## **National Register of Historic Places Inventory**—Nomination Form

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

#### 1. Name

historic	Campbellsvi	<u>lle Hi</u>	storic Commerc	ial District	
and/or common					
2. Loca	ation Roug	hlv	bounded by C	Columbia Ave.	, Broadway, 1st, and RR trenchs
street & number	Hotchk.	S.S 51	ts., Central Av	e. (both sides), an	not for publication
city, town Ca	ampbellsvill	e	vicinity of	vengraaaianni-tiuttitt	
state Kent	tucky	code	021 county	Taylor	code
3. Clas	sificatio	n			
Category X district building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private X both Public Acquisit <u>N/A</u> in process <u>N/A</u> being consid		Status X occupied X unoccupied work in progress Accessible X yes: restricted X yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture X commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
	ner of Pro				·····
street & number	<u>See continu</u>	ation	sheet		
city, town			vicinity of	state	
	ation of I	ega	l Descripti	on	
courthouse, reg	istry of deeds, etc.	Tayl	or County Cour	thouse	
street & number	, <u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>	Cour	t Street		
city, town		Campi	bellsville	state	Kentucky
6. Rep	resentat	ion i	n Existing	Surveys	
title Survey	of Historic	Sites	in Ky, has this pr	operty been determined e	ligible? yes _X_no
date 1982		<u></u>		federalX_ sta	
depository for s	urvey records	entuck	y Heritage Cou	ncil	
city, town	Frankfort			state	Kentucky

OMB NO. 1024-0018 EXP. 12/31/84

1983

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Month Carlo

# 7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one	
_Xdeteriorated	unaitered	X original site	
_Xgoodruins	X_ altered	moved date	
<u> </u>			Page 1 of

#### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Campbellsville Historic Commercial District comprises the major concentration of late nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings in the central Campbebbsville commercial district. As the majority of the buildings were constructed between 1880 and 1910, the district reflects a sense of time and place in densely concentrated streetscapes where buildings show limited effects of major redevelopment. Only portions of the 200 block on E. Main show significant intrusions as a result of alterations (see Photos 1 and 2). Nevertheless, 70% of the structures are considered contributing elements to the proposed National Register Among those buildings are two National Register properties, District. a variety of architectural styles, examples of adaptive use, and buildings reflecting the social, religious, commercial, and agricultural life of the However, the district's diversity in scope is a strength for community. it reflects, in a compact space, the economic and cultural life of Campbellsville.

The western district boundary is anchored by the oldest building in the district, the Taylor County Clerk's office, and by an excellent example of adaptive use in the Taylor County library. The Taylor County Clerk's office, built 1865-1866, displays strong Federal details (see Photo 3). Across the street the Mary Ann Shuttleworth Memorial Baptist Church, built 1889 as the Campbellsville Baptist Church, reflects a Gothic style (see Photo 4). Purchased by the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in 1916 and used as their sancturay until 1974, the building has been converted into the county library while retaining its external architectural integrity. Only the bell tower shows alteration.

Along Main Street, one block south of the church and Clerk's office, one views a continuous streetscape of two storied buildings whose facades retain much of their original character and design (see Photos 5 and 6). Late twentieth century alterations are evidenced, but most buildings are intact (see Photo 7).

Moving eastward along Main Street one can see the predominance of Italianate design in the older buildings. 120-130 E. Main show Italianate elements in windows, decorative window heads, and molded tin cornices (see Photos 8 and 9). In addition, the George L. Mesker iron storefronts run the length of the block, though some alterations exist (see Photo 10). An additional design concern is reflected in the window heads of the block. 120 E. Main and 130 E. Main have similar cornice window heads (see Photo 11) bordering, almost bookend-like, the pedimented window heads of the stores between (see Photo 12).

Across the street companion Italianate elements exist in decorated window heads and tin cornices (see Photo 13). However, instead of cast iron fronts, buildings from 115-123 E. Main contain stone post and lintel throughout the length of the storefronts (see Photos 14 and 15). Only 125 E. Main does not share the block design, and, with the recent alterations, demonstrates even less of a concern for feeling and scale demonstrated in the rest of the block (see Photo 16).

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET)

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# 8. Significance



#### Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Page 1 of 2

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Campbellsville Historic Commercial District contains the core of late nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings which developed with the commercial growth of Campbellsville. Centered on three Main Street blocks and significant portions of other blocks to the south and west, the district is compact yet diverse. However, it maintains an architectural and historical integrity which defines a place and its own commercial and cultural development.

Although platted in 1813 and chartered in 1817, Campbellsville did not become a county seet until Taylor County separated from Green County in 1848. With an 1850 census of 7,250, Taylor lagged behind her parent county whose population was 9,060. During the next 40 years the county populations remained relatively stable. However, in the 1890-1900 decade Taylor County jumped from 9,353 to 11,075. Green was still more populous with 11,463 in 1890 and 12,255 in 1900, but a trend had begun. By 1910 Taylor had surpassed Green (11,961 to 11,871), and by 1980 had almost tripled her beginning population while Green remained under 11,000,

As Taylor County's population grew, so did its commercial district. Hotels, banks, grocery and drug stores, hardware and clothing stores, even entertainment centers sprouted along Main Street. In the years from 1880-1910, a building boom brought rows of stores in the central three blocks of Main Street.

Yet, despite the increased population growth and the attendant demands that places on communities to restructure their commercial looks and life, and despite disastrous fires in 1911 and 1914, the district maintained its historical and architectural integrity.

With the advent of aluminum frame doors and display windows, merchants began altering some store fronts. Nevertheless, original iron or stone facades have more often than not been worked around rather than removed. Consequently, the district still reflects a time when Main Street was the heart of a city's commercial ventures.

With some exceptions, the district also reflects the prevailing architectural tastes of a time period--Italianate being the dominant mode. Other styles exist in the district bringing a variety that enhances the area. Pointed, flat or Romanesque arched windows, Flemish and common bonds, iron or stone storefronts, metal decorative window heads and cornices abound and provide size visual delight. Only rare major alterations intrude intersecontinuous streetscape of compatible designs. Overall, buildings demonstrate a continuing sensitivity to the community's architectural character, thus giving the district a strong sense of time and place.

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET)

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

The <u>News-Journal</u>, Campbellsville, Ky.--passim Taylor County Deeds Sanborn Insurance Maps, Campbellsville, Ky., 1886-1927

# **10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated Quadrangle name _Ca		•	_	Quadra	ngle scale1:240000
UMT References					
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Verbal boundary de	scription and justi	fication			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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SEE CONTINUATI	ION SHEET				
List all states and c	ounties for prope	ties overlap	ping state or c	ounty boun <mark>dar</mark> i	es
state	c	ode	county		code
state	c	ode	county		code
11. Form	Drenared	By			
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name/title .Togor	h V Dognain	Duccou	ration Dla	nn o <b>n</b>	
JOSEL	<u>oh Y. DeSpain</u>	, <u>preser</u>	Valion Pla	nner	
organization Green	County Histo	rical So	ciety, Inc.d	ate Novembe:	r, 1982
	0.70				
street & number Box	276	·	t(	elephone	
city or town Greens	sburg		S	tate Kentucl	ky 42743
		Droco	rvation	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Certification
12. State	пізіопс	FIC3C	vation	VIIICEI	Certification
The evaluated significa	ince of this property	within the sta	te is:		
nat	ional sta	ate 🖌	_ 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 Preserva	tion Officer signatur	e Mary	Umm	Jake	
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title State Ma	adue <u>Pridi</u>	wation	Muco	date	1-9-83
	an a	n an	dan kabapatén di kab Kabapatén di kabapatén di kabapaté		A Martin
					2/11/02

209 E. Main

Court & N. 1st St.

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

## **National Register of Historic Places Inventory**—Nomination Form

Campbellsville Historic Commercial District **Continuation sheet** Taylor County, Kentucky Item number

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date e	ntered	

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Page 1 of 5 Unless otherwise indicated the addresses are Campbellsville, Ky. Note: 42718 PROPERTY OWNER AND ADDRESS City of Campbellsville Taylor County Library cor. Columbia & Broadway Taylor County Clerk's Office Columbia Ave. Taylor County Fiscal Court Mabel Willock 101 E. Main 717 S. Columbia Ave. 105 E. Main Robert Richenburg 311 Coakley St. 109 E. Main Lerman Bros., Inc. 109 E. Main Jack Rieman 111 E. Main 403 N. Columbia Ave. Haydon Coal & Oil N. 1st St. & Columbia Ave. Springfield, Ky. 40069 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 Chester & Ina Blakeman 115 E. Main 115 E. Main 117-119 E. Main Leland & Willard Caulk 119 E. Main R. G. Dowell 121 E. Main Box 1154 11 11 123 E. Main Pam & Leslie Richardson 125 E. Main Rt. 4, 1 Kensington Court Court & Main Citizen's Bank & Trust 11 11 11 11 207 E. Main 11 11 11 11

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# **National Register of Historic Places Inventory**—Nomination Form

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Campbellsville Continuation sheet	Historic Commercial District	tem number 4 Page 2 of 5
219 E. Main		Sammy Barnett Rt. 6, Box 8A
221 E. Main		Mitchell heirs 108 S. Columbia Ave.
223 E. Main		Somerset Beauty College Box 338
225 E. Main		Mrs. O. E. Taylor 2211 Lawnmont, Apt. #207
111 N. Cent	ral	Austin, TX 78756 Somerset Beauty College Box 338
115 N. Cent	ral	11 11 11 11
117 N. Cent	ral	E. D. Cain 611 N. Columbia Ave.
222 E. 1st	St.	Purcell's Office Equipment 222 E. 1st St.
301 E. Main		Taylor County Bank Lebanon Ave.
303 E. Main		Ray Taylor 705 N. Central
E. Main		Ollie Montgomery 419 N. Central
E. Main		tt tt tt
313 E. Main		Campbellsville Cleaners
Methodist C	hurch Annex	1st United Methodist Church E. Main
Methodist C	hurch	11 11 11 11
108 N. Cent	ral	Randall Herron 108 N. Central
110 N. Cent	ral	Ray Taylor 705 N. Central
302 E. 1st	St.	Barbara's Beauty Shop 302 E. 1st St.

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Campbellsville Historic Commercial District Continuation sheet Taylor County, Kentucky Item number

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N. 1st St. & Central	Howard & Brenda Harmon Rt. 5, Box 119
N. 1st St.	11 11 11
Methodist Church Annex	1st United Methodist Church E. Main
300-304 E. Main	Monson Realty 415 Lebanon Ave.
308 E. Main	J. Hugh Howell Bambridge Dr.
314 E. Main	H. T. Parrot c/o Citizens Bank Louisville, Ky.
116 S. Central	Campbellsville Commercial Development Corporation 201 E. Main
Hotchkiss Ave.	Newcomb Buick/Pontiac 322 E. Main
Hotchkiss Ave.	James H. & Monnie Knifley Rt. 1
Hotchkiss Ave.	Buckhorn Coal Co. Box 150
128 S. Central	Marion Davenport & Paul Johnson, Sr. Box 130
Hotchkiss Ave.	Sheldon Jeffries Rt. 1, Box 35 Casey Creek, Ky, 42723
Depot	City of Campbellsville
Buckhorn Coal Office (present) Railroad St.	Buckhorn Coal Co. Box 130
Buckhorn Coal Office (original) Railroad St.	11 11 11
133 S. Central	Thomas Earl Davenport Rt. 1
131 S. Central	Buckhorn Coal Col Box 130

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Campbellsville Historic Commercial Dis Continuation sheet Taylor County, Keptucky	strict , Item number 4 Page 4 of 5
127 S. Central	Paul Ellis 127 S. Central
S. Central	Lowell Caulk Box 321
S. Central	James Moore Rt. 4
224–226 E. Main	Larry Curry Rt. 3
222 E. Main	Billy Joe Breeding & Floy Alexander 222 E. Main
218 E. Main	Puryear & Bosley Box 623 Danville, Ky. 40422
212 E. Main	R. A. Sanders & Louise Vancleave 505 Lebanon Ave.
208–210 E. Main	William G. & Jill Chandler 210 E. Main
204 E. Main	Taylor Co. Broadcasting Co. c/o Lowell Caulk Box 321
202 E. Main	11 11 11 11
104 S. Court St.	F. P. Smith Hilltop Dr.
130 E. Main	W. R. Knifley Rt. 5
101 S. Court St.	Merle Wise Rt. 1
103 S. Court St.	F. P. Smith Hilltop Dr.
126 E. Main	Bruce & Lucille Hayes 229 Jan St.
128 E. Main	Mrs. Catherine Crabtree 330 High St.
120–122 E. Main	Deener Realty 120 E. Main

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116 E. Main	James Deener Rt, 3
110–112 E. Main	Mabel Willock 717 S. Columbia Ave.
108 E. Main	Phillip DeSpain 108 E. Main
102 E. Main	Mary E. Hoffman 102 E. Main

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DESCRIPTION OF CAMPBELLSVILLE HISTORIC COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (cont.)

Further east the row of buildings from 202-210 E. Main show a continuing concern for design and scale by retaining Italianate elements in the two story structures (see Photo 17). 202 E. Main is particularly interesting with its decorative brickwork and blind arcade. The pedimented tin parapet includes the Chandler nameplate and date of construction, 1893 (see Photo 17).

Corbelling and decorative cornice work continue in adjacent buildings with only the original Chandler Novelty shop at 210 E. Main breaking the cornice and roof line (see Photo 18). However, such a break provides visual interest, particularly when it brings into relief the second story stone facade of the J. S. Stults building at 212 E. Main (see Photo 19).

With the only stone faced facade on Main Street, the Stults building contributes excellent visual interest. Granite and sandstone are used in other buildings, but none provide the decorative elements of the Stults building. Built in 1895 as J. S. Stults' Dry Goods, the facade originally included stone pillars and dated stone window aprons. The remaining limestone facade shows a delight of regular, irregular, and uncoursed stone. A pressed tin cornice adds further interest (see Photo 20).

Significant alterations of roofline, windows, and storefronts disguise the basic Italianate elements in the old Campbellsville Hotel building at 222-226 E. Main (see Photo 21) although some of the cast iron store front remains on Main and on Central Ave. (see Photo 22). As a result of a damaging fire in 1911, the building required reworking and no longer retains the complete feel of the original. Yet, it continues to blend and contribute a visual significance to the entire streetscape.

Other buildings within the district demonstrating Italianate design are the G. V. Murray building, 131 S. Central (see Photo 23), the second V. M. Gowdy Wholesale Grocery building, 128 S. Central (see Photo 24), and the Bank of Campbellsville, 111 E. Main (see Photo 25).

As an early twentieth century building, the G. V. Murray building (ca. 1901-1925) only hints at the Italianate with its windows and decorative cornice (see Photo 23). Across the street the second V. M. Gowdy Wholesale Grocery building (see Photo 24), built in 1912, retains its iron storefront though some alterations exist (see Photos 26 and 27).

With its decorative molded cornice (see Photo 28) and segmental relieving arches, the Bank of Campbellsville building (111 E. Main), built ca. 1887, shows the continuing Italianate elements one finds surrounding it on Main Street (see Photo 25). Too, its stone front with

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

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Campbellsville Historic Commercial District Continuation sheet Taylor County, Kentucky Item number

DESCRIPTION OF CAMPBELLSVILLE HISTORIC COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (cont.)

round-arched windows, now obscured by signage, is compatible with the stone post and lintels of the buildings previously described to the east. However, the original front, though stone, was not round arched. Instead, the current front was added during a 1912 renovation.

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While other buildings on Main Street, and within the district, reflect other design elements, more often than not they demonstrate a continuing concern for the use of materials and scale to retain the district's character. Generally the basic building material of the district is brick bonded in alternating courses of 6 stretcher and 1 header (see Photos 11 and 21).

A major exception in scale is the Willock Opera House built in 1908 (see Photo 29). The only three story structure on Main Street. and one of only two three story structures in the district, the building uses tan brick in regular common bond. Leaded glass transoms ride over the display windows. While these elements bring a more contemporaneous look, the building's round arched windows show a continuing concern for the streetscape and the feeling on Main Street by repeating the design and sense of the adjacent Merchant's Hotel Romanesque arches (see Photo 6). Other visual design elements include decorative scroll work on stone lintels of the attic windows, corbelling, decorated panels on a stone parapet which include the date and nameplate (see Photo 30). The window arches have brick voissoirs which rest on stone imposts and include a stone key decorated with a sunburst design (see Photo 31).

With the imposing Opera House in the same area as the Romanesque arched and turreted Merchant's Hotel, one might expect each of these architectural delights to compete for attention. However, again a shorter structure, Shively's Jewelry (108 E. Main), breaks the line thus giving both the Opera House and the Hotel display space (see In some ways both of the buildings represent the pinnacle Photo 6). of construction and optimism in the commercial district. The Hotel, currently a National Register property, was built in 1910 to house the "drummers" or salesmen who came to Campbellsville. It was a joint venture of local merchants. The Opera House was constructed by Joe Willock, a local merchant who also began the Coca-Cola bottling company in the rear of his building at 116 E. Main. In the Opera House Willock attempted to combine commercial space, entertainment, and a fraternal hall. The first floor was rented to various businesses, the second floor housed the theater where vaudeville acts and local talent shows were held, and the third floor was dedicated solely to the Pitman Masonic Lodge. Both the Hotel and the Opera House reflected a time of boom in Campbellsville and apparently the optimism of the local merchants. Both, however, were to struggle for several years before finally dissolving as financial ventures.



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#### DESCRIPTION OF CAMPBELLSVILLE HISTORIC COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (cont.)

While Campbellsville at one time had three hotels on Main Street, they all succumbed to fire or financial ruin. However, the district also contains the county's only example of the 1930s auto culture tourist home--Ellis Motor Court, 127 S. Central (see Photo 32). Built in the late 1930s to fill a housing need for travelling salesmen, this terra cotta structure is no longer used.

Newer buildings in the district display less decoration than the earlier structures. Across the street from the Opera House and the Hotel and flanked by the Italianate design of 101 E. Main (see Photo 33) and the Bank of Campbellsville (see Photo 25), the Turner Block (ca. 1911) presents a more severe look (see Photo 34). Yet, the building's balance, rhythm, and brickwork remain sympathetic to the overall streetscape.

Further, though significantly altered from the original structure which had a corner entrance, the Taylor County National Bank building had developed a presence in its own right with its random coursed sandstone and marble base and wood framing in its second story window (see Photos 35 and 36). In addition, the metal clock on the bank's corner is one of the more attractive signs on Main Street.

Across the street at 300-304 E. Main, the Central Sales building, built ca. 1915-1927, contrasts with the older buildings in its use of a dark red brick and yellow brick in its decorative stringer course and rectangular patterns on the parapet (see Photo 37).

The community's agricultural ties are reflected in the Campbellsville Rolling Mill, also included in the district (see Photo 38). Built by W. J. Lindsay, ca. 1908-1913, the building continues to serve local agricultural needs.

Finally, the district includes the Campbellsville 1st Methodist Episcopal Church whose stone pillared portico with recessed entry is repeated on both the north and south facades (see Photo 39). The tapered stone pillars represent some of the work of a locally reknowned stone mason, C. M. ("Buck") Mikel who began the Buckhorn Coal Company, a firm still in existence, and who also constructed several homes and buildings in the Campbellsville area.

Buckhorn Coal's original stone office (see Photo 40), also constructed by Mikel in 1927 then added to in 1931, anchors the easternmost portion of the district along with the Campbellsville freight depot (see Photo 41), the only remaining portion of the Campbellsville railroad station. Constructed in the last quarter of the nineteenth century, this board and batten structure is soon to be converted to a community center, an adequate eastern anchor to the adapted church anchoring the western boundary.



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NPS Form 10-900-a (3-82)

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

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Campbellsville Historic Commercial District Continuation sheet Taylor County, Kentucky Item number 8

#### SIGNIFICANCE--CAMPBELLSVILLE HISTORIC COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (cont.)

In addition, the district shows a willingness to continue preserving and using its older structures. In 1974, the City of Campbellsville converted one of the district church buildings into the county library. Further, the remaining original portion of the Campbellsville railroad station, the freight depot, is scheduled to be developed as a community center. Thus, the district continues to maintain its integrity as a district rather than discarding those elements of historic and architectural significance.

At the same time, the district reflects the growth of Campbellsville commercialism in the number of buildings built, it also contains elements which suggest the local merchants' inherent optimism regarding the continual development of Campbellsville. When one notes that the two largest structures within the district were built within four years of one another (the Willock Opera House and the V. M. Gowdy Wholesale Grocery building), and that in between those years the local merchants supported the building of the Merchants' Hotel on Main Street, one can not help but view those developments as optimism for the future. In effect, the general turn-of-the-century commercial optimism remains cemented in buildings in the Campbellsville Historic Commercial District.

Finally, the district contains elements which demonstrate Campbellsville's ties to religion and agriculture and its broader scope as a regional commercial center. Within the district is a Methodist church and a former Baptist church, a mill/feed store, and buildings which housed long-established wholesale grocery businesses which served the South Central Kentucky area. All of these elements strengthen the concept of the Campbellsville Historic Commercial District as they provide a further definition of Campbellsville.

In sum, they define a time within the broader times of our cultural development and a golden era in Campbellsville, specifically. They further locate the beginnings of a place which has grown into a regional trade center. As a result, the Campbellsville Historic Commercial District is significant in defining the development of Campbellsville Kentucky.



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Campbellsville Historic Commercial District

Continuation sheet Taylor County, Kentucky Item number 10

CAMPBELLSVILLE HISTORIC COMMERCIAL DISTRICT--BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

OMB No. 1024-0018

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Beginning at the NE corner of the intersection of the first alley west of Columbia Avenue and Broadway (between the Taylor County library and present City Hall); thence E along Broadway and crossing Columbia Avenue to the rear property line of the old Taylor County Clerk's office; thence due S along said property line between the Taylor County Courthouse and the old Taylor County Clerk's office to N. 1st Street; thence E along N. 1st Street to the first alley E of Central Avenue (between the 1st United Methodist Church and the present Campbellsville Post Office); thence S along said alley crossing Main Street and Hotchkiss along the property lines of the Lyon-Beard body shop building and the present Buckhorn Coal building (their easternmost side) to the railroad tracks; thence SW along the railroad tracks to Central Avenue; thence N along Central Avenue to the first alley N of the railroad tracks (the southernmost boundary of the present Mid-State Music building); thence W along the alley to the first alley due W of Central Avenue; thence N along said alley to the second alley N of the railroad tracks; thence E along said alley to Central Avenue; thence N along Central Avenue to Hotchkiss Street; thence W along Hotchkiss Street to Columbia Avenue; thence N along Columbia Avenue to N. 1st Street; thence W along N. 1st Street to the first alley W of Columbia Avenue, the first named alley in this description; thence N along said alley to the beginning.

