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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Hartsville Historic District

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Roughly along Main and Greentop Streets between River N/A not for publication
and Church Street

city or town Hartsville N/A vicinity

state Tennessee code TN county Trousdale code 169 zip code 37074

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Herbert E. Hager 5/19/93
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 - See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 - See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Arlene Byers

~~Entered in the National Register~~

Date of Action

6/24/93

Hartsville Historic District
Name of Property

Trousdale Co., Tennessee
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
29	11	buildings
		sites
2	0	structures
		objects
31	11	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/ single dwelling

COMMERCE/ financial institution/ business
/ specialty store

GOVERNMENT/ courthouse

RELIGION/ religious facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/ single dwelling

COMMERCE/ financial institution/ business
/ specialty store/ restaurant

GOVERNMENT/ courthouse

RELIGION/ religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne

One- and Two-Part Commercial

Bungalow/ Craftsman

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE, BRICK, Limestone

walls BRICK, WOOD, STUCCO, GLASS

roof ASPHALT

other TERRA COTTA, Steel, Limestone,
Aluminum

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is: N/A

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- 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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Commerce

Period of Significance

1860-1940

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

multiple

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Center for Historic Preservation, Middle Tennessee State University

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Narrative Description

The county seat of Trousdale County, Hartsville (population 2,188 in 1990), is located at the geographic center of the county in northeastern Middle Tennessee. The town grew just north of the Cumberland River, an early source of transportation in the early nineteenth century. An additional water source for Hartsville is Goose Creek which runs through the town on the north and east side. From the east of Hartsville, Goose Creek runs southward joining the Cumberland River. Hartsville began as the community of Damascus in 1797 on the east side of Goose Creek. Later development by the Hart family on the west side of the creek provided the location for the town of Hartsville.

Town development was strongly influenced by the railroad. A spur line of the Louisville and Nashville line from Gallatin northeast of Hartsville in adjacent Sumner County entered Trousdale County connecting first in Templo before proceeding on to Hartsville. Located just north of the historic district on Broadway, the railroad depot was built in 1898 and listed on the National Register in 1980. Currently State Route 10-25 runs about one mile north of the historic district along an east west route. Additionally State Route 141 runs through the west side of the historic district on a north south route. There have never been any federal highways in Trousdale County.

The focus of the Hartsville Historic District is a downtown core which surrounds the block known as Courthouse Square. Commercial buildings on the surrounding blocks, along with a residential area on the south side of the downtown area, complete the historic district. The northern boundary of the district is Main Street. Foxall Street stands between Main and the southern boundary, Greentop Street. Court Street lies between River Street, the easternmost boundary, and Church Street which is the westernmost boundary. Church Street becomes Broadway north of Main Street.

The historic district consists of commercial and residential buildings constructed between 1860 and 1940. Ten residential buildings and two outbuildings in the Queen Anne, gable and wing, I-house, bungalow and cottage styles border the district. The heart of the district is comprised of commercial buildings. Thirteen of the commercial buildings are one-story buildings and fourteen are two-story. One public building, the courthouse, and two churches complete the district for a total of forty-two buildings. Of these buildings eight of the commercial structures have been heavily altered with filled-in windows, new facades,

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aluminum siding or have been burned. One commercial structure is six years short of the period of significance, one residential structure has been heavily altered with aluminum siding and there is one non-contributing playground. Due to the current condition these buildings are listed as non-contributing.

The Hartsville Historic District is comprised of mid- to late nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings. Of the contributing buildings within the historic district there are two antebellum properties: the Methodist Church (#1) and a commercial building on West Main Street (#30). The residential area on the south side of the district also includes mid- to late nineteenth and early twentieth century dwellings. The commercial portion of the downtown has experienced several fires, especially in the early 1900s. Thus the downtown region has only a few nineteenth century buildings.

According to Sanborn Fire Insurance maps from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Hartsville's downtown built environment has changed substantially. Due to the series of fires, beginning in 1877 followed by blazes in 1900, 1902 and 1904, many of the downtown buildings were lost and later replaced. The courthouse burned in the 1900 and 1904 fires. It originally stood on Main Street at the corner of Court Street, formerly Pigg Alley. But after a 1904 fire destroyed the third courthouse, the fourth courthouse, built in 1905, was placed one block east of the central business district at Main and River Streets. As additional protection from fire this courthouse was constructed on a block free of other buildings; the previous courthouses stood next to a notions shop, the first Bank of Hartsville building and a hardware and tin shop. The courthouse was not the only building lost in the fires that plagued Hartsville; many of the downtown buildings burned and were later replaced in the early twentieth century.

The commercial buildings within the district are all one- and two-part commercial blocks constructed of brick or wood with stone or concrete block foundations and storefront display windows. The terms one- and two-part commercial block buildings were created by architectural historian Richard Longstreth to distinguish different commercial buildings constructed between the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Two-part commercial block buildings are two or more stories in height with an exterior horizontal separation into two distinct zones. The different exterior zones indicate different commercial uses inside. The lower zone is used as more public commercial space

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such as stores, bank or hotel lobbies while the upper zone is designated for more private uses such as offices or hotel rooms.

The one-part commercial blocks are very similar in exterior appearance to the two-part commercial block. However, the one-part commercial blocks are only one-story and thus lack the horizontal separation into two zones. In form the one-part commercial block is a simple box with decorative features characteristic of urban commercial buildings. In the historic district of Hartsville the tallest buildings are two-story, two-part commercial blocks (# 18, 19, 29). Examples of one-part commercial block buildings are also found in the district, (# 20, 36, 37).

Gaps in the town's blocks due to demolition are few and the majority of Hartsville's modern buildings lie outside of the proposed historic district. Of the forty-two buildings, seven were constructed prior to 1900 but are significant representatives of the history of development in Hartsville.

Contributing resources (C) have similar design features and maintain the scale and use of the district. Non-contributing resources (NC) have lost their character defining architectural features through heavy alteration or damage by fire.

Jeff Durbin of the Tennessee Department of Transportation prepared a history and historic architectural assessment of the district as part of an Environmental Assessment and Consensus Determination of Eligibility in 1991. Additional survey and fieldwork was conducted by Claudette Stager and Elizabeth Straw of the Tennessee Historical Commission. Further research, field survey, and preparation of the nomination was completed by Lauren Batte of the Middle Tennessee State University Center for Historic Preservation.

INVENTORY:

Church Street

1. 106 Church Street, Northwest corner of Foxall and Church Streets, Methodist Church, c. 1850 with 1897 additions, Romanesque two-story brick building with arched door and window openings, gable roof, and central tower extending from the east elevation. Originally a one-story building, the Methodists added an upper story in 1897 which the Masons and Knights of Pythias used as a meeting hall. A wood steeple once topped the central

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tower but has been removed. In 1949 the Methodists moved to a new building and the old church has been used for other purposes.

(C)

2. 200 Church Street, Southwest corner of Foxall and Church Streets, Littleton House, c. 1900 two-story Queen Anne residence with pyramidal roof and cross gables, with corner cut-outs, one-story porch, turned posts and millwork. Asbestos shingles cover the original exterior of the building. A stone retaining wall forms the eastern boundary of the property. (C)

3. 202 Church Street, c. 1946, one-part commercial block vernacular glazed brick rectangular plan, flat roofed, building, concrete foundation, roofing material not visible, original doors and transoms, altered storefront configuration, aluminum awning added. Building will be eligible for inclusion in the district in 1996. (NC)

4. 205 Church Street, Northeast corner of Greentop and Church Streets, Throp House, c. 1875, two-story frame gable front and wing house with Victorian two-story porch, weatherboard siding, two-over-two double hung sash windows, cornerboards, cornice returns, decorative gable vent, first story porch columns are turned and sit on pyramidal concrete blocks. A shed addition extends from the south elevation but few other changes to this residence have occurred. Door to shed addition is three vertical lights-over-three horizontal panels. The Throp family established an undertaker's business in 1852 which eventually became the Throp-Oakley Funeral Home. In business until the 1970s, the establishment occupied this house for an unspecified period of time. (C)

Outbuilding, c. 1940, two-story unadorned concrete block storage building with concrete block foundation, exposed purlins, standing seam metal gable roof, rectangular plan, three vertical lights-over-one windows, brick sills, double leaf fifteen light front door with aluminum awning. (C)

5. 301 Church Street, Southeast corner of Greentop and Church Streets, c. 1925, one-story bungalow with brick pier foundation, weatherboard and shingle siding, foundation, weatherboard and shingle siding. Pyramidal roof with asphalt shingles, square plan with two gable front porches with battered posts and shingled balustrade, exposed purlins, four and five vertical lights-over-one windows. Building was covered in aluminum siding and porches changed in late 1992. (NC)

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6. 303 Church Street, c. 1930, Bungalow influence, one-and-a-half story brick veneer gable roof building with gable front facing projection, asphalt roof, concrete block foundation, rectangular plan, battered porch columns, six light transom over panelled door, six-over-six windows, four-over-four window in gable end. (C)

7. 304 Church Street, Southwest corner of Church and Greentop, c. 1900, one-story brick veneer over frame church with concrete block foundation, asphalt shingled front end gable roof, decorative gable vent, cornice returns, bricked-in windows on east end, nine-over-nine segmental arched windows, front entry addition with Palladian window, chimney on south side, rectangular plan, with c. 1940s one-story rear addition, brick veneer is contemporary with rear addition. (C)

8. 305 Church Street, c. 1935, Cottage with bungalow porch, one-story stone sided with stone foundation house, gable asphalt roof, rectangular plan, eight-over-eight windows, center chimney, battered porch columns, nine light-over-panels in front door. (C)

9. 306 Church Street, c. 1927, Bungalow, one-and-a-half story, asbestos shingle, steep pitch gable roof with integral porch and asphalt shingles, concrete foundation, rectangular plan, four vertical-over-one light windows on first floor, three vertical-over-one light window in centered gable dormer, two chimneys, panelled battered porch columns, exposed rafter ends, original porch wood floor. (C)

10. 309 Church Street, c. 1935, one-story Queen Anne cottage with steep pitch hip and gable roof, weatherboard, wrap around porch, square fluted columns, hipped dormer, single leaf door with transom, gable returns, two chimneys (one relatively new), asphalt roof, multi-light transom over paired window, foundation is not visible. (C)

Court Street

11. 204 Court Street, c. 1935, surrounded by later building, one-part commercial block vernacular building heavily altered with brick veneer and aluminum siding, flat roof, irregular plan, currently used as an attorneys office. (NC)

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Foxall Street

12. 200 Foxall Street, c. 1935, two-story stucco over concrete block two-part commercial block building, concrete block foundation, flat roof with stepped parapet, square plan, three vertical lights-over-one horizontal light windows, original storefront configuration with carrara glass. Currently houses Friendly Market. (C)

13. 202 Foxall Street, c. 1925, one-part commercial block brick and concrete block building, concrete block foundation, flat roof, rectangular plan, tile coping, original entryway and window configuration, original door, altered windows. (C)

Greentop Street

14. 102 Greentop, c. 1885, two-story I-house with aluminum siding, metal gable roof, stone foundation, porch with hipped roof and concrete block foundation, rectangular plan, two brick end chimneys, chamfered columns, four light transom over single leaf door which is three vertical lights-over-three horizontal wood panels, six-over-six windows, one-story shed roof addition to rear. (C)

15. 201 Greentop, c. 1935, one-part commercial block brick building, tile coping, three vertical-over-one light windows, three light transom over door, porch hood over door is a later addition, decorative brickwork around and above windows, flat roof, material is not visible. (C)

16. 203 Greentop, c. 1935, one-story brick commercial building, tile coping, altered with shingled awning, brick facade, and new six-over-six windows, currently used as office space. (NC)

17. 205 Greentop, c. 1935, one-story brick commercial building, altered with shingled awning, brick facade, and two new twenty-four light windows, eight panelled door. (NC)

Main Street, East

18. 100, 102, 104 Main Street, East, Southwest corner of Church and West Main Streets, Rankin Hotel, c. 1905, two-story brick two-part commercial block building with altered storefronts, upper story one-over-one double hung sash windows, stone lintels and sills, and corbelled cornice. This building is currently home to D & K Outlet and a local restaurant. (C)

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19. 101, 103, 105 Main Street, East, Northwest corner of East Main Street and Broadway, c. 1890 two-story two-part commercial block brick building with flat stone window hoods and sills, altered storefronts, aluminum canopy, nine one-over-one double hung sash windows on facade, and brick corbelling. Now occupied by NTPIC Inc., the center portion of this building once housed Freedle's Grocery Store. (C)
20. 106 Main Street, East, c. 1908, one-part commercial brick building, stone foundation, flat roof, rectangular plan, corbeled cornice, original storefront configuration with aluminum siding and stone coping. (C)
21. 107 Main Street, East, c. 1913 one-part commercial block flat roofed brick building with corbeled brick cornice and tile coping, rectangular plan with altered storefront and aluminum awning, now houses Heath Appliances. This building and # 23 and 25 stand on the location of the first three county courthouses. (C)
22. 108 Main, East, c. 1908 one-part commercial block vernacular brick, flat roofed, rectangular plan building, heavily altered with new brick facade. (NC)
23. 106 Main Street, East, c. 1913 two-story two-part commercial vernacular rectangular plan flat roofed building. Building has been heavily altered and sided with aluminum.(NC)
24. 110 Main Street, East, Southwest corner of West Main and Court Streets, Lipscomb Building, c. 1913, two-story two-part commercial block brick building with altered storefront, contrasting brick, and upper story one-over-one double hung sash windows. (C)
25. 111 Main Street, East, c. 1913, Northwest corner of West Main and Court Streets, two-story two-part commercial block brick building with aluminum canopy, altered storefront. Following a fire the upper story windows were bricked-in but originally had arched openings. Currently occupied by a Sears catalog store, this building once housed Winston's Millinery and Notions. (NC)
26. Main Street, East, Courthouse, Public Square, 1905, the courthouse, the fourth to serve Trousdale County, is situated on a city block set back from the sidewalk with landscaping and park benches. Constructed of red brick, the two-and-a-half-story

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building sits on a stone foundation with molded brick courses around the building accentuating the windows. First floor windows are rectangular with stone lintels while the second floor windows are Romanesque arches. The cornice line is detailed with Italianate brackets and Flemish stepped gables on all four elevations. An octagonal cupola sits on the top of the building. Constructed as a cube shape, one-story additions, which match the original building in material and design, were made to the east and west elevations in the 1920s. A one-story addition to the south or rear elevation features a Neo-Classical entrance c. 1930. Windows in this addition are six-over-six while the rest of the building has four-over-four windows. The north or front facade features a Neo-Classical portico. (C)

27. 203, 205 Main Street, East, c. 1908, Northeast corner of East Main and Court Streets, two-story brick commercial building, with brick pilasters creating three divisions, altered storefronts, aluminum canopy, no fenestration above storefronts, and corbelled upper story. Once the home of Williams Drug Store, Vaught Drugs now occupies this building. (C)

28. 207, 209 Main Street, East, c. 1935, one-part commercial block brick building, flat roofed, rectangular plan building with decorative yellow brick squares. Although altered, storefront retains the original configuration with brick soldiering, an aluminum canopy covers the east half of the storefront. Currently used as the VFW Hall. (C)

Main Street, West

29. 100 Main Street, West, Bank of Hartsville, Northwest corner of West Main Street and Broadway. 1901 Neo-Classical two-story two-part commercial block brick building, stone pedimented door surround, tripartite windows on first floor, one-over-one double hung sash windows on second floor, and decorative cornice and parapet. (C)

30. 101, 103 Main Street, West, Southwest corner of Church and West Main Streets, c. 1860, Italianate brick two-story two-part commercial block building with plate glass storefronts, six-over-six double hung sash windows, and paired brackets beneath the decorative cornice. The eastern half of this building has been covered with synthetic siding while the western portion has lost its bracketed cornice. This building reputedly served as a hospital during the Civil War. For many years it was occupied by Hager's Drug Store, which was established in 1872, and W.V.

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Hager's Hardware. The current occupants are Total Image Beauty Shop and Hartsville Upholstery. (C)

River Street

31. 101 River Street, corner of East Main and River Street, c. 1935, two-story two-part commercial block brick building, flat roofed, square plan building. Second floor windows have been bricked-in, sills and lintels are concrete, brick pilasters separate window spaces, star shaped tie rods added between first and second floors. Now houses River Street Deli and Pizza. (C)

32. 103 River Street, c. 1930, only the facade remains of this burned one-part commercial block brick building. (NC)

33. 105 River Street, 1922, one-part commercial block flat roofed, rectangular plan brick building with brick foundation and corbelled cornice which matches cornice on 111, 113, 115 River Street. Storefront has plate glass display window and new brick bulkhead. Building retains original wood ceiling and currently houses the River Street Old Fashioned Gospel Hour. (C)

34. 111, 113, 115 ? River Street, 1922, two-story two-part commercial block brick building with largely intact storefronts, aluminum canopies, and four one-over-one double hung sash windows, corbelled brick cornice, original wood flooring, and brick pilasters separating the individual buildings. Built for Hartsville Lodge #113 Free and Accepted Masons, the Lodge continues to occupy the upper floor of this building. (C)

35. 200 River Street, c. 1935, two-story two-part commercial block brick building, stone foundation, flat roof, rectangular plan, tile coping, metal hopper windows, original storefront configuration with altered windows and door. (C)

36. 202 River Street, c. 1935, one-part commercial block brick, flat roofed building with a rectangular plan retains the original storefront configuration with new windows and door and an aluminum awning. (C)

37. 202 River Street, Playground with modern one story brick and concrete building. (NC)

38. 205 River Street, c. 1885, one-story gable front and wing weatherboard house, two interior brick chimneys, asphalt shingle roof, L plan, decorative gable vent, decorative cornice with

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returns, battered porch columns, bay extension into front porch, addition to rear of gable portion, front door has three vertical lights-over-three horizontal wood panels, second rear addition has hipped roof. According to the current owner the house was constructed in 1820, one of the first houses in town, constructed with heavy beams with possible timber framing, added onto three times. (C)

Outbuilding: frame, gable roofed garage c. 1920. (C)

39. 206 River Street, c. 1930, one-part commercial block flat roofed building, altered probably as a showroom at one time, new windows, original tile coping and brick pilaster divisions still remain, building has been heavily stuccoed. (NC)

40. 206 River Street, c. 1890, two story gable and wing weatherboard house, with asphalt shingle gable roof and cornice returns on brick foundation. L shaped plan with 1930s one-story addition, two-story porch with battered columns on concrete block foundation, segmental transom over entry, four-over-four segmental arched windows with 1930s shutters. (C)

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Narrative Statement of Significance

The Hartsville Historic District located in Hartsville, Trousdale County, Tennessee, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its significance to the patterns of Trousdale County's history as a late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial center. The Hartsville Historic District is also eligible under Criterion C as a significant example of late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial and domestic architecture in Trousdale County. The built environment of Hartsville has remains largely intact and the integrity of the historic buildings has been maintained. Thus Hartsville retains much of its late nineteenth and early twentieth century sense of place with few modern buildings intruding into the downtown area.

Located approximately one mile north of the Cumberland River, Hartsville is one of the Upper Cumberland Region's oldest communities. The first settlers to the Hartsville area arrived around 1795 by traveling on the Cumberland River and the Fort Blount or Immigrant Trail. They chose land near a spring east of Little Goose Creek, where they established the community of Damascus. One of these families, the Donohoes, built a mill there in 1797.

Another family, the Harts, settled on the west side of Little Goose Creek. In addition to building a ferry crossing the Creek in 1798 and opening a horse racetrack, the Hart family promoted settlement on the west side of the Creek by giving lots to other settlers who eventually built houses, a church, and a cemetery. By 1807 when it received a post office, this community was called Hartsville.

By 1830 twenty to thirty families inhabited the town and Hartsville boasted four stores, two taverns, and a variety of mechanic shops. The local Masons, Newton Lodge Number 113, received a charter in 1845. All of the religious denominations worshiped at the Union Church until 1850 when the Methodists built their own sanctuary (#1). Around 1858 the Cumberland Presbyterian congregation built a church, but the Baptists, Presbyterians, and the Church of Christ congregations all delayed constructing their church buildings until the latter part of the nineteenth century, when the present pattern of Hartsville's built environment began to take shape.

As the community continued to grow two institutions of higher learning served the Hartsville area during the antebellum period.

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In 1838 Wirt Seminary opened six miles west of the town near what is now the Trousdale and Sumner County line. Thirteen years later the Enon Baptist Association established Enon College on the site of the seminary and operated the college until around 1882. Private academies for both male and female students also operated in Hartsville. North of town was the Hartsville Male Academy. About 1838 Central Female Academy opened. Eighteen years later it was renamed Hartsville Female Institute, then in 1879 the school became the Hartsville Masonic Institute, allowing men as well as women to attend. The brick buildings for the school were constructed around 1879.

Agriculture dominated economic life in Hartsville during the antebellum period. In Goodspeed's The Goodspeed Histories of Sumner, Smith, Macon, Trousdale, Counties of Tennessee, Hartsville is described as "a flourishing post town" with "twenty or thirty families, four stores, two taverns, and sundry mechanics" by 1830 (p. 840). Other than the town's mercantile establishments, the only known commercial enterprise was a millstone quarry located on a hill three miles north of town. It is uncertain when this quarry operated, but Hartsville was once regarded as the source of some of the State's best grist stones. In his 1874 Introduction to the Resources of Tennessee, Joseph B. Killebrew listed the millstone quarry and described these stones as having been "used for forty years and are still preferred to new ones for the grinding of corn." (p. 260) Following the establishment of the Hartsville post office, some Damascus businesses relocated to the west side of Little Goose Creek. Gradually, the town began to overshadow Damascus so that when Hartsville was incorporated in 1840, the smaller community merged with its neighbor.

The Cumberland River was an important factor in the development of Hartsville. Early settlers built a road joining the new community with the river, a mile to the north. By 1830 Lowe's Landing, the Hartsville port, became an important stopping point for steamboats carrying locally grown cotton through a trade network that reached as far as the Ohio and Mississippi River valleys. The Lowe family built a warehouse near the river to serve farmers from a ten county area. Steamboats brought mass-produced goods from northern factories which Hartsville merchants marketed to local residents. Before the Civil War Hartsville was home to four general merchandise stores, an undertaker, a hotel, and a newspaper which made it a small trade town in the antebellum era.

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The Civil War impacted Hartsville greatly. As with many other communities, agriculture suffered when farmers left the fields to fight. Hartsville's proximity to the Cumberland River gave it strategic importance in the war. From September 1862 until the end of the war, the Union Army almost continuously occupied Hartsville. Throughout this period Confederate troops remained active in the Hartsville area. Confederate General John Hunt Morgan attacked and captured the Federal garrison at Hartsville in December 1862. While General Morgan's raid was successful and he managed to capture a number of Union troops, Federal forces reoccupied the town after Morgan escaped to safety.

After the Civil War the people of Hartsville renewed the pace of growth the town had experienced prior to the War. A weekly newspaper, the Sentinel, was established by A.C. Welsh in 1869 and in 1871 the members of the Church of Christ completed a church building. During this period the Freedman's Bureau built a school in the Hartsville area for the education of newly freed slaves. In addition to economic and educational progress Hartsville was developing politically as well.

During the early development of Hartsville the town was part of Sumner County. Due to the distance to the county seat of Gallatin, a fifteen mile trip, area residents in the 1840s began an effort to establish a new county with Hartsville as the county seat. But they did not succeed until the Tennessee Constitutional Convention in 1870. George E. Seay, a Hartsville attorney elected to represent Sumner, Smith and Macon counties at the convention, sponsored a resolution to create a new county from portions of southwestern Sumner, southwestern Macon and northwestern Smith counties and a small portion of northeastern Wilson County. The resolution passed in the General Assembly and became part of the Tennessee constitution. The new county would be named for a former governor and resident of Gallatin, William Trousdale. The residents of the proposed new county voted to approve the new county in July and elected county officials in August. The first county court meeting occurred in September at the Hartsville Methodist Church. Hartsville was formally named the county seat in a November election. A courthouse and jail were constructed within six years.

Hartsville's new status as county seat brought more focus and economic activity to the small town. The co-educational Hartsville Masonic Institute was created from the two private academies in 1879. The several brick buildings of the school were located prominently above town on a hill. A third church

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was built in 1885, this one by the Baptists. By 1887 Black Baptist, Methodist, and Cumberland Presbyterian congregations had also built churches.

In the last two decades of the nineteenth century business in Hartsville improved dramatically. In 1884 several entrepreneurs organized the Bank of Hartsville. A formal classically styled brick building was constructed to house this important financial institution in 1901 and still stands on the corner of West Main and Broadway (#29). By 1887 the town had numerous mercantile establishments including six dry goods stores, three groceries, a drug store, and a hardware store. The weekly newspaper the Sentinel, two saddle and harness makers, a livery stable, an undertaker, several mechanics shops, and a grist and saw mill completed the town's business.

After the Civil War cotton cultivation was no longer a leading farm product and the agriculture of the county became more diversified. Other products such as corn, oats, wheat, tobacco and lumber became important agricultural products for the Hartsville area. In 1880 Trousdale County farmers raised nearly 400,000 bushels of corn, over 25,000 bushels of oats and almost 38,000 bushels of wheat. As for tobacco and lumber, according to Goodspeed's history the firm of Neely and Lowe shipped from Lowe's Landing "over one million feet of lumber and about 1,000 hogsheads of tobacco" in 1886. (p. 991)

As Hartsville moved into the twentieth century continued economic development was dependent upon a reliable mode of transportation for goods to be sent and received from distant markets. The Cumberland River continued to be an important transportation link for Hartsville as the rugged terrain of the Upper Cumberland Region made overland travel difficult. However, the Cumberland River was not a reliable year-round source of transportation as the water did not remain high enough throughout the year for boat or barge travel. Thus any increased economic development in the twentieth century was dependent upon more accessible rail transportation.

Efforts to connect Hartsville with a railroad began in February 1883 with the incorporation of the Middle and East Tennessee Central Railway. Construction began in 1890 and stopped in 1892 after an 11.38 mile section of rail between Hartsville and Rogana in Sumner County had been completed. The original plan was to connect Gallatin and Knoxville through Hartsville. Though never completed the line was extended to Hartsville thereby increasing both passenger and commercial traffic in the small town.

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In the next few years ownership of the rail changed several times. By 1898 the Chesapeake and Nashville Railway Company was leasing the rail and this same year the Hartsville Depot (NR 7/3/1980) was constructed. In 1906 ownership of the rail was secured by the Louisville and Nashville through its subsidiary the Gallatin and Scottsville (Kentucky) Railway. Under the management of the Gallatin and Scottsville Branch the rail was extended to connect Hartsville with Templo, another Trousdale County town, and subsequently Gallatin. The L and N maintained control of the line for the next 70 years.

Once connected to modern transportation networks Hartsville's commercial trade increased. Farmers raising crops in the rural area surrounding Hartsville depended on the small town as an important market place. From here their crops could be shipped to such major processing areas as Nashville, Cincinnati, and St. Louis. In turn, farmers could receive a wider quality of goods and cheaper prices from Hartsville stores supplied by the railroad. This expanding commercial activity brought the first significant growth to Hartsville in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

As a result of the increased commercial activity in Hartsville a second bank, Citizens Bank, was organized in 1906 and a large tobacco market developed. The Hartsville Tobacco Warehouse stored tobacco harvested by area farmers before sold at market. After sale two Hartsville tobacco companies processed the cash crop. The R.C.Owens Tobacco Company employed 200 people and the Willard Tobacco Company provided housing to its employees.

Tobacco was an important agricultural crop in Trousdale, particularly in the twentieth century. Hartsville was home to one of six Middle Tennessee tobacco auctions and one of eight Middle Tennessee loose leaf tobacco markets. In 1943 Tennessee had 72 of 93 counties producing tobacco, 27 of which produced 82 million of the total 96.8 million pounds of tobacco. Trousdale County was one of those 27 counties which contributed heavily to tobacco production in Tennessee. Lumber was another Trousdale County product that was shipped from Hartsville by both the Cumberland River and the L and N Railroad. In 1942 Trousdale County produced 459,000 feet of board as compared to Smith County, a very high lumber producing county, which generated 770,000 feet of board. While tobacco and lumber were important products for Trousdale the agricultural basis of the county was

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diversified. Corn and livestock such as hogs, beef cattle, and sheep contributed to the economic viability of this small county and community.

The effect of the increased economic activity is documented by the community growth outside of the downtown core. Much of this growth included building projects which took place outside of the historic district but are important indications of the expansion occurring in this small town. These community needs included education and new school facilities.

From 1907 to 1919 the Hartsville Masonic Institute, renamed the Hartsville Academy, served as the public school for Hartsville. This school was used by the white residents of the area. Black residents had separate educational facilities. The building was first leased to the Public School Directors of the 7th School District of Trousdale County then sold to them by Masonic Lodge No. 113 (#34). In 1916 Trousdale County established its first high school with a two-year curriculum in the Masonic Institute building. By 1919 the buildings of the old Hartsville Masonic Institute had become too crowded for the student body of the region and a new facility was built. With this expansion the county increased the high school education to a four-year program. At this time ownership of the Masonic Institute returned to the Lodge. A condition of the original sale was that the building was to be used as an educational facility only and ownership would revert once that use was discontinued. By 1948 the building had been painted and later it was torn down.

Before the Masonic Institute could be replaced a new high school had to be built. Local residents raised \$8,000 which was supported by the county with \$22,000 towards the erection of a new high school building. Construction and fund raising for this new building began only after the signing of the Armistice and federal government restrictions on new building projects were lifted. The new high school was located near the old Hartsville Masonic Institute with classes beginning January 1919.

For black residents of Trousdale County educational opportunities began with the Freedman's Bureau which built a school for newly freed blacks. The date of construction and location of the school are unknown. Unfortunately the school burned in 1869; arson was the suspected cause of the fire. The Freedman's Bureau resolved to rebuild as soon as possible. It is not known whether this was accomplished. Additionally the Freedom Aid Society of the Northern Methodist Episcopal Church built a church on Puryear

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Bend which later became a school known as "School in the Woods". This school continued until 1923 when it was replaced with the Ward School.

The Ward School was one of the many black rural schools constructed across the South by the Julius Rosenwald Fund. The Rosenwald Fund was a philanthropic organization which built these schools using matching funds from the community and the state. Walter Ward, for whom the school is named, was a Baptist minister who spearheaded the fund raising efforts in the community. Located on Morrison Street the school served the black community until 1944 when it burned. In 1948 a new Ward School was built on Hall Street. In the interim period students attended school in either a residence on Greentop and Hall Streets or were sent to nearby schools.

Railroads played a significant role in expanding the economy of Hartsville. When the dominance of railroad transportation began to fade Hartsville suffered accordingly since major motor highways bypassed the county. Between 1905 and 1935 automobiles and trucks nationwide increased from 77,400 and 1,400 respectively, to 23,034,753 and 3,919,305 respectively. All of these automobiles and trucks were traveling the existing roads as well as the new federal and state subsidized highway systems. The federal highway system as originally built bypassed Trousdale County and continues to do so to this day. As a further impetus in the growing competition between rail and highway shipping the trucking industry saw little government regulation until 1935. The increasing numbers of automobiles, trucks, growing highways, and lack of regulation over the trucking industry all combined to reduce the railroads domination in transportation and travel.

For the L and N the competition from increased highway traffic, particularly in the trucking industry, forced the railroad to stop expanding its lines. In fact between 1931 and 1941 L and N system mileage decreased from 5,266 to 4,871. Small branch lines, such as the one to Hartsville, were among the first victims of the railroad cutbacks. By 1953 the L and N stopped its passenger service travel to Hartsville followed by a cessation in freight operation in the 1970s.

Hartsville has been bypassed by federal highways. The increased dependency on highway transportation for travel and freight coupled with the decrease in rail and water routes has significantly affected the development of Hartsville. As evidenced from the extant commercial buildings very little

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significant economic growth took place in downtown Hartsville after the 1940s. Development has focused instead north of town along the new route of Tennessee Highway 25. The increased use of commercial shipping by highway added to the decrease in this traffic through rail and waterways drastically limited downtown Hartsville's economic viability. An indirect result of this lack of economic activity has been little disruption to the building character of the downtown district.

While many of the twentieth century buildings remain in Hartsville much of the early physical development of the small town suffered from a series of natural disasters. A string of fires plagued the town around the turn of the century. The original courthouse was spared in an 1877 fire, but burned in a 1900 fire. The same fire claimed the original Bank of Hartsville building. The following year the bank's owners had constructed a new building, and the county had completed its second courthouse. In 1902, another inferno, Hartsville's worst, destroyed some residences, three livery stables, several Main Street businesses, and the Allen Hotel. According to the Vidette, a local newspaper, in just 90 minutes the town suffered damage totalling \$50,000. A 1904 fire devastated the second Trousdale County Courthouse. Its replacement was built by contractor Sam Borum, a former Davidson County Sheriff, shortly before it too was lost in a conflagration. Built on the former site of the Allen Hotel, the fourth and present courthouse (#26) was completed in 1905 on the east side of Court Street opposite to its three predecessors.

In addition to these fires, Hartsville has experienced numerous floods. A flood in 1847 and another in 1883 inundated the town. However, Hartsville's worst flood occurred in December 1926 and January 1927. Before the waters receded, nearly all of the town's businesses suffered damage including Hartsville's tobacco warehouses where the year's crop had been stored. Another destructive flood occurred in January 1946 when swollen Trousdale County creeks damaged an estimated one million dollars worth of property.

Due to the natural disasters which occurred in Hartsville many of the earlier eighteenth and nineteenth century buildings are gone. However, despite the fires and floods a significant number of buildings constructed prior to 1900 remain. These buildings constitute seventeen percent of the buildings in the nominated historic district. These representative examples link twentieth century Hartsville to its earlier nineteenth century history. In addition to the surviving nineteenth century buildings there is a

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relatively intact collection of early twentieth century buildings. The twentieth century collection exhibits the economic development of this small town as a market place for the surrounding rural communities.

Railroad transportation was vital to the development of Hartsville's small twentieth century market place and thus the town was dependent upon this transportation access. When the shift in transportation practices from water and rail to highway occurred in the 1940s the result was little new growth and economic activity in downtown Hartsville as it there were no major highway arteries leading to the town. Accordingly the buildings of the town reflect this earlier more prosperous railroad associated period in the history of Hartsville.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The Hartsville Historic District boundary begins on the north side of West Main Street twenty-two feet west of the northwest corner of West Main Street and Broadway Street and proceeds seventy-six feet north at which point it turns east across Broadway. The boundary continues for forty feet then turns north for sixty-six feet to the south boundary of Front Street. Proceeding east along the south side of Front Street eighty-three feet the district boundary then turns south to the southern boundary of East Main Street and proceeds east along the southern side of East Main Street crossing River Street. At the corner of East Main Street and River Street the district boundary runs east sixty feet along the south side of East Main Street, then turns south proceeding to the south side of Foxall Street. From this point the district boundary runs south seventy feet to the tax parcel boundary then east along this boundary to Jones Alley. Running south fifty-five feet along Jones Alley the boundary then turns west crossing River Street to the western side of River Street then along River Street across Greentop Street. From the corner of Greentop Street and River Street the boundary proceeds seventy-two feet along River Street then turns west running one hundred and fifty feet and crossing Court Street. On the west side of Court Street the boundary turns south and runs approximately two hundred and sixteen feet to the tax parcel boundary separating parcels 27-B-E-1 and 27-B-E-2. It then runs west seventy-four feet to the east side of Church Street, turns north and proceeds one hundred and twenty feet. At this point the boundary crosses Church Street and runs approximately one hundred and fifty feet west then turns north proceeding to Greentop Street. Crossing Greentop the district boundary then runs along an alley west of Church Street seventy-five feet then turns east for approximately seventy feet at which point it turns north. The district boundary then runs north crossing Foxall Street and proceeds sixty-five feet, turns east for forty-three feet and then turns north for seventy-one feet. Continuing north the district boundary crosses Main Street and joins the starting point.

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Boundary Justification

The Historic District includes all buildings within the downtown core which date between 1850 and 1940 and retain their integrity in building materials, use, and construction. The district also includes a small residential area to the south of the commercial area which fits into the time period and building traditions popular when the core of the district was constructed. Excluded from the district are demolitions, damaged or heavily altered buildings.

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Hartsville Historic District, Trousdale County, TN

Photographs by: Carroll Van West
MTSU Center for Historic Preservation

Date: April 1993

Negatives: Tennessee Historical Commission
701 Broadway
Nashville, TN 37243

Bank of Hartsville, West Main Street, looking N
1 of 25

101 to 111 East Main Street, looking NE
2 of 25

Detail, 103 East Main Street, looking N
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101 River Street, looking E
4 of 25

105 to 115 River Street, looking NE
5 of 25

200 to 206 River Street, looking NW
6 of 25

205 River Street, looking NE
7 of 25

201 to 205 Greentop Street, looking NE
8 of 25

Corner of River and Greentop Streets, looking W
9 of 25

Greentop Street, looking SW
10 of 25

303 to 309 Church Street, looking SE
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306 to 202 Church Street, looking N
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205 Church Street, looking SE
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200 to 106 Church Street, looking N
14 of 25

106 Church Street, looking NW
15 of 25

Foxall Street, looking E
16 of 25

103 West Main Street to 110 East Main Street, looking SE
17 of 25

101 West Main Street, detail, looking S
18 of 25

100 to 110 East Main Street, looking SE
19 of 25

209 to 101 East Main Street, looking NW
20 of 25

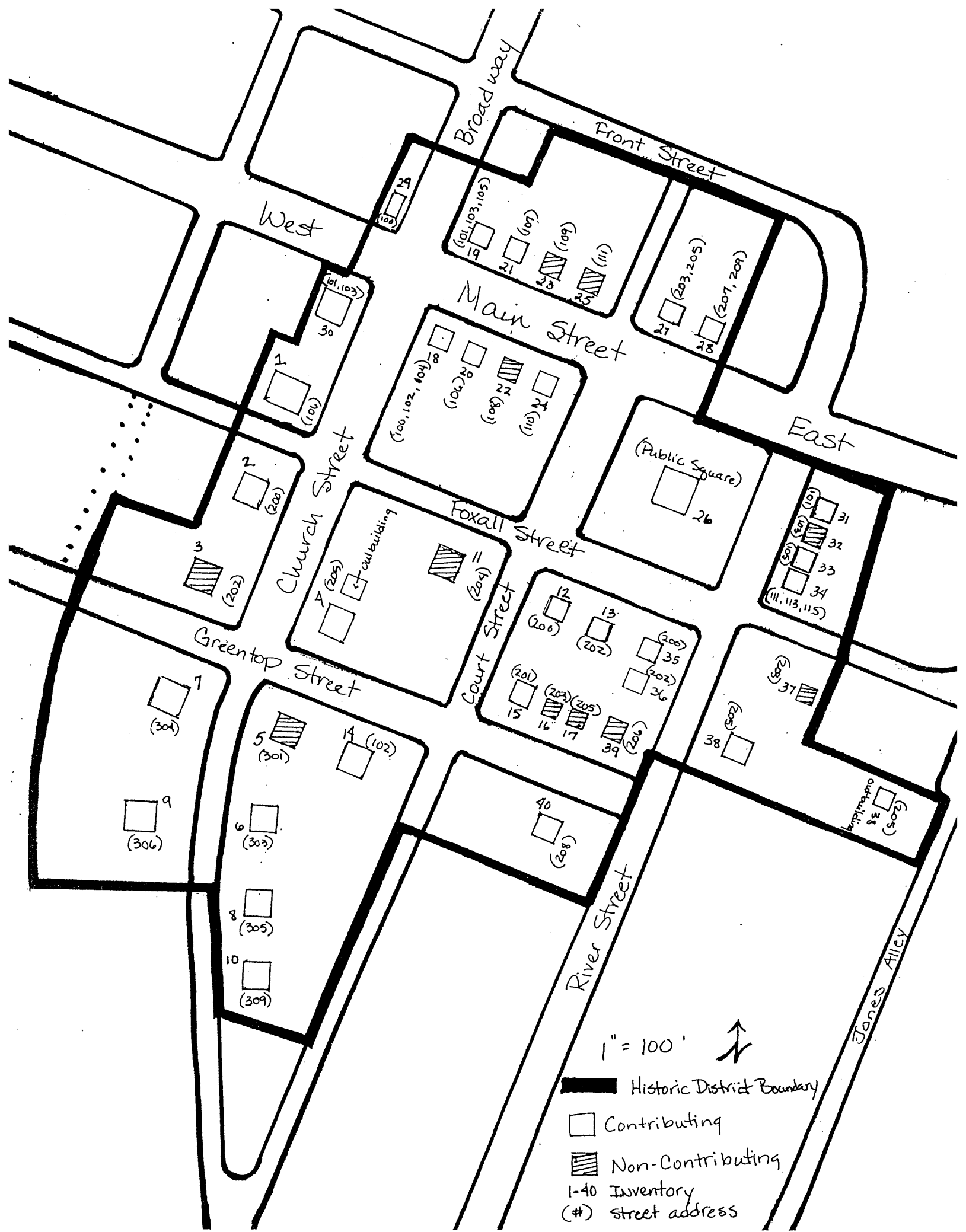
Trousdale County Courthouse, looking SE
21 of 25

Trousdale County Courthouse, looking SW
22 of 25

Cupola detail, Trousdale County Courthouse, looking NE
23 of 25




Trousdale County Courthouse, looking NE
24 of 25

200 to 202 Foxall Street, looking SE
25 of 25



1" = 100'



-  Historic District Boundary
-  Contributing
-  Non-Contributing
- 1-40 Inventory
- (#) street address

