

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received JUN 11 1984
date entered JUL 12 1984

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic North Old Louisville Multiple Resource Area, Amended, First Street District

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Roughly bound by East Breckinridge, East Kentucky — not for publication
and Interstate 65

city, town Louisville — vicinity of ~~congressional district~~

state Kentucky code 021 county Jefferson code

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple owners - see continuation sheet

street & number na

city, town na — vicinity of — state na

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Jefferson County Courthouse

street & number 517 W. Jefferson

city, town Louisville state Kentucky 40202

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Kentucky Survey of Historic Sites has this property been determined eligible? — yes no

date April 6, 1984 — na federal state na county na local

depository for survey records Kentucky Heritage Council

city, town Frankfort, state Kentucky 40601

7. Description

Condition

na excellent
x good
na fair

na deteriorated
na ruins
na unexposed

Check one

unaltered
na altered

Check one

x original site
na moved date na

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

North Old Louisville Multiple Resource Area, First Street District lies between the Central Business District and the Old Louisville National Register District (February, 1975). The area was laid out in a basic grid pattern with the north-south streets serving predominantly residential purposes, while the east-west streets were mostly used for commercial endeavors. The First Street District includes the 900 block of south First Street which runs north-south. It is primarily residential and has a small pocket of small-scale commercial structures at the district's northern border. The portion of Breckinridge Street included in the district runs east-west and is commercial, while the other east-west corridor, located on Caldwell Street, is occupied by multi-family residential dwellings.

The North Old Louisville area developed as a result of a burst of growth felt throughout Louisville in the years following the Southern Exposition. Three types of historic structures remain in the area; single family residential structures, multi-family residential apartment buildings, and small scale commercial structures.

Single family residential structures remaining in this area were constructed roughly between 1885 and 1905. All of these buildings constructed during this twenty year period share a common scale and style. However, each structure uses varying design details. For instance, 915 South First Street has cut-out floral motifs lining the building's cornice, giving it a unique character. 923 South First Street has an arched first floor window with its stone thrust resting upon brick piers and rusticated stone capitals. Brick corbeling adds relief to the facade, while an oval attic vent of elaborate iron-work centered below the building's gable, finishes the building's design. 929 South First Street has window hoods incised with a central rosette flanked by a floral motif. Irregular stone quoins and shallow brackets add to some of the window's embellishment. The cornice, lined with a doughnut motif, is supported by paired brackets at the gable ends. 936 South First is fenestrated with a projecting bay that reaches from the first floor through the third, with three windows on each floor. The window fenestration is topped by segmental arches and stone voussours. Thus, all of these residences are similar in style but differ in detailing and embellishment. The unity of style gives these buildings a harmony and a strong sense of cohesiveness adding to the 900 block's neighborhood character (see photos 1-5).

Caldwell Street has three large multi-family dwellings constructed as apartments, between 1911 and 1915. Each is basically rectangular in shape. The area's cohesive character is due to its rapid development. The Jacob Apartments were the first to be constructed in the identified area. It is a relatively simple rectangular, twelve-bay, three-story brick building adorned with brick lintels and keystones above its windows. The Jacob Apartments Annex, constructed four years later, mirrors its predecessor's scale and exhibits a simpler, yet similar vernacular style. This block-like, three-bay, three-story apartment building is without elaborate detailing, but contains brick stringcourses, voussours, and keystones that seem to blend in with the brick on the facade. The Ninaweb Apartments have a much more complicated facade fenestration, but once again, follows the scale and rectangular shape of its neighbors. Balconies, reaching from the second floor and continuing up through the third, provide a variation to the building's facade design. The similarity of these building's scale and style exhibits the use of similar classical motifs and their variations and gives this pocket of Caldwell Street a distinct unity while each still displays a unique facade (see photos 6 & 7).

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1885-1927 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The First Street District reflects the period of growth and prosperity felt in Louisville during the years following the Southern Exposition (1883-1887). The purpose of the Exposition was to promote the city and encourage continued optimism regarding Louisville's place of prominence among "Western" cities. This resulted in a steady period of successful local development. Louisville's growth, at this point, was leveling off and the powers that governed made a concerted effort to improve the quality of life for the city's inhabitants, especially by improving the city's transportation system.

The residences built along First Street were directly influenced by the increased stability of manufacturing and commerce. This, in turn, enabled the city's growing managerial class the confidence and monetary resources to construct new homes. In addition, the development of the electric trolley car and the electric streetcar, made the area south of Broadway more accessible and a logical place for growth.

The houses constructed in the North Old Louisville area were not as opulent as those constructed along St. James and Belgravia Courts, but are handsome in their own right. They reflect the architectural ideals of the Victorian era. Built between 1885 and 1905, these residences exhibit a unity only attained through rapid, concentrated development. Each structure has similar scale, style and setback. For instance, 923 South First Street is fenestrated with both arched and rectangular windows and is topped by a centered gable. Its basic facade design is repeated in all the single family residences in the block. Numerous variations of facade detailing do occur. No. 936, for example, has a bay window projecting upward through all three floors. No. 915 has two one-over-one windows on its south side that share a common surround and are topped by a segmentally arched transom of marbled glass. The building's windows are supported by shallow brackets. No. 929 has quoins framing its windows surmounted by incised stone hoods. Thus, even though each residential structure has a variety of detailing, the similarity of each facade design to its neighbor provides a cohesiveness that adds to the unity of the district.

After most of the single family residences were built in the area, the city became more densely populated. Because of the lessening supply of available land and the increased need for housing, the developers turned to multi-family dwellings to alleviate the problem. Between 1911 and 1915 three large-scale apartment buildings were constructed on Caldwell Street. Once again, due to the rapid development of the area, the apartments display a consolidated scale and height. The Jacob Apartment building, constructed in 1911, was the first multi-family structure built on the street. Similar to the others in the area, it is a three-story brick building with a basically rectangular shape. The facade design is handsome, though simple. Each bay has rectangular windows with brick lintels and keystones. A corbelled brick stringcourse runs through the third floor. The Jacob Apartment Annex was built three years after its companion building. It retains its predecessor's basic shape and scale, but has even fewer design embellishments. The building's only ornamentation are the brick keystones and vousssoirs found above each of the windows, and brick corbeling in geometric designs on the third floor. The Ninaweb Apartments were constructed one year later in a somewhat more opulent manner. Although it too is a basic

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheets

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 3.2

Quadrangle name Louisville West

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	6	6	0	9	0	2	0	4	2	3	2	8	8	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B

Zone	Easting				Northing									

C

Zone	Easting				Northing									

D

Zone	Easting				Northing									

E

Zone	Easting				Northing									

F

Zone	Easting				Northing									

G

Zone	Easting				Northing									

H

Zone	Easting				Northing									

Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joanne Weeter, Researcher

organization Louisville Landmarks Commission

date April 6, 1984

street & number 727 W Main Street

telephone 502-587-3501

city or town Louisville

state Kentucky 40202

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date May 24, 1984

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Chief of Registration

date

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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North Old Louisville Multiple Resource Area, Amended, First Street District
Louisville, Jefferson, County, KY

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District

Continuation sheet

Item number 4

Page 2

William F. Smith and Katherine McClafferty
2608 Briargate
Louisville, KY 40206

Robert T. Henderson
2310 S. 37th Street
Louisville, KY 40211

Rays Auto Glass
905 South First Street
Louisville, KY 40203

Donald T. Ladd, Sr.
923 S. First Street
Louisville, KY 40203

Barnette Oglesby & Endris Rubber Company
104 East Breckinridge
Louisville, Kentucky 40203

Leslie J. Feldhaus
1480 S. Second Street
Louisville, KY 40208

Alma J. Hughes
941 S. First
Louisville, KY 40203

Pagabus 80
935 S. Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43205

Martin H. Cohn
1612 Sutherland Drive
Louisville, KY 40205

Max and Ann Cohn
1612 Sutherland
Louisville, KY 40205

Ruby Elswick
923 S. First
Louisville, KY 40203

Jacky L. Laverne, and Victoria Marsh
921 S. First Street
Louisville, KY 40203

Alliene Roberts
915 S. First Street
Louisville, KY 40203

Cissell Manufacturing Company
831 S. First Street
Louisville, KY 40203

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Louisville, Jefferson Co., KY
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Item number 7

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A small cluster of commercial buildings are located at the northwestern portion of identified area. 901 and 905 South First Street were both constructed in 1927. Each exhibits the eclectic architectural trends of that era. No. 905, for instance, is adorned with brick stringcourses of different colors, arranged in geometric patterns and interspersed with stone blocks forming squares and diamonds. No. 901 was constructed as a single room gas station. The structure's design relates to residential buildings of the 1920s, with its steeply pitched gable roof, tripart window, brick stringcourse, and quarter round windows at its gable ends. This building sets facing the corner, addressing the street from which its customers pour forth. No. 104 East Breckinridge anchors the other side of this block and completes the district's commercial area. It was constructed in 1947, but continues the vernacular style and scale of the area. (see photos 8, 9, & 10)

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North Old Louisville Multiple Resource Area, Amended, First Street District

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Atlas of the City of Louisville, 1884, G. M. Hopkins, Philadelphia, Pa.

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Community Development Cabinet, May, 1978.

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and Jefferson County. Louisville: The Heritage Corporation, 1979.

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Louisville, Jefferson Co. KY

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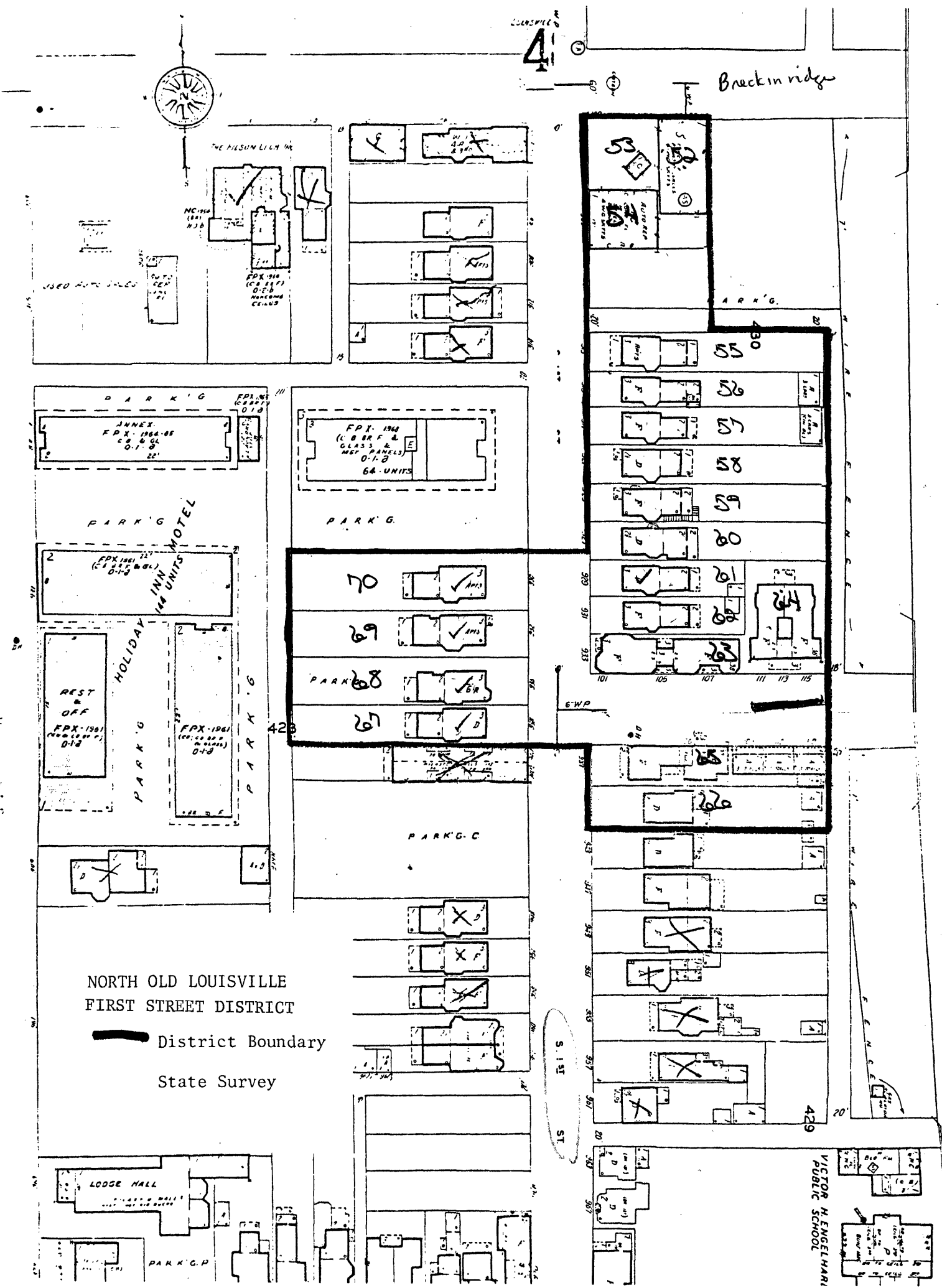
For NPS use only

received

date entered

District

Beginning at a point in the southeast corner of south First Street and east Breckinridge Street; thence south, following the east right-of-way line of First Street, to a point 100 feet⁺ north of the north right-of-way line of Caldwell Street; thence west across First Street and following the north property line of lot 74 in City Block 30 E, to a point in the east right-of-way of the first alley west of First Street; thence south 165 feet, 9 inches to a point; thence east following the south property line of lot 71 in City Block 30E and across First Street to a point in the southeast corner of First and Caldwell; thence south following the east right-of-way line of First Street 70 feet 8 inches, to a point; thence east to a point in the west right-of-way line of the first alley east of First Street; thence north following the west right-of-way line of said alley to a point in the south right-of-way line of the first alley south of East Breckinridge Street; thence west following said right-of-way line 100 feet; thence north following the west property line of Lot 140 in City Block 30E to a point in the south right-of-way line of East Breckinridge Street; thence west following said right-of-way line to the point of beginning.



NORTH OLD LOUISVILLE
FIRST STREET DISTRICT

District Boundary
State Survey

VICTOR H. ENGELHART
PUBLIC SCHOOL

LODGE HALL
PARKING

HOLIDAY INN MOTEL
REST & OFF
PARKING

ANNEX
PARKING

THE HILSON LIGHT INC
USED AUTO SALES

53
54
55
56
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59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
429

Breckinridge

S 1ST ST

North Old Louisville MRA, Amended
First Street District
Louisville, Jefferson Co., KY
Sanborn Map
Sanborn Map Co.
Pelham, NY 1974