

TRANSPORTATION/highway

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. continued

MODERN MOVEMENT/Moderne

LATE 19th/20th C.REVIVALS/Neo-clasical Revival

LATE 19th /20th C.REVIVALS/Tudor Revival/English Cottage

LATE VICTORIAN/Other: Queen Anne Cottage

Materials Continued:

foundation: CONCRETE

Walls: STONE

METAL/aluminum

SYNTHETICS/vinyl

roof: METAL

ASBESTOS

other: CONCRETE

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Community Planning and Development  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

1860 - 1942  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1860, 1884,  
1930, 1936.  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Gardner, Thomas  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Kentucky Heritage Council, Frankfort, Ky.

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property approximately 65 acres

UTM References

A	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>5</u> <u>2</u> <u>5</u> <u>7</u> <u>5</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>0</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u> <u>3</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>5</u> <u>2</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>0</u> <u>7</u> <u>9</u> <u>5</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>5</u> <u>2</u> <u>5</u> <u>7</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>0</u> <u>7</u> <u>9</u> <u>1</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>
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D	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>5</u> <u>2</u> <u>5</u> <u>0</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>0</u> <u>7</u> <u>9</u> <u>2</u> <u>3</u> <u>0</u>
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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The district boundary is clearly delineated on the accompanying sketch map. With three exceptions it follows the rear property lines of the properties included in the district. At 433 West Main Street (#114), 461 West Main Street (#117), and 477 West Main Street (#119) the rear portions of the properties that contain trailer parks or non-contributing vacant land have been excluded.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary is justified in Section 7, page 10.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Carolyn Brooks, Historic Preservation Consultant  
organization \_\_\_\_\_ date December 22, 1993  
street & number 1288 Bassett Avenue telephone 502 456-2397  
city or town Louisville state Ky. zip code 40204

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NATIONAL  
REGISTERSection number 7 Page 1 Auburn Historic District, Logan Co., Ky.

## DESCRIPTION

The Auburn Historic District encompasses 136 properties located along eight streets at the center of historic Auburn. Of these 136 properties, 131 contain principal buildings, a number with associated outbuildings. Included in the district are the contiguous, intact, historic resources of the community which comprise residential, commercial, religious and industrial properties that document the development of Auburn from its earliest days through the 1930s. The district includes portions of the two principal transportation spines, the railroad and the Russellville-Bowling Green Road, that played such important roles in the development of Auburn as well as the town's historic commercial center and several residential areas. Of the 131 principal buildings in the district, 93, or 71 % are contributing. Of the 70 outbuildings, which include garages, smokehouses, servants' cabins, and barns, etc., 37, or 53%, are contributing structures. Despite the presence of quite a few non-contributing properties, the district retains a strong sense of location, design, setting and feeling that reflect its appearance at the end of its period of significance in the late 1930s. The district encompasses approximately 65 acres.

Auburn, Kentucky, population 1,276 in the 1990 census, is a small railroad town located in the east central part of Logan County. Logan County is among five southern Kentucky counties that border Tennessee and make up the south central edge of Kentucky's Pennyryle Region. Their southern halves consist of extremely fertile, flat or rolling, and well-drained farmland which correlates with the late 18th - early 19th century development of the area into a financially successful plantation economy of few landowners and large farms. The northern halves of the counties contain more hilly and less fertile land that is far less productive farmland. The region is extensively agricultural to this day with tobacco, corn, and wheat remaining important cash crops.

Russellville, the county seat of Logan County, a much larger and earlier town than Auburn, with a 1990 population of 7454, is located ten miles to the west. Logan County has two other small incorporated population centers: Adairville, population 906, which is located in the south central part of the county near the Tennessee border, and Lewisburg, a smaller community, population 651 in 1970, located in north central Logan County. Auburn and

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Russellville were station stops on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad which completed its track through the county in 1860. The R.J. Corman Railroad still provides freight service along this line. Adairville became the terminus of a spur railroad line from Russellville that operated from 1884 until 1938, and Lewisburg was a station stop on the railroad that connected Russellville and Owensboro beginning in the 1880s.

Auburn, situated on fairly flat land near the north edge of the region of most productive farmland, is still surrounded by working farms. There are no physical features which determine the town's boundary. Located within the city are a number of springs emanating from "blue holes" one of which, the source of Black Lick Creek which flows north from Auburn, has been an important water source for the area from the early 1800s. Since 1938 when a city waterworks was constructed, this spring has provided water for the entire town.

A number of historical sources, including deeds and local historical accounts, suggest that Auburn was originally laid out in 1860. According to an 1896 entry in the Logan County Clerk's office regarding the platting of Auburn, it was first laid out with a half-mile square city limit and about 1870 was expanded to a mile square [Logan County Deed Book 70, page 568]. This boundary was extended to the west along the Russellville and Old Russellville roads in about 1980 to include new residential development in that area. Most recently, in the spring of 1993, a large area of farmland to the northwest of the town and a smaller area to the east were annexed, principally for the purpose of controlling the land immediately adjacent to the new U.S. 68/ Ky. 80 Auburn bypass which opened in December, 1993.

Three transportation corridors run through Auburn. U.S. 68/ Ky. 80, the Bowling Green to Russellville Road, is a very early road predating 1825 which historically and presently has provided the main route for land transportation traveling east-west through Logan County. This road bisects Auburn, and both historic commercial and residential resources are clustered along it. The new bypass will for the first time route traffic around rather than through the town. The Louisville and Nashville Railroad track, dating from 1860, essentially parallels this road through Auburn and is located one block to its north. Some of Auburn's most substantial houses front the track along its north side. North-south movement in the county through Auburn has existed at least

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since the 1860s and probably earlier along the "Middleton Road," which connected Auburn with the small community of Middleton, now located in neighboring Simpson County. The original Middleton Road referred to on maps and in deeds followed the route of today's North and South Lincoln Streets. Today, Kentucky Route 103 which more or less follows the path of the early road is routed through Auburn on North College Street and Wilson Avenue.

The oldest portion of Auburn stretching between Walnut Street on the north, Mill Street on the south, North College Street on the west, and Caldwell Street (earlier Depot Street) on the east is laid out with an irregular grid pattern. Maple Street which hugs the north side of the railroad tracks, and Main Street, the path of the important Russellville-Bowling Green Road are the principal east-west streets. Lots were laid out along Maple and Main Streets and along the five short narrow streets running north-south between Main and Maple Streets. These original lots were in many cases a block deep, running from Maple Street to Walnut Street and from North Lincoln Street to College Street, for instance.

The town's historic commercial area began to develop in the 1860s and 1870s along Main Street between Caldwell (earlier Depot) Street and Perkins (earlier Pond) Street where it remains today. The distinctive public square was created about 1884 by G.W. Davidson, a local businessman, when he purchased all the lots on the south side of Main Street in the area and built "Brick Row," a commercial block set far back on these lots. The depot, demolished in the 1960s, was located on Caldwell (Depot) Street to the south of the tracks. A small railroad-related shipping and receiving center developed here with a tobacco prizing and rehandling facility, and a grain warehouse for one of the local mills.

As the town expanded, West Main Street and Wilson Avenue, first developed in the 1910s, also become spines for residential development. An area outside the original platted area of the town historically known as "the hill" and a narrow lane along the south side of the tracks leading west from North College Street to "the hill" became the location of an African American settlement in town. This remains the principal black neighborhood in Auburn today, although nearly all the historic buildings in the area have been replaced or substantially modified. Since the 1950s several newer subdivisions have been developed in the southwest section of Auburn and to the north of Walnut Street.

The district encompasses much of Auburn's earliest developed

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area in the core section between College Street on the west, Caldwell Street on the east, Maple Street on the north, and Mill Street on the south. This oldest area includes residential sections along Maple, North Lincoln, Perkins, and Pearl Streets and a distinct commercial area, focused around the Public Square and stretching along Main Street between Perkins Street and Caldwell Street. The district's four historic churches are scattered throughout this area, two on West Main Street (#88 and 111), one on North Lincoln Street (#54), and one on Viers Street (#16). The three important industrial facilities are also scattered: The Auburn Mills (#126) is on South Lincoln Street just south of Main Street; the Caldwell Lace Leather Co. factory (#19) is on Caldwell (Depot) Street just south of the railroad; and the Auburn Hosiery Mills (#67) is on East Main Street. In addition the district includes, jutting out at its northeast corner, the John Viers House and some of the land associated with it, an outlying farm which is extremely significant in Auburn's history as the property from which much of the town was developed. Stretching out to the east and to the south are residential areas along West Main Street and Wilson Avenue that were not part of the original platted area of Auburn. These sections illustrate later patterns of residential development. West Main Street with its collection of houses dating from the 1880s to the 1930s represents the gradual piecemeal subdivision of small in-town farms. Wilson Avenue, lined along its west side with an almost solid row of Bungalow/Craftsman houses dating from the 1910s and 1920s, documents Auburn's only historically-developed platted subdivision, laid out on what had earlier been farmland.

The buildings located in the district include a wide range of commercial, residential, religious and industrial structures that represent every decade of Auburn's development from the 1860s through the 1930s. There are 71 historic residences, four of which served at one time as parsonages; 24 historic commercial buildings including three historic banks; and the four churches and three factory buildings mentioned above. A fifth church, the non-historic Auburn Baptist Church on North Lincoln Street, is located on the site of an earlier Baptist Church.

Extant buildings in the district are almost without exception modest in scale and vernacular in treatment. Residences are primarily one- and one-and-one-half-story structures. Residential forms represented include the one- and two-story central-passage plan house, the side-passage plan house, the hall-and-parlor house,



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the one- and two-story T-plan house, the "Queen Anne cottage," and the bungalow. Nineteenth century houses are without exception vernacular wood-framed structures with weatherboard siding. Only a few incorporate detailing associated with nationally prominent styles such as the Greek Revival, Italianate, and Queen Anne. Twentieth century residences, with a few exceptions, are equally modest. Weatherboard siding continued to predominate in pre-1940s houses although brick and stone veneer are also found. Simple examples of Bungalow/Craftsman and English Cottage styles are most in evidence.

Auburn's historic commercial architecture dates almost exclusively from the early 20th century. Only one 19th century building, the two-story brick G.W. Davidson Banking Company #1 built in 1878 (#75, listed in the National Register in 1982), remains in close to its original form. The 20th century buildings consists of modestly designed one- and two-story brick buildings with little architectural detailing. Almost without exception these buildings have long, narrow plans with the narrow end, containing the storefront, facing the street. All have parapet fronts that obscure flat or gently sloping roofs. The great majority have party walls. In most cases detailing is limited to a very little decorative brickwork in the cornice area. Two historic bank buildings, the 1905 vaguely Romanesque-styled stone-fronted Bank of Auburn (#76) and the 1926 Renaissance Revival-influenced G.W. Davidson Banking Company #2 (#69), and the 1934 Art Moderne-styled Coke Chevrolet car dealership and garage (#66) reflect Auburn's greatest style consciousness in the central business district.

The four historic churches in the district range from an extremely intact example of the simple first-generation wood-framed churches identified as a property type in the Auburn Survey to three more elaborate second- and third-generation churches identified as a second property type. The Auburn Christian Church, built about 1871 (#16), is an extremely intact, weatherboarded, gable-roofed first-generation church. The brick-veneered Cumberland Presbyterian Church of 1911 (#89) with its corner tower and slight Gothic Revival detailing, and the 1932 Auburn Presbyterian Church (#54) and 1937 Pearce Memorial Methodist Church (#111), two stylistically sophisticated English Revival churches designed by Thomas Gardner, a Nashville architect who specialized in designing churches, are examples of the second property type.

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Very few of the outbuildings that used to cluster at the rear of Auburn's houses and commercial buildings, both in and out of the district, still exist. Of those that do only one, the small barn/buggy shed associated with the John Viers House (#17), may be a 19th century structure. The others appear to date from about 1900 through the 1930s. These consist of servant's houses (3 or possibly 4), barns (7), smokehouses (3), chicken coops (2), well houses (2), a play house (1), and free-standing one-car garages, some with attached sheds (17). A number of small sheds, used principally for storing coal and wood, also exist in the district, but these were not included in the inventory as they proved extremely difficult to date and were not thought to be of particular significance. The inventoried historic outbuildings, with the exception of one stone root cellar behind the house at 142 North Lincoln Street (#46), are wood framed. They have gable or shed roofs and are sheathed variously with weatherboards, board and batten, horizontal or vertical boards, shiplap siding or, in a few cases, tar paper.

**REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS**

The Auburn Historic District is being considered for nomination under National Register Criterion A in the area of Community Planning and Development. The district has been identified as an area that conveys a strong sense of its historic environment and, through its historic buildings, lots, and transportation corridors, reveals much information about the development of the town from its creation in 1860 to 1942 when the last historic building in the district was constructed. It has been determined that integrity of location, setting, and overall design are the most important aspects of integrity necessary to convey the historic significance of this district.

The primary historic buildings in the district include 71 houses and 34 commercial buildings, 4 churches and 3 industrial buildings. Registration requirements for the residential and commercial buildings are discussed separately because differing criteria are needed to evaluate these two property types. There are so few religious and industrial buildings that these are addressed individually.

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## Residential Resources

All the historic houses in the district have integrity of location and setting. They are sited where they were originally built and still retain enough of their historic setting to provide an accurate picture of the setting's historic character. Although individually some historic residences have had their integrity of design somewhat compromised by alterations and additions, together the houses in the district still retain their historic spatial relationships and contribute to an overall integrity of design created by the houses, their landscaped settings, and the sidewalks and streets on which they are located.

Of the 71 historic houses in the district, many have had some alterations to their exteriors dating from after the period of significance, 1860 - 1942. Common alterations include the addition of new exterior siding either to replace or cover the original. Twenty-seven have aluminum or vinyl siding; brick has been applied to one frame house and one that was originally finished with stucco. A number of houses have had alterations to their front porches consisting of the replacement of historic support elements (10) or the removal (2) and/or total replacement (5) of the porch. Many houses have non-historic rear additions. Five have lateral additions that significantly alter their historic form and massing.

All historic houses in the district except three radically altered buildings and the five with the lateral additions have been counted as contributing resources. More than any other change it was determined that a side addition altered the overall scale and massing of the house as viewed from the street and interfered with an accurate "reading" of the house.

The seven houses with front porches removed or totally altered were counted as contributing because in all cases they were in other important ways extremely intact and/or because they provided important information that helped to document the district's significance. For instance, the L.A. Freeman House (#1) and the Samuel Price House (#6), both with replacement porches, are good examples in the district of important residential property types identified in the Auburn survey, the two-story central passage plan house (#6) and the two-story T-plan house (#1). In addition, they contribute to the overall design integrity of the district as part of a string of substantial two-story houses that front on the north side of the railroad tracks and help to identify this as an area of Auburn where large houses tended to be concentrated.

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The residential outbuildings associated with Auburn's historic houses were counted as contributing if they retained their original form and historic siding. Sheds, as mentioned above, were not included in the inventory because historic and non-historic structures were so similar in appearance and so difficult to date.

### Commercial Resources

The integrity of the commercial buildings is similar to what one finds in many towns: the first floor storefronts have been altered in most cases; the second floors and cornice areas are reasonably intact. Within the district, only the G.W. Davidson Banking Building #1 (#75), the Bank of Auburn (#76), and the commercial building at 106 West Main Street (#77) are extremely intact. Other buildings have very intact cornice areas such as the three stores on the north side of Main Street (#60 - 62) that are tied together with a blind-arched arcade executed in brick.

Because updating and remodeling historic storefronts is such a common practice among owners of commercial buildings, it is necessary to be flexible in evaluating commercial buildings if we are to acknowledge within the National Register process this important commercial component of the historic built environment. In a town like Auburn where most of the first-floor storefronts have been altered, but where many second floors are still intact and the location and setting of the buildings as a group conveys a strong sense of the town's historic commercial environment, it has been determined that in most cases these first-floor changes do not render a building completely unable to convey the district's sense of time, place, and value.

One group of commercial buildings in Auburn have been extensively changed from their historic appearance and provide little visible information about their historic design or workmanship. The row of brick stores that form the south side of the public square (#71 -74) have new storefronts and have lost nearly all of the 1910s detailing in the cornice area. The two projecting details that historically capped the row have been removed as well as nearly all the decorative vents. One section has been completely re-bricked (#71). The buildings, which are fronted by a historic brick sidewalk, retain integrity of location and setting. Because they are buildings that historically created and defined Auburn's unusual and spatially important town square and because they retain that function today, it has been determined

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that integrity of location and setting are sufficient to make them contributing buildings in the district.

### Churches and Industrial Buildings

All four historic churches in the district retain a high degree of individual integrity and make strong contributions to its overall integrity and significance. They are important examples of the two religious property types identified in Auburn: the simple wood-framed, weatherboarded church that is found in the rural Pennyryle and in the first-generation churches in the region's small towns and the more elaborate second- and third-generation churches found in incorporated towns.

The three industrial buildings are somewhat more problematic. All three still function as they did historically and have had significant additions and/or alterations that reflect their ongoing operations. All three, however, are extremely significant within the context of community planning and development in Auburn and retain, to varying degrees, integrity of setting, location, design, workmanship, and materials.

The oldest, Auburn Mills, Inc. (#126), contains an 1870s grist mill and granary with much of their foundations and framework still intact that are imbedded within a complex of other historic and non-historic milling structures. An associated group of outbuildings includes four historic poured concrete grain elevators from the late 1930s surrounded by non-historic elevators fabricated of sheet metal. The mill still retains integrity of location, association, and some integrity of materials and workmanship. Because few historic mills remain in Logan County to document what was without question the county's prevalent manufacturing operation, because the mill provides valuable information about the grain milling business, because it documents one of Auburn's most important early industries, and because it is located adjacent to the district, it and its associated grain elevators have been included in the district as a contributing property. The Auburn Roller Mill (LO-A-61), a 1915 mill complex with similar combination of historic and non-historic elements has not been included in the district because it is now undergoing demolition.

Like the grain mill, the 1937 Auburn Hosiery Mill (#67), with its series of massive non-historic additions, illustrates an evolving industrial complex. In this instance, however, its has

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been possible to isolate the historic core building with a few small, early additions and to include only that portion in the district. This building retains considerable integrity of location, design, materials, and workmanship. As discussed in the Community Planning and Development Context, the factory played an extremely important role in the town's development during the Depression, and is of great significance to the district.

The third industrial facility, the Dark Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association Warehouse/Caldwell Lace Leather Company #3 (#19), has dual significance for documenting the importance of tobacco warehousing and rehandling in the town's history as well as that of the Caldwell Lace Leather Company, the town's third major industrial operation. The original building has a high degree of integrity that reflects its 1930s adaptation as the leather factory. It retains integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, and associations. A large 1975 addition to the north side, a concrete-block structure that is brick-faced on the front facade, differs in brick detailing and fenestration from the original building and is clearly an addition. On the interior, the original north exterior wall of the building is still intact, with the original painted sign for the "Dark Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association Warehouse" still visible.

### BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The district encompasses the area of contiguous historic properties at the center of Auburn as well as one out-lying farm, the John Viers House (#17), and highly intact areas of residential development stretching out along West Main Street and the west side of Wilson Avenue. The district's boundaries were determined to create an area with as strong a sense of integrity as possible and to convey Auburn's significance in terms of community planning and development. At the east edge of the district along East Main Street and Caldwell Street there is a very clear end to the historic commercial area marked by an immediate heavy concentration of non-historic properties. In nearly all other directions the historic resources begin to become diluted as they are gradually interspersed with a higher density of non-contributing buildings.

The decision was made to keep the edges of the district strong, thus leaving out some pockets of historic resources and individual buildings just beyond its edges on West Main Street, at

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the north edge of the district on Walnut Street, and on the south edges on South Lincoln Street and Wilson Avenue. One block of historic houses along the north side of Walnut Street has been excluded because it is separated from the district by non-historic houses on the south side of the street. Although South Lincoln Street and the block of Wilson Avenue between Apple Street and Cherry Street contain a number of historic houses, the percentage of non-contributing properties in these blocks increases in each case and the areas do not provide significant additional information about community planning and development in Auburn.

Most of the district contains a small scattering of non-contributing properties that include both non-historic buildings and a few substantially altered historic buildings. The district has two areas with a high concentration of non-contributing properties, one along Pearl and Perkins Streets, and one along Main Street in the area of Lincoln Street and Wilson Avenue. For different reasons, the decision was made to include these areas in the district. In the case of Pearl and Perkins Streets, located at the heart of the oldest part of Auburn, it was felt that these narrow streets still help to tell the story of how Auburn developed in the historic period. Perkins Street was originally envisioned as an alley between Lincoln and Pearl Streets and indeed was still referred to as an alley in the 1900 census [Vanderpool, Federal Census - Logan County, Kentucky, p. 500]. The only historic house located on the street, the Rogers/Perkins House (#38), is still standing. The Masonic Lodge and the row of small four houses on the west side of the street were built in the 1950s and 1960s when the rear portions of some of the lots along North Lincoln Street were sold off. Pearl Street still retains its historic residential character despite the location of the Auburn Nursing Center at the northern end of the street. This one-story brick nursing home, built in 1964 and added to in 1975, is large but very unobtrusive. It is set back behind some of the historic street trees that line the lane. The street retains its original narrow width and historic sidewalks and a number of contributing historic houses.

The weakest portion of the district is the section along Main Street that contains five non-contributing commercial buildings set back on their lots behind or adjacent to large parking lots. These include the post office, a bank, a garage, a vacant store, and a very large convenience store completed in 1993. This area has been included because the historic Cumberland Presbyterian Church (#89) and Pearce Memorial Methodist Church (#111) and two historic

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parsonages (#s 87 and 88) help to retain the historic character of the street in the same area and because this section of Main Street is flanked by two extremely intact and important sections of the district, the residential area to the west along West Main Street and the historic commercial area to the east.



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INVENTORY

Maple Street

1. (C) LO-A-104 L.A. Freeman House, 614 Maple Street. c.1885.  
Two-story wood-framed T-plan house with rear ell. Present two-story front porch is replacement of original one-story porch. Rear additions. L.A. Freeman, first owner, was prosperous Logan County farmer who moved into Auburn.
  1. Garage. 1970s. Two-car, brick veneered. (NC)
2. (NC) LO- A-103 Charles V. Hanks House, 610 Maple Street. c. 1942.  
Small one-story wood-framed house with a variation on a Cape Cod form and slight references to English Cottage styling. Non-historic lateral garage and breezeway addition converted to additional living space considerably alters form of house. Aluminum siding. Said to be one of the first houses in Auburn built with FHA financing.
3. (C) LO-A-102 A.F. Coghill House, 604 Maple Street. c. 1884.  
One-story wood-framed single-pile house with central-passage plan, rear ell, and simple Italianate detailing. Rear two-story addition.
4. (C) LO-A-101 508 Maple Street. c. 1900 - 1915.  
One-story wood-framed house with side-facing gable roof, four rooms and no central hall. Simple Bungalow/Craftsman styling probably added in 1920s. Vinyl siding.
  1. Large garage building with metal siding. 1980s. (NC)
5. (C) LO-A-100 Snodgrass/Hutcheson House, 504 Maple Street. c. 1875 - 1885.  
Two-story single-pile house with central-passage plan and one story rear ell. Gable roof, wood-framed. Front porch has been altered. Vinyl siding.
  1. Garage/shed. 1930s. Wood-framed, weatherboard siding, gable roof. (C)
6. (C) LO-A-99 Samuel Price House, 414 Maple Street. c. 1867 - 1870.  
Two-story single-pile central-passage-plan house with rear ell. Gable roof, wood-framed. Two-story front portico is 1960s

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replacement of one-story porch. Interior retains nearly all its original finishes and provides valuable information about 1860s materials and workmanship in Auburn. Aluminum siding.

1. Garage. Wood-framed with gable roof. 1960s. (NC)
- 
7. (C) LO-A-98 Dr. William Burr House, 408 Maple Street.  
c. 1894 - 1898.  
Two-story single-pile central-passage-plan house with one-story wing across back and elaborate Eastlake-style two-story recessed front porch. Vinyl siding. Home of Dr. William Burr, a local physician, from 1907 to 1926.
    1. Smokehouse. c. 1900. Wood-framed with gable roof and weatherboard siding. (C)
    2. Servants' house. c. 1900. Wood-framed with gable roof, windows, and weatherboard siding. (C)
- 
8. (NC) LO-A-97 E.B. and Dorothy Perkins House, 402 Maple Street.  
1940.  
One-story wood-framed house with front facing gable roof. East side addition dating from 1975 considerably alters form of house. Vinyl siding.
    1. Garage. c. 1940. Wood-framed with gable roof and weatherboard siding. (C)
- 
9. (C) LO-A-96 V.R. Van Arsdall House, 326 Maple Street. c. 1929.  
One-story brick-veneered Bungalow/Craftsman style house with a front-facing gable roof. Rear addition.
    1. Garage. 1970s? Concrete block with gable roof. (NC)
- 
10. (C) LO-A-95 R.B. Meyers House, 322 Maple Street.  
c. 1915 - 1925.  
One-story wood-framed Bungalow/Craftsman style house with side-facing gable roof. Aluminum siding.
    1. Garage. 1960s? Wood-framed with gable roof. (NC)
- 
11. (C) LO-A-94 J.W. Smith House, 314 Maple Street.  
c. 1872 - 1880.  
Two-story wood-framed T-plan house with Italianate detailing. Front porch posts on both levels replaced with metal supports. Rear addition. J.W. Smith, an influential Auburn resident, began in the dry goods business and then became a very successful traveling salesman.
    1. Garage/shed. 1950s or 1960s? Wood-framed. (NC)

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12. (C) LO-A-93 W.I. and Annie Freeman House, 304 Maple Street.  
c. 1906 - 1908.

One-story wood-framed "Queen Anne cottage" with cross-gable roof. Rear additions. Aluminum siding. Built for Annie Smith Freeman, daughter of J.W. Smith, and her husband, W.I. Freeman, a dentist in Auburn, on a corner of her family's property.

1. Barn. 1920s or 1930s. Wood-framed with gable roof and board-and-batten siding. (C)

13. (NC) LO-A-92 220 Maple Street. c. 1890 -1910.

One-story wood-framed T-plan house. Enclosed sun porch added to east end considerably alters form of house. Front porch supports replaced. Aluminum siding.

1. Garage/shed. 1960s? Wood-framed. (NC)

Viers Street

14. (C) LO-A-105 120 Viers Street. 1860s or 1870s.

One-and-one-half-story wood-framed hall-and-parlor-plan house with gable-roofed wall dormers on front facade. Front porch remodeled.

1. Garage. Two-car concrete block structure. 1970s? (NC)

15. (NC) 121 Viers Street. 1970s?

Small one-story wood-framed house with side-facing gable roof.

1. Garage. 1970s? Wood-framed. (NC)

- 16.(C) LO-A-106 Auburn Christian Church, 123 Viers Street. c. 1871.

Extremely intact small wood-framed church with nave plan, front-facing gable roof, and weatherboard siding. Single front entrance is in east end. An excellent example of the "rural" church property type discussed in the nomination.

17. (C) LO-A-107 John Viers House, 239 Viers Street. 1820s?;  
c. 1840 - 1860.

Two-story central-passage single-pile wood-framed house dating from between 1840 and 1860 with a one-story rear ell, probably once a free-standing house, dating from the 1820s. The rear ell was built by the Shakers from South Union who purchased this property in 1813. Present two-story front portico dates from 1930s or 1940s. John Viers, purchased the property from the Shakers in 1838 and in 1860 subdivided some of the land for the town of Auburn. Viers is thought to have built the front of the house between 1838

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and 1860, perhaps on the foundation of an earlier Shaker structure. Architecturally and historically one of the most significant buildings remaining in Auburn.

1. Barn/corn crib/shed. pre-1850? Heavy timber frame, gable roof, weatherboard siding, central unloading area. (C)

## Walnut Street

18. (NC) 101 Walnut Street. 1930s or 1940s.

Simple one-story wood-framed house with rectangular form, hip-roofed front porch, and front-facing gable roof. Large, addition on south side significantly alters historic appearance of house.

## Caldwell Street (formerly Depot Street)

19. (C) LO-A-88 Dark Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association Warehouse/ Caldwell Lace Leather Company, 125 Caldwell Street. c. 1923.

Large, approximately 150' by 200', one-story masonry brick warehouse with parapet roof, concrete detailing and metal-frame windows. North side addition dating to c. 1975 is built of concrete block with brick-veneered front. Constructed as tobacco warehouse and sold in 1933 to Caldwell Lace Leather Company for use as factory.

## Pearl Street

20. (NC) 112 Pearl Street. 1960s.

One-story brick veneered office/apartment building.

21. (NC Site) Vacant lot between 112 and 124 Pearl Street.

Site of the Crewdson House, a wood-framed hotel built in the 1860s or 1870s.

22. (C) LO-A-84 124 Pearl Street. c. 1915 - 1925.

One-and-one-half-story wood-framed Bungalow/Craftsman house. Vinyl siding.

23. (NC) LO-A-85 126 Pearl Street. c. 1875 - 1890.

One story wood-framed house of undetermined plan. Aluminum siding. Moved to this site from across the street about 1920. Present front of house may have been original rear facade.

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24. (C) LO-A-86 Spencer and Hatcher Chyle House, 132 Pearl Street. c. 1922 - 1930.  
Two-story wood-framed central-passage-plan single-pile house with one-story full-width rear wing.
25. (C) LO-A-87 136 Pearl Street. c. 1915 - 1925.  
One-story wood-framed Bungalow/Craftsman house. Front porch posts have been replaced.  
1. Garage. 1980s. (NC)  
2. Pool House. 1980s. (NC)  
3. Swimming pool. (NC structure)
26. (NC site) Vacant lot between 136 and 146 Pearl Street.  
Black-topped parking lot where small late 19th century wood-framed house was located until recently.  
1. Garage. 1920s. Wood-framed with gable roof. (C)
27. (NC) 146 Pearl Street. 1940s or 1950s.  
Small wood-framed house with rectangular plan and front-facing gable roof.
28. (NC) 148 Pearl Street. 1920s? and 1970s.  
Extensively altered wood-framed building with weatherboard and corrugated metal siding and gable roof. May have been "coal office" indicated on 1929 Sanborn map.  
1. Also located on lot is 1970s pre-fabricated house. (NC)
29. (C) LO-A-9 101 - 103 Pearl Street. c. 1925.  
One-story brick commercial building with two store units.
30. (C) LO-A-80 115 Pearl Street. c. 1942 - 1945.  
One-story stone-veneered office/apartment building.  
1. Garage. 1940s or 1950s. Wood-framed with shed roof. (C)
31. (NC) LO-A-81 W.S. Monroe House, 117 Pearl Street. 1910s or 1920s?  
Small wood-framed house of undetermined date and plan that was extensively altered in 1948 and again in the 1980s following a fire. Vinyl siding.  
1. Garage. 1950s or 1960s. (NC)
32. (C) LO-A-82 Dr. Adolphus Johnston House, 123 Pearl Street. c. 1918 - 1920.  
One-and-one-half-story brick-veneered Bungalow/Craftsman house

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with side-facing gable roof. The largest and most elaborately detailed Bungalow/Craftsman house in Auburn. Built by Johnston, a partner with his father-in-law, A.S. Aull, in the Aull and Co. drugstore. Rear additions.

1. Playhouse. 1930s. One-story wood-framed house. (C)
2. Garage. 1920s. Wood-framed with weatherboard siding and gable roof. (C)
3. Entrance gate posts. c. 1920. Stone piers with concrete caps. Not included in resource count.

33. (NC) LO-A-83 A.S. Aull House, 125 Pearl Street. c. 1885 - 1910; remodeled in late 1940s.

A one-story wood-framed T-plan house that was extensively altered with the addition of a second projecting front wing and rear wings.

34. (NC) Auburn Nursing Center, 139 Pearl Street. 1964; addition 1975.

Low one-story flat-roofed brick-veneered building set in landscaped grounds.

Perkins Street (formerly Pond Street)

35. (NC site) Vacant lot between alley and rear of 123 Pearl Street.

Site of city water tower from 1930s until 1980s.

36. (NC) 144 Perkins Street. 1960s or 1970s.

One-story wood-framed house with side-facing gable roof.

1. Garage. 1960s or 1970s. (NC)

37. (NC) Auburn Nursing Center Apartments, 148 Perkins Street. 1981.

One-story long, rectangular brick-veneered building with gable roof.

38. (C) LO-A-79 Rogers/Perkins House, 152 Perkins Street. c. 1905.

One-and-one-half-story wood-framed house with a central-passage plan and a salt-box roofline at rear. Front porch posts replaced.

39. (NC) Masonic Lodge, 123 Perkins Street. 1951.

Two-story brick-veneered building with a parapet roof.

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40. (NC) 129 Perkins Street. c. 1960.  
One-story wood-framed T-plan variation with an attached carport.
41. (NC) 143 Perkins Street. c. 1960.  
One-story wood-framed house with side-facing gable roof, recessed front porch, and attached carport.
42. (NC) 145 Perkins Street. 1970s.  
One-story wood-framed house with side-facing gable roof.
43. (NC) 147 Perkins Street. 1960s?.  
One-story brick-veneered house with side-facing gable roof and small projecting bays at each end of front facade.  
1. Garage. 1960s. Wood-framed. (NC)

North Lincoln Street

44. ((NC) LO-A-78 John Gaines House, 132 North Lincoln Street. 1937.  
One-story wood-framed cottage with simple English Cottage styling. North side addition dating from 1954 and 1987 south side sun porch addition significantly alter the form of the house. Aluminum siding.
45. (C) LO-A-77 W.W. and Mildred Parish House, 138 North Lincoln Street. 1869 - 1879.  
One-story wood-framed house with single-pile central-passage-plan and rear ell. Rear additions. One of the best preserved examples of this house type in Auburn.
46. (C) LO-A-76 142 North Lincoln Street. 1890 - 1910.  
One-story wood-framed T-plan with intact front porch. Rear addition.  
1. Root cellar. c. 1900 - 1940. Small square stone structure set into ground. Gable roof. (C structure)  
2. Garage. 1920s or 1930s. Wood-framed with shed roof. (C)
47. (NC) Presbyterian Manse, 148 North Lincoln Street. 1957.  
One-story brick-veneered house with Cape Cod influence.

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48. (C) LO-A-75 Dr. W.R. and Norma Burr House, 156 North Lincoln Street. c. 1901.

One-and-one-half-story wood-framed house with front-facing gable roof and small projecting front wing. Replacement porch supports. Vinyl siding.

1. Servants' house. c. 1900- 1910. Wood-framed with gable roof, windows, and interior end chimney. (C)

49. (C) LO-A-74 Dr. J.R. Simpson House, 166 North Lincoln Street. 1920s.

One-and-one-half-story wood-framed Bungalow/Craftsman house with side-facing gable roof. Brick-veneered about 1960. Built for Dr. Simpson who practiced medicine in Auburn.

1. Barn. Wood-framed with board-and-batten siding and gable roof. 1920s or 1930s. (C)

2. Garage. Three-car brick-veneered structure. 1970s? (NC)

50. (NC) Auburn Baptist Church Education Building, 103 North Lincoln Street. 1949, remodeled in 1980s.

Two-story brick building connected to church by covered walkway. Portions of building date to 1920s, but front portion was added and all was extensively remodeled in 1980s when new church was built.

51. (NC) Auburn Baptist Church, 115 North Lincoln Street. 1988. Brick-veneered Colonial Revival style church.

52. (C) LO-A-66 J.H. and Fannie Monroe House, 125 North Lincoln Street. c. 1895 - 1900.

One-story wood-framed "Queen Anne cottage" with hipped roof.

1. Barn. c. 1900 - 1920. Large one-story barn with heavy timber frame, a gable roof, and metal cladding. (C)

53. (C) LO-A-67 J.S. Hurt House, 135 North Lincoln Street. 1885 - 1900.

One-story wood-framed T-plan house with extensively detailed front porch. One of the most elaborate and intact T-plan houses remaining in Auburn. J.S. Hurt was a carpenter and probably built this house.

54. (C) LO-A-68 Auburn Presbyterian Church, 141 North Lincoln Street. 1932. Architect: Thomas Gardner of Nashville, Tenn.

Small brick-veneered English Revival-style church with a high stone-faced foundation and a red-tile roof.



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55. (C) LO-A-69 149 North Lincoln Street. c. 1885 - 1900.  
One-story wood-framed T-plan house with intact front porch.  
Rear addition. Vinyl siding.
56. (C) LO-A-70 Darby-Lockett House, 157 North Lincoln Street.  
1895.  
Two-story wood-framed T-plan house with intact two-story front porch.  
1. Garage. 1970s? Large wood-framed two-car structure. (NC)
57. (C) LO-A-71 Waddle/McCarley House, 163 North Lincoln Street.  
c. 1865 - 1884.  
Two-story single-pile wood-framed house with side-passage plan and one-story rear ell. Two-story front porch added about 1900.  
The most intact example of this house plan remaining in Auburn.
58. (C) LO-A-72 Coghill/Herndon/Price House, 167 North Lincoln Street. c. 1878.  
One-story double-pile wood-framed house with hipped roof and five-room, no hall plan.  
1. Garage. 1970s? Wood-framed with gable roof. (NC)
59. (C) LO-A-73 A.D. Monroe House, 171 North Lincoln Street. 1939.  
One-story Spanish Eclectic style house. Originally stuccoed; brick veneered in 1976. Crenelated roofline and front porch with round-arched openings still provide sense of Spanish stylistic influence.

East Main Street

60. (C) LO-A-10 Aull and Co. Drug Store, 102 East Main Street.  
1912.  
One-story brick commercial building linked together with 104 and 106 East Main Street by cornice area detailed with blind-arched arcade. Retains most intact interior of commercial buildings in Auburn. Aull and Co. was an important local business for many years.
61. (C) LO-A-11 Milton's Dry Goods, 104 East Main Street. 1912.  
One-story brick commercial building linked together with 102 and 106 East Main Street by blind-arched arcade. Extensively altered storefront.

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62. (C) LO-A-12 106 East Main Street. 1912.  
One-story brick commercial building linked together with 102 and 104 East Main Street by blind-arched arcade.
63. (C) LO-A-13 Caldwell Lace Leather Company #1, 108 East Main Street. c. 1915.  
Small one-story brick commercial building with parapet roof. First home of Caldwell Lace Leather Company, an important Auburn industry.
64. (C) LO-A-14 Caldwell Lace Leather Company #2, 110 East Main Street. c. 1915.  
Two-story brick commercial building with parapet roof. One-story east side addition dates to 1960s. Built to house hardware and implement business; by 1929 Caldwell Lace Leather had expanded into building. Parking lot at rear is associated with this building.
65. (NC) LO-A-15 112 East Main Street. c. 1915  
One-story brick garage adapted as post office in 1950s. 1990 alterations to front facade that totally mask its historic appearance include alteration of windows and doors, addition of brick veneer, and Mansard-type cornice.
66. (C) LO-A-16 Coke Chevolet, 114 East Main Street. c. 1934.  
One-story Art Moderne-styled car dealership and garage with two-story office area at northeast corner. Adapted in 1934 from earlier garage. Brick building with prominent rounded southeast corner. Faced on front with porcelain panels.
67. (C) LO-A-18 Auburn Hosiery Mills, Inc., 113 East Main Street. 1937.  
One-story poured-concrete industrial facility with arched roof on rear factory area and with two-story office block across front. Brick-veneered on front facade. Additions to east and west sides date to late 1940s and 1950s. Factory built by city with encouragement of the Auburn Industrial Foundation, founded about 1936 to encourage the cooperation of government and industry to create new jobs.
68. (NC) Logan Telephone Coop, Inc., 103 East Main Street. 1954.  
One-story flat-roofed commercial structure with brick-veneered front facade.

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69. (C) LO-A-19 G.W. Davidson and Co. Banking Building #2,  
101 East Main Street. c. 1875 - 1899; remodeled as bank in  
1926 - 1927.

Originally two-story brick commercial building with gable  
roof. In 1926-1927 second floor was removed and building was  
veneered in buff-colored brick. Renaissance Revival detailing.

Spring Street

70. (C) LO-A-20 Dr. Freeman's Dentist Office, 104 Spring Street.  
c. 1925.

Small free-standing brick building with parapet roof, concrete  
trim.

Public Square

71. (C) LO-A-21 Brick Row, 109 - 111 Public Square. 1884;  
remodeled after fire between 1900 and 1910.

One of a series of storefronts in Brick Row, a two-story brick  
commercial block built in 1884 by G.W. Davidson, Auburn's most  
important 19th century businessman. Remodeled as one-story  
commercial buildings after early 20th century fire. Further  
remodeled in 1970s or 1980s with new brick-veneered facade and new  
storefronts. Apartment addition at rear dates to 1980s.

72. (C) LO-A-22 Brick Row, 107 Public Square. 1884; remodeled  
after fire between 1900 and 1910.  
See # 71.

73. (C) LO-A-23 Brick Row, 105 Public Square. 1884; remodeled  
after fire between 1900 and 1910.  
See #71. Further remodeled in late 1930s or 1940s as movie  
theater.

74. (C) LO-A-24 Brick Row, 103 Public Square. 1884; remodeled  
after fire between 1900 and 1910.  
See #71. Retains early 20th century brick work in cornice  
area.

75. (C) LO-A-25 G.W. Davidson Banking Company, 101 Public Square.  
c. 1878. Listed in the National Register October 29, 1982.  
Two-story brick commercial building with parapet roof and

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entrance on the long side facing the square. First home of the G.W. Davidson Banking Company, Auburn's earliest bank.

## West Main Street

76. (C) LO-A-8 Bank of Auburn, 102 - 104 West Main Street. 1905.  
One-story brick bank building with adjoining two-story office. Recessed corner entrance, crenelated parapet roof, and masonry stone front facade. One of the most intact and most architecturally significant commercial buildings in Auburn.

77. (C) LO-A-7 106 West Main Street. c. 1915; c. 1919 - 1929.  
One-story brick commercial building with cast-iron storefront. East half dates to about 1915. West half was added between 1919 and 1929. One of the most intact commercial buildings remaining in Auburn.

78. (C) LO-A-6 Wright Hotel, 110 West Main Street. c. 1895; remodeled in 1926.  
Two-story brick hotel with Eastlake detailing (still in place in interior) that was remodeled with a new three-story front section in 1926.

79. (C) LO-A-5 Motion Picture Theater, 114 West Main Street.  
c. 1900 - 1919; 1930s.  
Two-story brick commercial building built as one-story structure to house movie theater. Stuccoed front facade dates from time of second floor addition in 1930s.

80. (C) LO-A-4 Auburn Chevrolet Company, 116 West Main Street.  
c. 1925.  
East unit of one-story brick garage building with stuccoed front facade. Remodeled as store units in late 1930s.

81. (C) LO-A-3 Auburn Chevrolet Company, 118 West Main Street.  
c. 1925.  
Central unit of one-story brick garage building with stuccoed front facade. Remodeled as store units in late 1930s.

82. (C) LO-A-2 120 West Main Street, c. 1925.  
West unit of one-story brick Auburn Chevrolet Garage building. This section always functioned as a separate store unit, housing a restaurant in its early days.

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83. (C) LO-A-1 Woodmen of the World Building, 124 West Main Street. c. 1911 - 1918.  
Two-story brick commercial building with parapet roofline. Commercial space on first floor and lodge hall on second.
84. (NC site) Vacant lot on northwest corner of West Main Street and Perkins Street.  
Site of LO-39, a two-story T-plan house that was demolished during the 1980s.
85. (C) LO-A-60 P.T. Neal House, 210 West Main Street. 1929.  
One-story masonry brick house with Bungalow/Craftsman styling.  
1. Garage. 1940s or 1950s. Wood-framed with gable roof. (NC)
86. (NC) Auburn Banking Company, 218 West Main Street. c. 1968.  
One-story brick-veneered bank building with a flat roof. Parking lots behind.
87. (C) LO-A-59 Baptist Church Parsonage, 306 West Main Street. 1937.  
One-and-one-half-story brick-veneered house with simple English Cottage styling. Built as parsonage for church.
88. (C) LO-A-58 Cumberland Presbyterian Church Parsonage #2, 314 West Main Street. 1921.  
One-and-one-half-story brick-veneered Bungalow/Craftsman house.  
1. Garage. 1960s or 1970s. Concrete block. (NC)
89. (C) LO-A-57 Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 320 West Main Street. 1910.  
Brick-veneered church with corner steeple. 1948 office building on east side and 1960s education building at rear.
90. (NC) Minit Mart, 410 West Main Street. 1993.  
One-story flat-roofed brick-veneered commercial building set back from street in large black-topped parking lot.
91. (C) LO-A-56 B.D. Williams House, 428 West Main Street. c. 1907.  
One-story wood-framed house with unusual form combining T-plan and "Queen Anne cottage." Replacement porch supports. Vinyl siding.  
1. Chicken coop. 1930s. Wood-framed, shed-roofed, horizontal board siding. (C)  
2. Garage. 1930s. Wood-framed with gable roof, weatherboard siding. (C)

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92. (C) LO-A-55 McKenzie/Hamblin House, 434 West Main Street.  
c. 1907 -1909.  
One-story wood-framed "Queen Anne cottage" with 1920s brick Craftsman style porch.  
1. Chicken house. 1920s or 1930s. Wood-framed with gable roof, tongue-and-grooved horizontal siding. (C).  
2. Smoke house. 1920s or 1930s. Wood-framed with gable roof, vertical board siding. (C).  
3. Garage. 1920s or 1930s. Wood-framed with shed roof, board-and-batten siding. (C)  
4. Enclosure for cow. 1920s or 1930s. Wood-framed with shed roof and vertical board siding. (C)
93. (C) LO-A-54 Haden/McKenzie House, 444 West Main Street.  
c. 1895 - 1907.  
One-story wood-framed T-plan house. Front porch altered. Side and rear additions. Aluminum siding.  
1. Garage/ apartment. 1960s or 1970s. Wood-framed. (NC)
94. (C) LO-A-53 452 West Main Street. 1915 -1930.  
One-story wood-framed Bungalow/Craftsman house.  
1. Garage. 1930s. Wood-framed with gable roof and shingle siding. (C)
95. (C) LO-A-52 Robert Crabb House, 462 West Main Street. 1900 - 1915; remodeled in 1920s.  
One-story wood-framed gable-roofed house remodeled with Craftsman-style front porch and dormer in 1920s. Aluminum siding.  
1. Barn. 1920s or 1930s. Two-story wood-framed with gable roof. First floor finished with vertical boards; second with corrugated metal. (C)
96. (C) LO-A-51 George W. Wilson House, 472 West Main Street. 1880s.  
Two-story wood-framed T-plan with 1920s Craftsman-style front porch. Rear ell of house may be earlier house. Aluminum siding.  
1. Smokehouse. c. 1880 - 1920. Wood-framed with gable roof and weatherboard siding. (C)  
2. Barn. c. 1900 - 1925. Two-story wood-framed with gable roof and tongue-and-groove horizontal board siding. (C)  
3. Garage. c. 1980 Wood-framed, two bay. (NC)

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97. (C) LO-A-50 M.J. Price House #2, 480 West Main Street.  
c. 1905.  
One-story wood-framed "Queen Anne cottage." Rear additions.  
Aluminum siding.  
1. Garage/apartment. 1957. Two-story wood-framed structure.  
(NC)
98. (C) LO-A-49 McCarley/Scott House, 486 West Main Street.  
c. 1915 - 1925.  
One-and-one-half-story wood-framed Bungalow/Craftsman house.  
Large garage addition attached to house by breezeway.
99. (C) LO-A-48 Ray Scott House, 488 West Main Street. 1928.  
One-and-one-half-story masonry brick Bungalow/Craftsman house.  
Sun porch added on west side in 1950s or 1960s.
100. (NC) LO-A-47 494 West Main Street. 1900 - 1915.  
One-story wood-framed T-plan house. Garage at west side of  
house and enclosed breezeway substantially alter original form of  
house. Front porch posts replaced.
101. (NC) 498 West Main Street. 1970s?  
Trailer.
102. (C) LO-A-46 Sam Miller House, 506 West Main Street. 1938.  
One-and-one-half story stone-veneered house with English  
Cottage styling. Historic stone retaining walls in side yard  
surround blue hole. Excellent intact example of the stone-veneered  
houses popular during the 1930s and 1940s in Auburn.
103. (C) LO-A-45 Pace/Neal House, 514 West Main Street.  
c. 1885 -1900.  
One-story wood-framed T-plan house. Front porch removed.  
Rear additions.  
1. Water tower/well house. 1900 - 1925. Tall, square wood-  
framed structure with pyramidal roof and weatherboard siding.  
(C structure)  
2. Garage. 1960s? Wood-framed. (NC)
104. (NC) Trans Financial Bank, 107 West Main Street. 1991.  
One-story brick-veneered bank building with gable roof.  
Adapted from former gas station.

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105. (C) LO-A-26 G.W. Davidson House, 125 West Main Street. 1916.  
Listed in the National Register October 29, 1982.

Two-story brick-veneered house with Colonial Revival styling. Monumental two-story portico added in 1920s or early 1930s giving house Neoclassical appearance. This house replaced a two-story frame house destroyed by fire. G.W. Davidson was Auburn's most important late 19th century and early 20th century businessman who built the G.W. Davidson Banking Company Building (LO-A-25) and Brick Row (LO-A-20 - 24).

1. Water tower/well house. 1920s or 1930s. Tall, square, wood-framed structure with pyramidal roof. (C structure)
2. Servants' house or summer kitchen. 1900 - 1919. Wood-framed with gable roof, windows on two sides and weatherboard siding. (C)
3. Cast-iron fence. 1916 - 1925. Only historic cast-iron fence remaining in Auburn. Not included in Resources count.

106. (C) LO-A-27 Jamerson/Stagner House, 211 West Main Street.  
c. 1860 - 1874; remodeled and east block and front porch added  
c. 1902 - 1913.

One-story wood-framed house, probably two-room or central-passage plan. Extensively remodeled into "Queen Anne cottage" with high hipped roof and wraparound porch between 1902 and 1913. Vinyl siding.

1. Cast-iron fence. c. 1916 - 1925. Extension of fence in front of LO-A-26. Not included in Resources count.

107. (NC) 219 West Main Street. late 1950s or 1960s.

Two-bay service station finished with porcelain panels. Roof has been altered.

108. (NC) United States Post Office, 309 West Main Street. 1960s.  
One-story brick-veneered building with gable roof and recessed corner entrance.

109. (NC site) Vacant lot between 309 and 321 West Main Street.  
Landsaped lot.

110. (NC) 321 West Main Street. 1973.

One-story concrete-block commercial building with brick veneer on front facade and recessed corner entrance.

111. (C) LO-A-28 Pearce Memorial Methodist Church, 411 West Main Street. 1937. Architect: Thomas Gardner, Nashville, Tenn.  
Stone church with Gothic Revival detailing, central front



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entrance tower, red tile roof, and education and office facilities at rear.

1. Manse. 1951. Stone-veneered house with gable roof. (NC)

112. (C) LO-A-29 Claude and Ruth Peart House, 421 West Main Street. 1938.

Two-story brick-veneered house with Neoclassical styling. Two-story portico across front facade. Very intact. Home of Claude Peart, owner of a rock quarry and an important local contractor during the Depression.

1. Garage/shop. 1993. Two-story wood-framed building. (NC)

113. (C) LO-A-30 W.H. McKenzie house, 429 West Main Street. 1911. One-and-one-half-story wood-framed house with a gable-on-hip roof and recessed, wraparound corner porch. Rear addition. Vinyl siding.

1. Garage/shed. 1930s. Wood-framed with shed roof and vertical board siding. (C)

114. (NC) Auburn Country Store, 433 West Main Street. 1989.

One-story wood-framed commercial building with wood panel siding and parapet roof on front facade. Set in large black-topped parking area. Site of farmhouse for R.G. Wilson farm from which subdivisions along Wilson Avenue were created.

115. (C) LO-A-31 Luther Wilson House, 443 West Main Street. 1927. One-and-one-half-story wood-framed Bungalow/Craftsman house. Front porch supports replaced.

1. Garage. 1980s? Wood-framed with metal siding. (NC)

116. (C) LO-A-32 Mrs. M.J. Price House #1, 453 West Main Street. c. 1893.

One-story wood-framed T-plan. Front porch screened in.

1. Garage. 1930s. Wood-framed with gable roof, tongue-and-groove siding. (C)

2. Garage. 1920s. Wood-framed with shed roof, vertical board siding. (C)

117. (C) LO-A-33 Clay/McDavitt House, 461 West Main Street. c. 1860 - 1886.

Two-story single-pile wood-framed house with central passage plan. Side-facing gable roof has cross gable on west end. Rear additions. Vinyl siding.

1. Garage. 1970s. Wood-framed. (NC)

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118. (C) LO-A-34 Dr. T.O. Helm House, 467 West Main Street. 1894.  
One-story wood-framed "Queen Anne cottage" with elaborately detailed wraparound porch. Vinyl siding. Earliest and best remaining example of the "Queen Anne cottage" in Auburn. Built for Dr. Helm, an important Auburn doctor and businessman.
119. (C) LO-A-35 W.Y. Moody House, 477 West Main Street. 1918 - 1925.  
One-and-one-half-story brick veneered Bungalow/Craftsman house.
120. (C) LO-A-36 S.J. T. Lowe House, 485 West Main Street.  
c. 1920.  
One-story wood-framed Bungalow/Craftsman house.  
1. Garage. 1920s or 1930s. Wood-framed with gable roof. (C)
121. (C) LO-A-37 Bass/Phalan House, 487 West Main Street. c. 1880 - 1885.  
One-story wood-framed T-plan with rear room added about 1900 - 1910. Front porch posts replaced. Aluminum siding.  
1. Shed/carport. 1970s or 1980s. (NC)
122. (NC) LO-A-38 Williams House, 493 West Main Street. c. 1945.  
One-story wood-framed house with Cape Cod massing. Aluminum siding.
123. (C) LO-A-39 Johnston/Rogers House, 497 West Main Street.  
c. 1913.  
One-story wood-framed house with "Southern pyramidal roof" form.
124. (C) LO-A-40 Methodist Church Parsonage #2, 503 West Main Street. c. 1890 - 1910.  
One-story wood-framed T-plan house. Served as the Methodist parsonage for some years.
125. (C) LO-A-41 J.R. Baker House, 507 West Main Street. 1938.  
One-story stone-veneered house with suggestions of English Cottage styling.  
1. Garage. 1980s?. Wood-framed. (NC)

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South Lincoln Street

126. (C) LO-A-164 Auburn Mills, Inc., 117 South Lincoln Street.  
c. 1875 with numerous later additions.

Two-and-one-half-story heavy-timber-frame grain mill and two-story heavy-timber-frame granary with multiple additions including a 1950s corn mill and warehouses built in the 1950s and 1966.

1. Grain bins and elevators. 1937 - 1960s. Poured concrete bins dating from 1937 are surrounded by metal grain elevators constructed with steel plates. (C structure)

127. (C) LO-A-165 W.B. Woodward House/Methodist Parsonage #1 , 221 South Lincoln Street. c. 1860 - 1880.

One-story single-pile wood-framed house with central-passage plan and rear ell. Front porch may have been removed. Aluminum siding. Purchased for the Methodist parsonage in 1885 and used for this purpose until 1906.

1. Servants' house? 1860 - 1900. Wood-framed with gable roof, window in east side, and horizontal board siding. (C)

Wilson Avenue

128. (C) LO-A-147 McCarley/Owens House, 103 Wilson Avenue.  
c. 1917 - 1922.

One-and-one-half-story wood-framed Bungalow/Craftsman house.

1. Garage/shed. 1930s. Wood-framed with gable roof, vertical board and shiplap siding. (C)

129. (C) LO-A-148 McCarley/Moody House, 105 Wilson Avenue.  
c. 1917 - 1922.

One-and-one-half-story wood-framed Bungalow/Craftsman house.

1. Garage. 1930s. Wood-framed with gable roof and shiplap siding. (C)

130. (C) LO-A-149 Boyce Herndon House, 109 Wilson Avenue. c. 1939.  
One-and-one-half-story wood-framed house with simple English Cottage styling.

1. Small house adapted as garage/shed. 1920s. Wood-framed, T-plan with tongue-and-groove siding. (C)

131. (C) LO-A-150 Claude Lancaster House, 111 Wilson Avenue.  
c. 1915 - 1925.

One-and-one-half-story wood-framed Bungalow/Craftsman house.

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Vinyl siding.

1. Garage. 1960s or 1970s. Two-car, concrete block. (NC)
132. (C) LO-A-151 Washer House, 201 Wilson Avenue. c. 1915 - 1925.  
One-and-one-half-story wood-framed Bungalow/Craftsman house.  
Aluminum siding.
133. (NC) 203 Wilson Avenue. 1960s?  
Small wood-framed house with Cape Cod massing.
134. (C) LO-A-152 Harold Lambrith House, 205 Wilson Avenue.  
c. 1915 - 1925.  
One-and-one-half-story wood-framed Bungalow/Craftsman house.
135. (C) LO-A-153 207 Wilson Avenue. c. 1915 - 1925.  
One-and-one-half-story wood-framed Bungalow/Craftsman house.  
Aluminum siding.  
1. Garage. 1930s. Wood-framed with gable roof, weatherboard siding. (C)
136. (C) LO-A-154 C.O. Waddle House, 211 Wilson Avenue. c. 1915 - 1925.  
One-and-one-half-story wood-framed Bungalow/Craftsman house.  
Side addition. Aluminum siding.  
1. Barn. 1920s. Wood-framed with gable roof and vertical board siding. (C)  
2. Garage. 1960s or 1970s. Wood-framed. (NC)

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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Auburn Historic District meets National Criterion A for its associations with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Auburn's and Logan County's history. The district reflects the effects of several key events in the town's history including the 1860 arrival of the railroad and creation of the town, the 1884 establishment of the public square, the 1930 widening and paving of Main Street after it was designated a link in the Dixie Highway, and the 1936 establishment of the Auburn Industrial Foundation and 1937 construction of the Auburn Hosiery Mill to promote industry and jobs in the town during the Depression. In addition it reflects more gradual trends such as changing patterns in housing types and styles and the development of the community into a shipping and commercial center for the surrounding agricultural countryside. In terms of Criterion A it is significant in the area of community planning and development for the way the railroad, the streets, the lots, and the buildings in the district document the establishment and development of a small 19th century railroad town and document how the railroad's role interfaced in the 19th and early 20th centuries with that of an important regional road that also sliced through the town. The district's period of significance dates from 1860 to 1942.

The district was evaluated within the context "Community Planning and Development in Auburn, 1860 - 1942" which focuses on the significance of the diverse group of residential, commercial, industrial and religious resources in the district and the streets, the railroad, the lots, and the public square on which they are located. This context draws from five sub-themes: Transportation in Auburn, 1820 - 1942; Commerce in Auburn, 1860 - 1942; Industry in Auburn, 1860 - 1942; Religion in Auburn, 1840 - 1942; and Domestic Architecture in Auburn, 1820 - 1942. These sub-themes were developed as part of a survey of the community completed in 1993. They are included in the "Auburn, Logan County, Kentucky Survey Summary Report" on file at the Kentucky Heritage Council Office in Frankfort, Kentucky. Many of the buildings included in the district are those singled out in these themes as the key resources associated with them and in the case of the commercial and residential buildings, as important examples of the building types developed for these themes.

The Auburn Historic District consists of a group of historic

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properties at the center of Auburn that includes commercial, residential, religious, and industrial buildings dating from the 1860s through the 1930s. The oldest and one of the most important buildings in the district, the John Viers House (No. 17, LO-A-107), may date in part from as early as the 1820s, with the main part of the house constructed anywhere from about 1840 to 1860. These buildings, together with the matrix of streets and lots on which they are located and with the railroad track that slices through the district, provide an excellent picture of the development of Auburn from 1860, the date the railroad was completed through the area and the town was laid out, to 1942, the date the last historic building in the district was constructed. The Auburn Historic District includes nearly all the remaining historic resources that document the story of Auburn's development from a railroad station stop to a small late 19th and early 20th century service community that supplied many of the needs of the surrounding agricultural countryside and provided jobs for a number of people in its small but important industries.

The John Viers House (No. 17, LO-A-107), home of John Viers, the prosperous farmer who provided much of the land and the impetus for the establishment of Auburn is a key resource in the district. Portions of the railroad track and the Bowling Green - Russellville Road (Main Street) which so influenced the layout and later appearance of the town and much of the earliest part of the town lying between the railroad and this road are included. A number of the lots in this area, particularly along North Lincoln Street, still retain their early dimensions and provide a strong sense of the spatial rhythms of the original town. The important public square which has provided a central focus for the town's business district since the 1880s is included. One of the town's very few early 20th century subdivisions laid out on the west side of Wilson Avenue on one of the area's of farmland that surrounded the town is included to document early 20th century residential expansion. West Main Street, whose houses and lots tell the story of the gradual subdivision of small in-town farming properties into a continuous row of residences, is also part of the district.

The district's building stock includes structures from every decade of the town's development from the 1860s through the 1930s. It chronicles the modest scale and vernacular treatment of Auburn's buildings and documents the sharp contrast between the houses, stores, and churches of this small railroad town and those of Russellville, the Logan County seat, which tend to be much more

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high-style in character. It provides good examples of the forms and types of houses that were prevalent in Auburn during the period of significance and illustrates how these forms and types changed as the town developed. These include the one- and two-story single-pile central passage house (the W.W. and Mildred Parish House, No. 45, LO-A-77; and the Samuel Price House, No. 6, LO-A-99), the side-passage house (the Coghill/Herndon/Price House, No. 58, LO-A-72), the one- and two-story T-plan house (the J.S. Hurt House, No. 53, LO-A-67; and the J.W. Smith House, No. 11, LO-A-94), the "Queen Anne cottage" (the Dr. T.O. Helm House, No. 118, LO-A-34), and the early 20th century Bungalow (almost every house along Wilson Avenue from No. 128, LO-A-147 to No. 136, LO-A-154 is a good example of a Bungalow/Craftsman house). The district also contains important examples of the Depression era residences built in Auburn including several of the stone-veneered residences (the Sam Miller House, No. 102, LO-A-46; and the J. R. Baker House No. 125, LO-A-41) and the imposing two-story Neoclassical Claude Peart House (No. 112, LO-A-29).

Although a number of the contributing commercial buildings in the district have undergone considerable alteration, as a group they provide valuable information about the organization, scale, building materials and type of architectural detailing of Auburn's early 20th century commercial district. All three bank buildings that together tell the story of Auburn's banking history lie within the district (Nos. 69, 75 and 76) as well as store buildings, professional offices, a hotel, a movie theater, and two automobile garages and car dealerships. Three key industrial buildings located within the district, the Auburn Mill complex (No. 126, LO-A-164, the Caldwell Lace Leather Company factory (No. 19, LO-A-88) and the Auburn Hosiery Mills (No. 67, LO-A-18) document the importance of industry in Auburn's development.

According to Kentucky historian Thomas D. Clark, "the building of the L and N was the most significant internal improvement undertaken in Kentucky (before 1860)" ["Louisville and Nashville Railroad," Kentucky Encyclopedia, p. 579]. A string of towns stretching from Louisville to the Tennessee border immediately began to develop around the station stops that were designated for the line. The historic resources of the Auburn Historic District are significant for illustrating the development of the county's only railroad town along the Memphis Branch of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. This study restricted its scope to Auburn's historic resources. At a later date, a thematic study of the small

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railroad towns that developed along the L and N during the 1860s and 1870s, including Smith's Grove in Warren County, Cave City in Barren County, Horse Cave in Hart County, and Glendale in Hardin County, would provide additional insights into similarities and unique features in the planning and development of these communities.

The Planning and Development of Auburn: 1860 - 1942

The Auburn Area Prior to 1860

The town of Auburn, in east central Logan County, was established in 1860 after the area had become well-populated in the first half of the 19th century. Highway U.S. 68/ Ky. 80, which presently bisects the town, follows the route of the historic Bowling Green to Russellville road, an early east-west overland route which connected these two pre-1800 settlements. The Shaker settlement at South Union, just four miles east of Auburn along "the great road" [Neal, By Their Fruits, p. 44], was organized in 1811 and by the 1820s consisted of a community of over 300 people [Neal, p. 37 and 72]. Small rural churches such as Liberty Baptist Church, organized in 1829, and Friendship Baptist Church, established in 1834, [Richardson, A History of the Auburn Baptist Church, p. 2] point to the existence of a scattered rural population by those dates.

Several large plantations are known to have been located in the area of present day Auburn by the 1830s. In 1813 the Shakers purchased 1140 acres on the banks of Black Lick Creek at Auburn and established a separate settlement called "Watervleit" where they farmed and established a "sugar camp" [Neal, p. 40]. In the 1820s as many as 60 Shakers resided on the property. In 1838 John Viers purchased 291 acres of this property on the north side of the Bowling Green - Russellville Road including what had been one of the Shakers' dwelling buildings (No. 17, LO-A-107) [Logan County Deed Book W, p. 136]. It is thought that Viers added a two-story "I" house to the front of this structure sometime after 1838 and before 1860, perhaps on an earlier Shaker foundation. This purchase from the Shakers became the core of a much larger property. Viers was referred to as one of the most influential men in the Auburn area in an early reminiscence [Blakey, Men Whom I Remember, p. 84].



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In 1824, Benjamin Temple purchased a large piece of property on the south side of the Bowling Green - Russellville Road [Logan County Deed Book N, p.16] which was developed into a prosperous farm named "Federal Grove" [Blakey, p.79, 80, and 82], a name which has also been associated with an early settlement at Auburn. By the time of its sale in 1860, the property included 708 acres [Logan County Deed Book 37, p. 175].

The 1860 census lists just over 800 people in "Black Lick", an area whose exact boundaries are undetermined but which included present-day Auburn and its surroundings [Willhite, Logan County, Kentucky 1860 Federal Census]. Oral history suggests there may have been a small concentration of commercial, institutional and residential buildings along the Bowling Green - Russellville Road in the Auburn area before the town was established. A Methodist Church, at least one store building, and an inn serving as a stage stop (LO-A-136) were dotted along the mile of road west of Black Lick Creek. Deed research, old photographs, and oral history suggest there were also several houses. The "Middleton and Coon Range Road," (now North and South Lincoln Streets through Auburn), dates back at least to 1860. That historic north-south route, one of the few in the Auburn area, may have served as the necessary catalyst to encourage Auburn to grow into a crossroads community.

### Establishment of the Town in 1860

The town itself did not begin to develop into its current form until after 1860 with the arrival of the Memphis Branch of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad [Neal, p. 162]. The route for the Memphis Branch of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad through Logan County was surveyed in 1853 [Neal, p. 161] and in 1858 a deed indicate that the railroad company purchased a right-of-way across the property of John Viers [Logan County Deed Book 37, page 440]. In 1860 Viers provided the land for a depot [Logan County Deed Book 37, p. 148]. That same year Viers, in partnership with two other area land owners, John Darby and Harrison Woodward, purchased the Federal Grove property [Logan County Deed Book 37, p. 175]. Portions of Viers' farm and the Federal Grove property formed the basis for the town of Auburn which was platted about that time. This original plat has been lost, according to one source in a Civil War fire at the depot [McCarley, "Recollections of the History of Auburn"], but 1860 deeds referring to lot numbers on "A.J. Corning's plat," the first year that Viers, Woodward and

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Darby sold lots confirm that the town dates from this year [Logan County Deed Books: 37, p. 371; 37, p. 453; 39, p. 364].

Deed descriptions for these early lot sales and the 1877 map of Auburn from the Atlas of Logan County, Kentucky (Figure 1) help to clarify the look of the early town. The town's irregular grid pattern was laid out around four preexisting features: The Bowling Green - Russellville Road, the Middleton Road, the railroad track which roughly paralleled the main road about a thousand feet to its north, and Black Lick Creek which had its source at a spring to the south of the Bowling Green - Russellville Road and followed a northerly course at the eastern edge of John Viers' property. Large rectangular lots (along today's Maple Street) fronted the north side of the railroad tracks. Viers Street then and today led to the John Viers House and large farm on the north edge of Auburn. A series of five short streets, Church (now College), Lincoln, Pond (now Perkins), Pearl, and Depot (now Caldwell) ran north one block from the Bowling Green - Russellville Road, (by 1877 designated as Main Street), to the railroad. Deeds indicate that long deep rectangular lots fronted North Lincoln, Pearl, Depot, and Main streets, although the 1877 map shows some of these as subdivided. Pearl Street continued to the south across Main Street as Spring Street and led to Black Lick spring. South Lincoln Street led out of town to the south as it continued the path of North Lincoln Street on the south side of Main Street. Mill Street, so called by 1877, ran between Spring Street and South Lincoln Street one block south of Main Street.

According to an 1893 letter [recorded in Logan County Deed Book 70, p. 568] from the mayor of Auburn, W.N. Crewdson, to the Logan County Clerk regarding the lack of a plat for Auburn, the original town consisted of a half-mile square which was expanded in about 1867 to a mile square. This mile boundary remained in effect until the city limits were expanded to the west about 1980. Much of the original half mile-square area lies within the district as well of portions of Auburn included within the mile-square boundary.

### Early Town Development: 1860 - 1900

A post office, at first named "Black Lick" and in 1862 changed to "Auburn," was established in 1860 [Whitaker, "Postal Routes Established in Logan County in 1801," p. 17]. E.R. Gordon's

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grist and woolen mill, a substantial operation that employed at least 15 people, was functioning before 1865. Auburn's development stalled during the Civil War, but afterwards the city grew quickly into a small service community that provided commercial, agricultural processing, educational, religious, and medical services to the townspeople and the surrounding agricultural countryside.

The town was incorporated on June 3, 1865 [Acts of the Kentucky Legislature, Vol. II, 1865, p. 590]. Perhaps as early as the late 1860s and certainly by the 1870s a small commercial district had begun to develop along the main Bowling Green to Russellville road in the vicinity of the present commercial area. Deeds and maps indicate the location there of storehouses, a hotel, and a livery stable [Logan County Deed Books: 37-371; 43-232; 54-342; 60-490 and The Atlas of Logan County]. A second mill, Auburn Mills, Inc. (No. 126, LO-A-164), built to replace the first which had gone bankrupt and then burned, was in place by 1877. By the 1880s and perhaps before a tobacco rehandling facility had been built adjacent to the railroad tracks as well as a tannery along Black Lick Creek just to the south of the railroad.

Most of Auburn's religious and educational institutions were established in the initial rush of development shortly after the town's incorporation in 1865. A Methodist church, located on the site of the present Methodist chapel, had been built some time before, probably about 1847. The Cumberland Presbyterians met to form a congregation in 1865, followed by the Baptists in 1866, and the Christians about 1871 ["Beginnings of Auburn's Old Churches Recalled," Auburn News, June 3, 1959]. The very intact Christian Church (No. 16, LO-A-106) is located within the district. A school was probably established about 1873, the year the school district purchased land on today's Wilson Avenue just to the south of the Methodist church [Logan County Deed Book 48, p. 391]. A year later this evolved into a subscription high school, at first independently owned but later run by the Cumberland Presbyterian Church [Logan County Deed Book 48, p. 547]. In 1910 this private institution became the Auburn High School, Auburn's first public high school.

Auburn's population first appeared in the 1870 census and was listed at 610. An 1876 Business Directory, the earliest found that includes Auburn as a separate entry, lists 2 hotels, a flouring mill, 2 grocers, 2 dry goods stores, 2 general stores, 2 druggists, a tinsmith, and 5 physicians. Tobacco, wheat, corn, and pork are

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listed as the principal railroad shipments. "Several churches and a high school" are also mentioned [1876 Kentucky Business Directory, p. 71, copy made by Richard Cox, Auburn, Ky. Full citation unknown].

About 1884, following a fire that destroyed several of the early commercial structures, G.W. Davidson purchased a number of lots on the south side of the Bowling Green - Russellville road to the west of Spring Street and built an imposing row of two-story brick commercial buildings. These buildings stand 100 feet back from the front of their lots. Their placement established the town square, still in existence today, which gives Auburn a layout which few small towns that are not county seats possess. The buildings (Nos. 71 - 74, LO-A-20 - 24) were badly damaged by fire about 1910, reducing their height to one story but not eliminating the town's central focus.

Following its initial burst of development the town appears to have remained static in terms of growth into the 20th century. Census figures indicate that the population crept up to 682 by 1880, dropped back to 613 in 1890, increased slightly to 697 in 1900, and then fell back again to 631 in 1910, a figure only 21 more than the 610 indicated in Auburn's initial listing as a town in 1870. Several deeds and the newspapers demonstrate that during the 1880s and 1890s, as employment opportunities in Auburn diminished, there was a considerable out-migration from the town to such places as Texas and Missouri [The Auburn Advocate, Vol. XII, Oct. 4, 1907].

#### Early Twentieth Century Changes in Auburn

During the 1920s and 1930s there were probably more physical changes to Auburn's overall appearance than at any time since the first busy building years of the late 1860s and 1870s. Auburn's present commercial building stock almost all dates from 1910 to 1940. During this time the commercial district became much more densely built up with a solid row of brick buildings between Lincoln Street and Caldwell (Depot) Street on the north side of Main Street. Some buildings were new in-fill structures; others were completely remodeled after fires or in face-lifts intended to update older buildings. Three of the town's five congregations replaced their churches during this period. In the older residential sections near the center of town, housing became

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somewhat denser as larger lots were subdivided for new residences. Often a portion of a lot was deeded to a son or daughter for the construction of a new house adjacent to the parents' home. In a pattern typical of many small Kentucky towns at this time, a number of the town's older houses were replaced with new more up-to-date and fashionable residences, nearly all in the nationally popular Bungalow/Craftsman style. The residential areas expanded somewhat as new subdivisions were laid out in 1911 and 1915 along newly established Wilson Avenue and in the area of North College Street and Walnut Street on land that had earlier been farmed.

By 1925 the designation of Main Street (the Bowling Green - Russellville Road) as a section of the western route of the Dixie Highway [Dunn, "The Official Opening of the Eastern Dixie Highway Removes From Kentucky the Detour Stigma," The Kentucky Outlook, Vol. 1, No. 1, p. 2] had clearly focused the town's attention on the automobile and the services and repair and supply needs that accompanied it. In 1926 the town's 1890s Eastlake-styled hotel, prominently located on Main Street (No. 78, LO-A-6), was drastically modernized with a new sleek front facade, no doubt to attract new business generated by the Dixie Highway. In 1934 Coke's Chevrolet (No. 66, LO-A-16) and accompanying filling station were built, ultra modern facilities in the up-to-date Art Moderne style. As a result of the Dixie Highway designation, Main Street through town was widened, macadamized and curbed for the first time in 1930 with the assistance of the State Highway Department ["Town Ordinances for the Town of Auburn, Kentucky: 1912 - 1933," p. 184 and The Auburn Times, Dec. 3, 1930] creating a significantly differing appearance from the narrow tree-lined dirt road documented in early postcards .

Census statistics and research on construction in 1930s Auburn suggest that the town may not have suffered so dramatically during the Depression as many other small towns in Kentucky and elsewhere. The population actually rose during the Depression from 821 in 1930 to 955 in 1940. A surprising number of houses were built in the town during the decade leading up to World War II including a handful of small handsomely detailed stone dwellings ( the Sam Miller House, No. 102, and the J. R. Baker House, No. 125, are good examples in the district) as well as the large and imposing Claude Peart House (No. 112, LO-A-29), a 1937 Neoclassical structure with a monumental two-story portico. Two up-to-date churches were built, designed by Nashville architect, Thomas Gardner: the Presbyterian Church (No. 54, LO-A-69) in 1931 to replace an earlier

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structure destroyed by fire, and the Pearce Memorial Methodist Chapel (No. 111, LO-A-28) in 1937 to replace an earlier structure deemed outdated by the congregation.

The town seems to have been very successful in making use of the possibilities provided by the various Depression-era public works agencies. A high school, a gymnasium, and a city water works were all built using WPA or PWA money. In addition streets were widened, repaired and paved. Of particular interest was the formation about 1936 of the Auburn Industrial Foundation, according to a newspaper article one of a first such organizations created around the state to encourage the cooperation of city and industry in the development of new jobs ["Open House to Mark 25th Year of Auburn Operation," Park City Daily News, Sept. 6, 1962, p.3]. In 1937 the agency built a modern factory building on Main Street for the Auburn Hosiery Mills, Inc. (No. 67, LO-A-18) which purchased the building from the city in 1946. The company, still in business today, became a major Auburn employer.

Auburn's Development After the Historic Period

Population statistics indicate that Auburn continued to expand after World War II with the population rising to an all time high of 1,862 in 1970. For some years Auburn with the Caldwell Lace Leather Company (No. 63, LO-A-13; No. 64, LO-A-14; and No. 19, LO-A-88), the Auburn Hosiery Mills, and two corn and flour mills had more manufacturing jobs than any other community in Logan County. Its high school continued to be a draw.

The railroad played an important role in Auburn into the 1930s and 1940s by which time, as in many Kentucky railroad towns, the automobile had began to supplant it as the principal means for transporting people and freight. The Auburn depot was closed in 1959 ["Auburn Station Closing, L and N Notifies Town," The Auburn News, April 4, 1959] and the L and N Railroad stopped running passenger trains on the line soon after. Through-freight service to Memphis was phased out about 20 years ago. In 1987 R.J. Corman purchased the line from CSX (present owners of many of the L and N routes), and the R.J. Corman Railroad now provides freight service through the area.

In 1983 the high school was closed and the buildings demolished as the high schools in the county were consolidated into

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one regional school just outside of Russellville. More and more business was conducted away from Auburn. Like nearly all small towns in rural Kentucky, Auburn's commercial base had begun a slow erosion that accelerated in the years after World War II as the automobile, allowed local people to travel farther afield to the larger markets in Bowling Green and Russellville for their shopping needs. Today Auburn has only a handful of "traditional" businesses, including a small variety store, a grocery store, and an appliance sales and service operation and several hairdressers. A number of stores are vacant. The population dropped back to 1,571 in 1980 and continued on a rapid downward trend through the 1980s to a 1990 figure of 1,273.

A number of the occupied buildings house antique and gift shops, which perhaps suggest a new emphasis for the town's commercial buildings. The construction of the 68/80 by-pass just to the north of Auburn provides an opportunity for Auburn to preserve its historic character while it promotes new commercial and industrial activities adjacent to the highway.

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Burr, Elsie, 408 Maple Street.

Clark, Ray S., President, Scott's Auburn Mills, 117 South Lincoln Street.

Cox, Richard. Cox Variety Store, 112 West Main Street.

Duer, Mildred, 123 Pearl Street.

Hadden, Vernon and Eloise, 414 Maple Street.

Hollins, Christine Rowe, 302 North College Street.

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Nole, Tempie, 113 Park Street.

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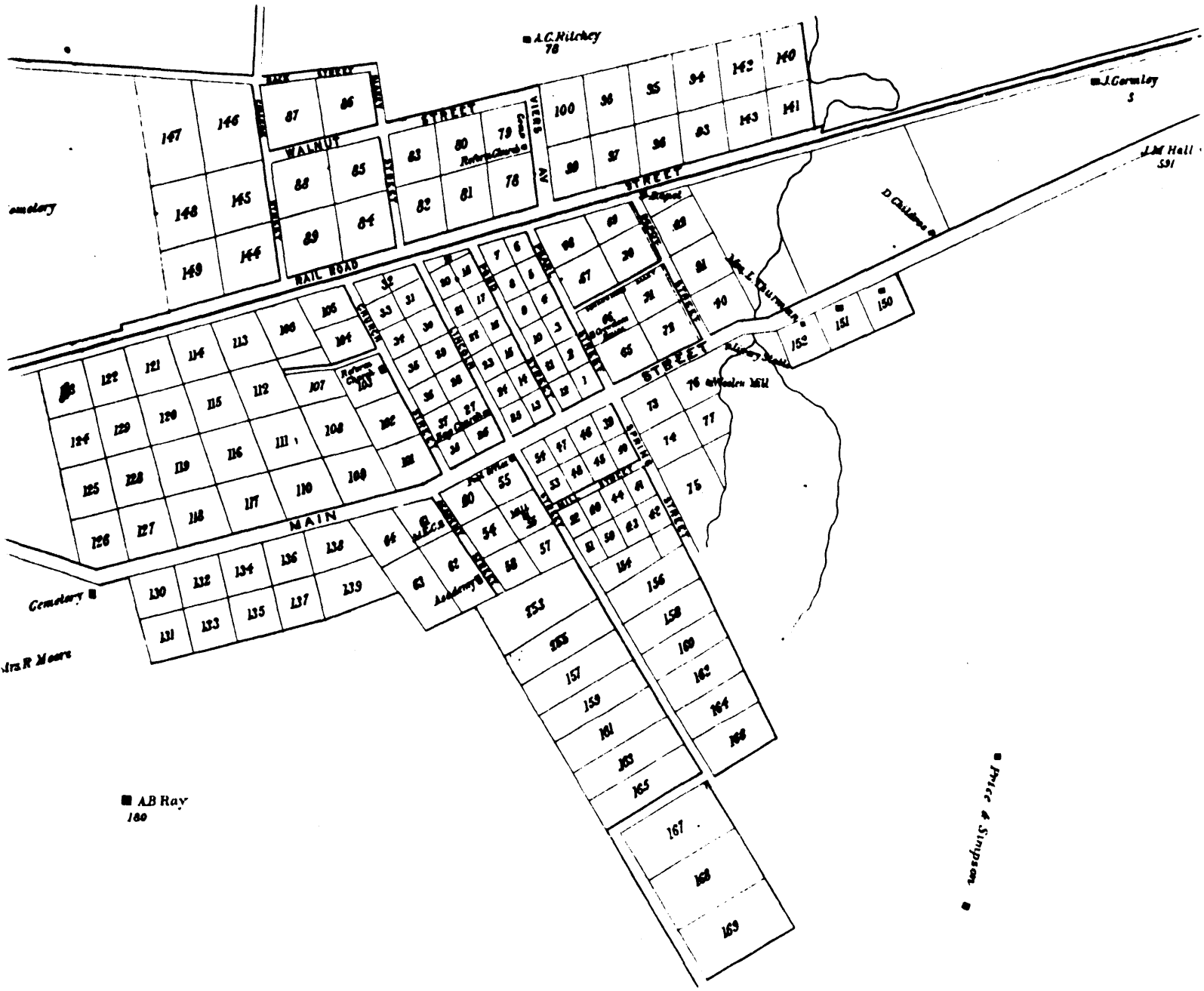
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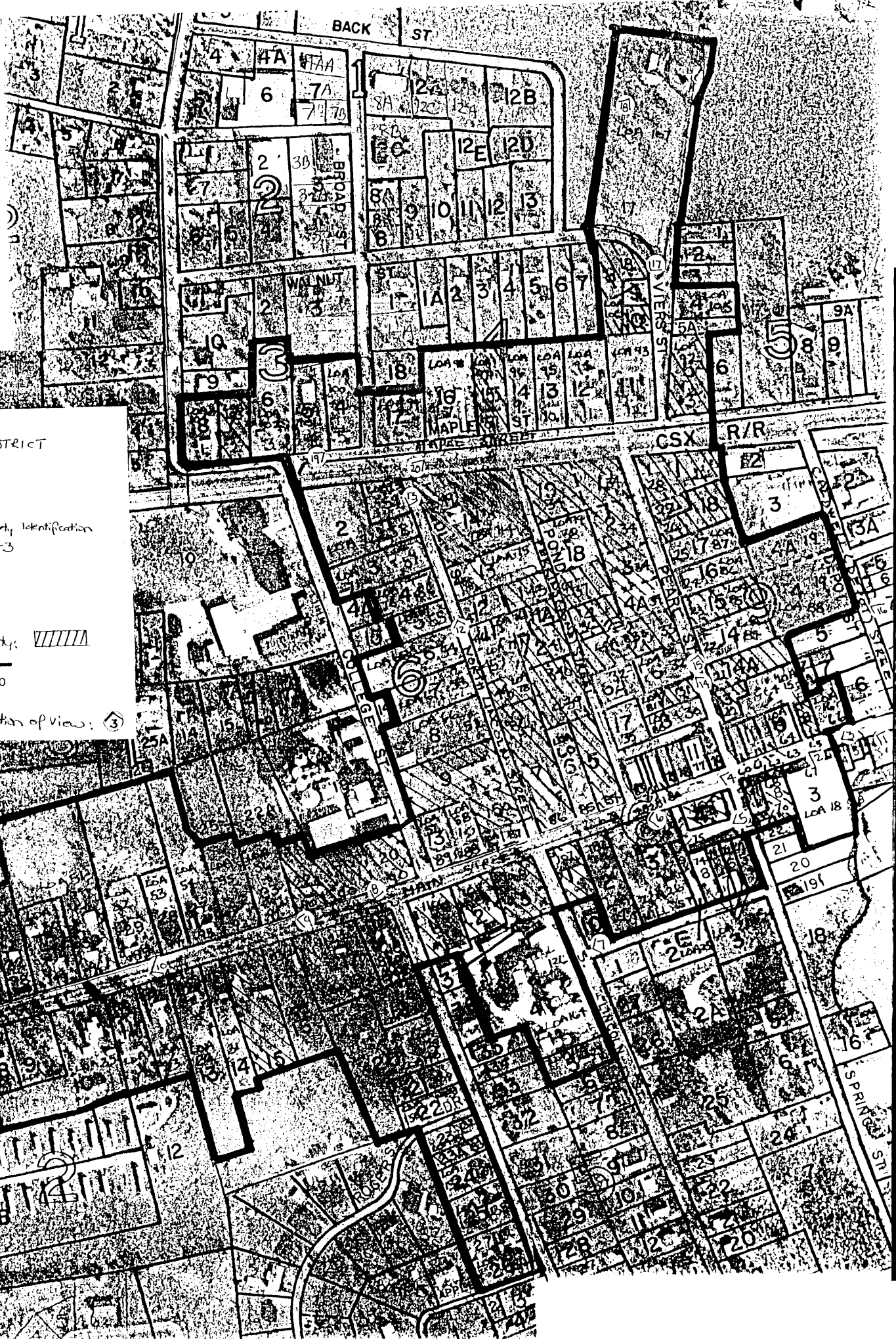
# PLAT OF AUBURN





Scale 500 R to the Inch.



from the 1877 Atlas of Logan County, Kentucky

FIGURE 1



AUBURN HISTORIC DISTRICT  
Auburn, Logan Co., Ky.  
SKETCH MAP  
Source: Logan Co. Property Identification  
Maps: Auburn, Sections 1-3  
North: ↑  
NR Property No.: 7  
Survey No.: LOA 5  
Non-contributing property:   
Boundary:   
Scale:   
Photo No. and Direction of View: 

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## PHOTOGRAPHS

Auburn Historic District  
Auburn, Logan County, Kentucky  
Photographer: Carolyn Brooks  
Date: November 1992 - November 1993  
Negatives on file with the Kentucky Heritage Council, Frankfort

(The above information is the same for all 20 photographs submitted with the nomination. Below the photographs are listed in the order of their photograph numbers. Building names and/or street addresses and National Register inventory numbers are indicated, and each view is described.)

1. North side of East Main Street at east edge of district, Coke's Chevrolet Garage (#66) in foreground; photographer facing northwest.
2. North side of East Main Street just east of Pearl Street, Caldwell Lace Leather Company #2 (#64) in foreground; photographer facing northwest.
3. South side of East Main Street at east edge of district, Auburn Hosiery Mills (#67) in foreground; photographer facing southwest.
4. North side of West Main Street just west of Pearl Street, Bank of Auburn (#76) in foreground; photographer facing northwest.
5. Auburn Public Square with Brick Row (#71 - 74) in foreground and G.W. Davidson Banking Company (#75) at rear; photographer facing southwest.
6. South side of East Main Street west of the Public Square, G.W. Davidson House (#105) in foreground and Jamerson/Stagner House (#106) at rear; photographer facing southwest.
7. Auburn Mills, Inc., 117 South Lincoln Street, (#126); photographer facing northwest.
8. Pearce Memorial Methodist Church, 411 West Main Street (#111); photographer facing southeast.

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9. North side of West Main Street between College and Roosevelt streets, B.D. Williams House (#91) in foreground; photographer facing northwest.
10. South side of west Main Street between Wilson Avenue and Belcher Street, Dr. T.O. Helm House (#118) at center; photographer facing southwest.
11. Sam Miller House, 506 West Main Street (#102); photographer facing north.
12. North Lincoln Street looking towards Maple Street from Main Street; photographer facing northwest.
13. West side of North Lincoln Street, Coghill/Herndon/Price House (#58) in foreground and Waddle/McCarley House (#57) at rear; photographer facing south.
14. Dr. Adolphus Johnston House, 123 Pearl Street (#32); photographer facing northwest.
15. East side of Pearl Street just north of Main Street, 124 Pearl Street (#22) in foreground; photographer facing north.
16. Dark Tobacco Cooperative Growers Association Warehouse/Caldwell Lace Leather Company, 125 Caldwell Street (#19); photographer facing northwest.
17. Auburn Christian Church, 123 Viers Street (#16); photographer facing southwest.
18. John Viers House, 239 Viers Street (#17); photographer facing northeast.
19. North side of Maple Street at intersection with Blakey Street, Snodgrass/Hutcheson House (#5) in foreground; photographer facing northeast.
20. North side of Maple Street east of Blakey Street, Dr. William Burr House (#7) in foreground; photographer facing northeast.