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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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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 any 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 Hurst, William L., Law Office

other names/site number WO-C-2

2. Location

street & number North Washington Street not for publication NA
city or town Campton vicinity NA
state Kentucky code KY county Wolfe code 237
zip code 41301

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 x locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Don L. Moyer Signature of certifying official 6-14-93 Date

State or 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 commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====

6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Commerce/Trade Sub: Professional

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Vacant/Not in Use Sub: _____

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian/Italianate

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Sandstone
roof Tin
walls Brick
other _____

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

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8. Statement of Significance
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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.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a 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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance ca. 1887

Significant Dates 1887

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Unknown

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

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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

- 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 # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

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

Name of repository: Wolfe County Courthouse, State Library and Archives

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreeage of Property Less than 1 acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	17	275450	4179220	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____
	_____ See continuation sheet.					

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title William J. Macintire, Survey Coordinator

organization Kentucky Heritage Council date 2/16/93

street & number 300 Washington Street telephone (502) 564-7005

city or town Frankfort state KY zip code 40601

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Additional Documentation
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Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage
or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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Property Owner
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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Wolfe County School Board

street & number P.O. Box 160 telephone (606) 668-3155

city or town Campton state KY zip code 41301

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

Hurst, William L., Law Office
name of property
Wolfe County, Kentucky
county and State

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Description

The Hurst Law Office is a single story, circa 1887, brick building, predominately Italianate in style, but reflecting elements of classicism, particularly with the partial return gables oriented front and back, and the tripartite arrangement of the facade with a central entry flanked by windows. The building rests on a cut sandstone foundation, and has stone window sills and thresholds. The walls are of common bond brick, with segmental arches surmounting the windows and doors. The openings on the front are treated more elaborately, with the door and windows set back in shallow niches below double arches, creating the effect of pilasters between the openings. The verticality of the building (and the tripartite arrangement of the facade) is emphasized with spaces left in the recessed dogtooth brickwork course above these "false pilasters." The front gable is decorated with inset patterned brick lozenges flanking a central arched window. The front door has three horizontal panels below three lights, and has a transom above. There are two windows on each side of the building, each being 2/2 double-hung sash. The rear facade has a single centered door, of vertical battens with a transom light above. The building has a high pitched roof with an elaborately bracketed cornice. The nominated property is less than one acre in size and contains 1 contributing building.

The building's interior plan has two rooms arranged in a linear configuration (see figure one for a floor plan of the building). The rooms are separated by a masonry wall with central fireplaces. In each room, the exterior doors, side windows, and fireplaces are centered on the four walls: only the panelled door beside the fireplace and between the rooms breaks with the symmetry. The front room has a hearth with a brick surround with a simple mantle and a cast iron coal grate, and four windows, two on the front, and one centered on each side wall. The back room has no mantle, but an ornamental cast iron coal grate and a stone hearth. To the right of the fireplace in this office is an important architectural survival, a grain-painted document cupboard. The back office also has grained wainscoting below a chair rail. This room has two windows, centered on the side walls, and a single door at the back. There is no access to the attic space from either room. The front office is slightly smaller than the back, but has the more elaborate fireplace surround, and more windows. This suggests the space is more formal and public, as we would expect in the front office. It may have served as a reception room. The back office, with its more modest fireplace opening, and the grain painted document cupboard, was probably the space where confidential meetings between lawyer and client occurred, and where Hurst carried on his business, with ready access to his law books and papers.

The building is in good condition, with few modifications to its original fabric. It is missing the chimney above the roof line and, probably, brackets on the front cornice. The front door may be a replacement, and the shutters on the front windows may be later additions. On the interior, a new floor has been placed on top of the original floorboards in the front office, later shelving lines the walls, some plaster spalling is evident, and a panel is missing from the document cupboard in the back office.

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Section 7,8 Page 2

Hurst, William L., Law Office
name of property
Wolfe County, Kentucky
county and State

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Description (continued)

The building rests flush with the sidewalk at the front of a small lot. The rear of the building faces Swifts Creek. In the yard behind, plinths mark the location of a missing stair to the creek, which may have led to a small landing, or just served as a landscape feature. The stair was centered along the main axis of the building. It may not be original, but it indicates that at some point an attempt was made to carry the symmetry of the building through to the landscape beyond. Since there are no services inside the building, it is possible that the yard retains archaeological remains of a privy, well, or other small structures, but the archaeological value of the site has not been considered in this nomination.

Statement of Significance

The William L. Hurst Law Office, circa 1887, is significant under Criterion C in the context of Post-Bellum Architecture in Campton. Campton, the county seat of Wolfe County, has a population of less than 500. Wolfe County, located in the Appalachian Cultural Landscape, was formed in 1860 from parts of Breathitt, Morgan, Owsley, and Powell Counties, as the 110th county in Kentucky. The Hurst office is the oldest brick commercial building in Campton's downtown business district, and may have been the only commercial brick structure at the time of its construction. The building is a valuable reminder of Campton's late nineteenth century history. It is not representative of normal Campton buildings from its period, which do not survive: rather, it reflects an early effort to establish permanence and stability.

This building was used by William L. Hurst, a Union veteran of the Civil War, who moved to Wolfe County sometime in the 1870's (Wolfe County Woman's Club, 1958, 135-137). The construction of this building is thought to date from 1887, when the property was transferred to Hurst from Rebecca Timmons, but the transfer records mention that he paid her \$600 for the property prior to 1875, so it is possible the building is older. Hurst practiced law there until the early years of the twentieth century. Records indicate that he rented the building to the city for use as a sheriff and clerk's office from 1914-1917.

Law offices are often strong architectural statements, because of the lawyer's need to reassure clients (who in this area frequently lived in modest log houses) of their power, social standing, and influence. Incorporating an eclectic mix of elements of the Italianate (segmental arches, brackets), Romanesque (niches, dogtoothed brickwork) and Classical styles (pedimented cornice with partial returns, tripartite arrangement), the Hurst Law Office is one of the most impressive buildings in Campton. Its builder and designer is unknown, but examination of the building reveals careful planning and a high degree of craftsmanship. The exterior suggests stability, with its rigid symmetry, stone foundation, and brick construction. The interior is comparatively modest, but the rigidly symmetrical treatment of the interior spaces reinforces the feeling of comfort and stability.

The effect of a well-appointed law office as a reassurance for clients is well illustrated by an early nineteenth-century Delaware case discussed by Bernard

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Section 8 Page 3

Hurst, William L., Law Office
name of property
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county and State

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Statement of Significance (continued)

Herman in The Stolen House. In this case, the Christopher heirs sued their stepfather over a single-room house he had carted off their father's land. Herman describes their visit to their lawyer, Peter Robinson:

The Christopher delegation...most likely would not have been invited into Robinson's house. Robinson would have received his clients in his one-room frame office standing in the yard to the side of the house. In that single room, so similar in size and proportion to their lost dwelling, they would have been surrounded by shelves of books, writing stands, and office furniture. Robinson's display of the trappings of law and learned society coupled with the reassuring presence of his personal wealth and prestige surely encouraged the Christopher heirs as they set forth their complaint. With such a materially successful attorney, how could they lose? (Herman, 1992, 199).

Robinson depended on furnishings more than architecture to reinforce his prestige, while Hurst, some 60 years later, made a stronger architectural statement, but the principle is the same. It is easy to imagine a client from a modest log house near Campton having an experience similar to that of the Christophers'.

In the context of Campton's downtown of 1887, the Hurst building stood across from a recently built frame courthouse, and it is likely that it was surrounded by other frame or log buildings. No other brick commercial buildings from this period survive. The present brick courthouse dating to 1914, when the frame building burned, is the only other building downtown with the architectural pretention of the Hurst building. The brick commercial buildings that currently sit across the street from the office date from the 1930's and 40's, and have relatively plain false fronts. These later buildings are somewhat less pretentious in style than the Hurst building, and probably relied on window displays to attract customers rather than architecture. Some early twentieth century frame buildings survive further away, on Main Street. The concentration of pre-World War II buildings downtown suggests the area should qualify as a National Register district.

The National Register process only requires consideration of one area of a resource's significance, but other criteria could be explored. For example, this building may also be significant under Criterion B for its association with the lawyer who practiced law here, William L. Hurst (1829-1920), who was one of the wealthiest men in Wolfe County. In 1912, when his heirs had him declared incompetent to manage his own affairs, he was evaluated with a total worth of \$150,000. When he died intestate in 1920, he was inventoried with \$49,100.90 in cash on hand, government bonds, and securities. Hurst's name turns up frequently in court records, and it is apparent that he was an important force in the shaping of Campton's development and history. Hurst's brick house still survives in Campton, however, and would be a more appropriate choice for a Criterion B nomination. The law office may also be significant under Criterion A for its historical association with the practice of law and community development in Campton.

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Section 9,10 Page 4

Hurst, William L., Law Office
name of property
Wolfe County, Kentucky
county and State

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Bibliography

Cecil, Mrs. Roy M., ed. Early and Modern History of Wolfe County. Campton, KY: Wolfe County Woman's Club, 1958

Herman, Bernard L. The Stolen House. Charlottesville: The University Press of Virginia, 1992

Wolfe County Court Papers:

Circuit Court Order Book 3, pp 323-324. Special Session of November 28, 1912 finds Hurst of unsound mind and incapable of managing his affairs.

Deed Books: property transfers are recorded in book 2, "Rebecca P. Timmons to William L. Hurst, pp 34-35; Book 36, J. Ceaser Hurst to J. C. Lindon, p. 558; Book 56, Rosiline L. Emrick & Husband to Charles E. Lindon & Wife (this transfer in 1946 mentions the building "known as the 'Hurst Law Office'"), p. 48; Book 56, Charles E. & China C. Lindon to Wolfe County Board of Education, p. 541.

Fiscal Court Order Book 1. Between 1914 and 1917, notes Hurst's rental of the "brick Building" to the city for use as sheriff and clerk's offices.

Inventories, Appraisements, and Sale Bills, Book 1. "Appraisalment Bill of W.L. Hurst, Deceased," 1920, pp 368-369.

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property includes all of lot # 3 in block # 3 in downtown Campton, as indicated on the Kentucky Department of Revenue's 1985 Wolfe County Property Identification Map # 38-3.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes all of lot # 3 because this is the entire parcel historically associated with the Hurst Law Office.

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Section Floor Plan Page 5

Hurst, William L., Law Office
name of property
Wolfe County, Kentucky
county and State

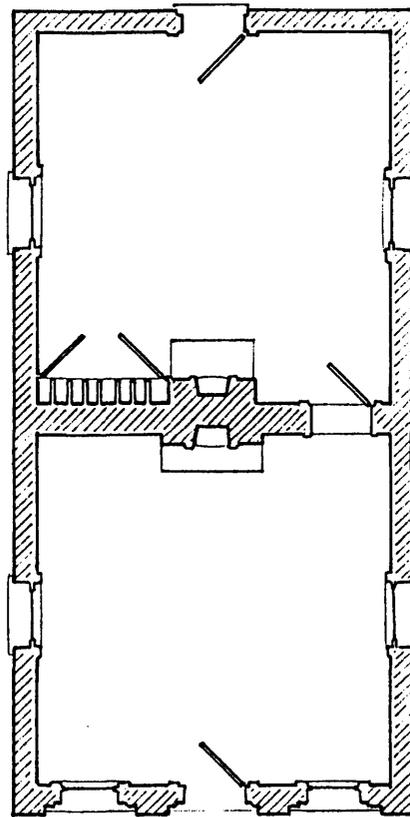


Figure 1 Floor plan of the Hurst Law Office. Scale in Feet

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Section _____ Page 6

Hurst, William L., Law Office
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Wolfe County, Kentucky
county and State

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Photo List

All photographs were taken by William J. Macintire on February 2, 1993. Negatives are stored at the Kentucky Heritage Council, Frankfort, Kentucky.

<u>Photo #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1.	East facade and north side elevation, looking southwest.
2.	Detail of window and brickwork on east facade, looking west.
3.	Detail of foundation, window, and cornice on south elevation, looking north.
4.	West (rear) facade, looking east.
5.	Detail of mantle and coal grate in front office, looking southwest.
6.	Detail of coal grate and grain-painted cabinet in back office, looking east.