

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

2606

OCT 11 1988

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Cadiz Downtown Commercial District other names/site number NA

2. Location

street & number Main Street, Jefferson Street city, town Cadiz state KY code KY county Trigg code 221 zip code 42211

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: [X] private, [X] public-local, [ ] public-State, [X] public-Federal. Category of Property: [ ] building(s), [X] district, [ ] site, [ ] structure, [ ] object. Number of Resources within Property: Contributing 17, Noncontributing 5 buildings, 5 sites, 5 structures, 5 objects, Total 17.

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A. Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 1

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] 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 [X] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet. Signature of certifying official David L. Morgan, State Historic Preservation Officer. See attached letter from Federal Preservation Coordinator, USPS. State or Federal agency and bureau

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

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is: [X] 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: Patrick Andrews Date of Action: 11/14/88

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single family  
COMMERCE/TRADE: Business, specialty store,  
department store  
SOCIAL: Meeting Hall  
GOVERNMENT: Courthouse

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCIAL/TRADE: Business, specialty store,  
department store  
SOCIAL: Civic  
GOVERNMENT: Courthouse  
RELIGION: Church

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival  
Commercial style  
Classical Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE;limestone  
walls BRICK  
roof ASPHALT  
other CAST IRON  
SHEET METAL

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Cadiz Downtown Commercial District is made up of historic commercial, governmental and religious buildings facing Main Street in the small western Kentucky town of Cadiz. The significant buildings date from 1840 to 1940, with the most significant commercial buildings dating from the first decade of this century. Architectural styles represented in the district include the Greek Revival, Romanesque, Early 20th Century Commercial, and Classical Revival. Intrusions in the district are mainly older buildings that have been heavily altered and one modern structure that fits in well with the scale and rhythm of the streetscape. On the whole, the Cadiz Downtown Commercial District retains the architectural atmosphere of small town America.

The district is centered on buildings facing Main Street along a five block area. Some stretches of the Main Street commercial area have been deleted from the district because modern structures dominate these blocks. The center of the downtown historic district is the town square and county courthouse. The significant commercial structures lay in a two block area east of the town square. A historic church, residence, and two contributing structures are on Main Street to the west of the town square. The district also includes two historic structures in the block directly north of the town square.

The town of Cadiz was laid out in 1820 when this site was designated as the county seat for the newly created Trigg County. The downtown area was located on a flat plateau above the eastern bank of the Little River. A slight hill rises up from the river to the downtown area. This area is now devoted to historic residential structures, modern commercial intrusions, and a recreation complex. Another hill rises east of the downtown area to a Victorian Main Street residential district. Main Street runs east-west through the downtown area and most of the commercial buildings in the downtown face Main Street. The area south of the downtown drops sharply to the Little River and no construction has ever taken place here. Jefferson Street, a secondary thoroughfare lined with several significant structures, forms the north boundary of the downtown area. The east end of Main Street runs through the historic residential district to a modern commercial strip area on the east side of town.

The significant buildings in the Cadiz Downtown Commercial District range from an 1840 Greek Revival house to a 1940 Post Office. Many western Kentucky river towns retain one or two Greek Revival structures that date from the early days of the community's development. Regional examples include the Gower House in Smithland, the Louisville Branch Bank in Paducah, and the Canton Inn in Canton. This is true for Cadiz with the Masonic Lodge. Built in 1855, the Masonic Lodge is an example of Greek Revival at its simplest. The gable end front facade is decorated only with a central entrance, a second

**8. Statement of Significance**

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

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

Period of Significance

1840-1941

Significant Dates

1920

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

White, W.C.

Architect/Builder

Hunt, R.H. (courthouse architect)

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

The Cadiz Downtown Commercial District in Trigg County, Kentucky is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. Under criterion A, the district is significant for its development as the commercial center for Cadiz, an important regional trade center and transportation link in western Kentucky from 1820 to the present. The commercial district grew as the abundant natural resources of the area were exploited. The town has also served as a governmental center for the county population since 1820. The Princeton Downtown Commercial District is eligible under criterion C because it contains a significant collection of nineteenth and twentieth century architecture that illustrates the development of Cadiz as a trade center and export source for natural resources. The early Twentieth Century buildings along Main Street, combined with other significant individual landmarks in the downtown area, represent the history of this progressive, attractive community.

The small town of Cadiz is the county seat and largest community in Trigg County. Cadiz was originally chosen as the county "seat of justice" because of its advantageous location in the central portion of Trigg County. The town grew as the rich natural resources of the area were exploited and people moved into the community to share in the economic growth. The town's prosperity and its location on an important east-west route of travel led to the development of a thriving Main Street commercial district that catered to local and regional needs. As the county seat, Cadiz was the destination for many county citizens so that they could pursue legal and governmental activities. Cadiz remains a community whose buildings and atmosphere typify small town America.

The heart of the downtown has also been the town square and courthouse. Downtown Cadiz also contains Greek Revival houses and a Masonic Lodge, a Romanesque church, handsome turn-of-the-century commercial buildings, sturdy 1920-period replacement structures, and a charming 1940-era post office. These buildings join together to create a charming and unique downtown area.

The first settlement in the area that would become Trigg County was sponsored

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Kentucky State Gazetteer. 1879.

Kentucky State Directory. 1870

Trigg County History. Cadiz: Trigg County Historical and Preservation Society. 1986

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

State historic preservation office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Specify repository:

Kentucky Heritage Council

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property App. 7 acres

UTM References

A 

1	6	4	2	5	4	0	0	4	0	7	9	7	9	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

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D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Richard Holland

organization Paducah Growth, Inc.

street & number 500 Clark

city or town Paducah

date August, 1988

telephone 502-443-9284

state KY zip code 42001

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List of Property Owners

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ALL CADIZ, KY. 42211

<u>ENTRY #</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>OWNER</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
1.	POST OFFICE	US POSTAL SERVICE	CADIZ POST OFFICE
2.	67 MAIN	TRIGG COUNTY INS. CO.	67 MAIN
3.	65 MAIN	TIMOTHY MOORE	RT.5
4.	63 MAIN	JAMES R. GUESS	#287
5.	61 MAIN	CALVIN BOSWELL	242 TWIN TREES
6.	59 MAIN	FRANK SIMON	RT 2 BOX 191B
7.	57 MAIN	HAROLD KNIGHT	PO BOX 486
8.	55 MAIN	ROBERT HILES	PO BOX 387
9.	53 MAIN	JOE CLEMENT	53 MAIN
10.	49-51 MAIN	E.R. STREET, JR.	PO BOX 72
	47 MAIN	RALPH CALHOUN	RT. 6 BOX 102
11.	64-68 MAIN	TRIGG CO. FARMERS BANK	MAIN STREET
12.	60 MAIN	WADE CUNNINGHAM	RT. 4
13.	58 MAIN	ROBERT E. FRANCIS	56 MAIN
	56 MAIN	CAROL CLARK	PO BOX 615
14.	52 MAIN	TIM FUTRELL	PO BOX 919
	50 MAIN	" "	" " "
	48 MAIN	TRIGG CO. FARMERS BANK	MAIN STREET
15	44-46 MAIN	TRIGG CO. FARMERS BANK	MAIN STREET
16	COURTHOUSE	TRIGG CO. FISCAL COURT	COURTHOUSE
17.	21 MAIN	RAMSEY ALEXANDER	PO BOX 247
18.	25 MAIN	HENRY C. WHITE	PO BOX 71
19.	31 MAIN	CHRISTIAN CHURCH	35 MAIN
20.	35 MAIN	CHRISTIAN CHURCH	35 MAIN
21.	MASONIC LODGE	TRIGG CO. FISCAL COURT	COURTHOUSE
22.	CUNNINGHAM HOUSE	" " " "	" "

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floor window, and brick piers dividing the facade into three sections. (Photo #19) With its symmetrical design and fine sense of proportion, the Cadiz Masonic Lodge is a significant example of Greek Revival architecture in western Kentucky.

Greek Revival architecture was also the prevalent style for the early residential structures in Cadiz. The 1840 Josiah Miller House, with its two-story entrance portico and classically detailed doorway, is a fine surviving example of this style of architecture. (Photo #18) The Josiah Miller House stands with the Lovelace House in Lovelaceville and the Rudd House in Smithland as the best examples of residential Greek Revival architecture in far western Kentucky.

The heart of the downtown area is the town square and county courthouse. Shaded by large trees and decorated with statuary and benches, the town square creates a parklike green space in the middle of town. The courthouse, which is not as one as one would expect, stands as testament to the rebuilding process that the town had to undertake after a devastating downtown fire in 1920. The subdued Classical Revival style is very appropriate to the governmental functions of the building. (Photos # 13,14)

The new courthouse has never become the central visual landmark that the earlier courthouse, with its three-story clock tower, had been. Cadiz is different from other surrounding towns, such as Murray, Princeton, Hopkinsville, and Mayfield, where the courthouses are the central downtown landmarks. The dominating visual forces in downtown Cadiz are the commercial buildings lining Main Street. The courthouse and public square serve as attractive background for these structures.

The mass of downtown commercial buildings in Cadiz line a two-block area along Main Street east of the town square. The most significant buildings in this area date from the decade of 1900 to 1910 when the town enjoyed prosperity that came from new enterprises sponsored by local developers. The construction of the Cadiz Railroad in 1903 and the connection to important railway systems had an especially significant effect on the appearance of the town. For the first time, the railroad link allowed the easy importation of sophisticated architectural fabric. Much of this fabric came from the foundry of George Mesker in Evansville, Indiana, which produced and distributed some of the finest architectural iron work in the country. Cast-iron storefront and pressed-metal facades were shipped to Cadiz and used on downtown structures. The construction of these iron-fronted commercial buildings between 1900 and 1910 can be noted as the factor that allowed Cadiz to be considered a town and no longer just a village. (Photos #1,2,6,8,9,11,12)

The downtown commercial buildings in Cadiz are comparable in style and detailing to downtown structures in the nearby towns of Princeton and Hopkinsville. All three of these towns boast significant two-story brick commercial buildings decorated with George Mesker cast iron. These towns, each a county seat and important trade center, possessed the economic vitality to construct ornate commercial buildings exhibiting imported architectural fabric. Princeton, Hopkinsville and Cadiz formed a triangle of towns with handsome commercial districts boasting the latest in architectural styling.

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The devastating fire of November, 1920 destroyed the Romanesque county courthouse and several blocks of Greek Revival and Italianate buildings. This fact accounts for the fact that there is only one building in the district dating from the late nineteenth century. This is the Cadiz Christian Church, built in the 1890s in the Romanesque style. Much of the downtown area was rebuilt in the 1920s. Unfortunately, the buildings constructed in this period were not as handsome or sophisticated as those they replaced. These 1920s era buildings mainly serve as infill between more significant, earlier buildings. Two of these buildings, at 21 and 25 Main Street, are interesting examples of buildings constructed to cater to the automobile traffic passing by on Main Street. (Photo #16)

The only significant mid-century building in the district is the 1940 Classical Revival Post Office. This is one of a series of post offices built in western Kentucky by the U. S. Government as part of the federal work program to alleviate unemployment caused by the Depression. Other post offices similar in style and size can be found in Murray, Princeton and Mayfield. The Classical Revival style was apparently used to instill a sense of heritage and patriotism during an unsettled time. The similar appearance of all these post office buildings reflects the fact that a central office in Washington, D. C. was cranking out the architectural designs. (Photo #3)

Despite some modern alterations to buildings, the Cadiz Downtown Commercial District retains its integrity as a historically and architecturally significant area. The major alterations to the buildings in the district have been made to the first floor storefronts. In several cases, the entire storefront has been removed and replaced with a modern one. In some cases, such as 47-51 Main Street and 64-68 Main Street, the replacement front has retained the original storefront configuration with bulkheads, display windows and transom, but manufactured of steel, glass and tile. (Photos #8,9) Other new storefronts, such as 44 and 50 Main, are built entirely of brick with recessed doorways and small rectangular windows. (Photos #11,12) The most intact original storefronts can be found at 63 Main, 48 Main, and 52 Main. (Photos #6,11,12) The one modern intrusion in the district is the Trigg County Insurance Building at 67 Main. Although obviously a modern structure, it fits in well with the streetscape because of its compatible size and use of materials. (Photo #4)

The only site in the district with the potential for historic archaeological study is around the 1855 Masonic Lodge, especially in context with the building's use during the Civil War. The construction of six courthouses on the public square has probably wiped out any coherent record there. Another potential site for archaeological study is the Big Spring Cave, much of which lies directly underneath the downtown area. There are efforts underway to open the long-blocked entrance and develop the site as a tourism attraction.

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INVENTORY LIST

1. Cadiz Post Office. 69 Main Street. Classical Revival. 1941. This is a charming Classical Revival structure, obviously inspired by the early Virginia architecture at Williamsburg that was being restored at that time. The one-story red brick building has a basement level and a rear loading dock. The classical details are concentrated around the central arched doorway, which has Doric columns and an eagle statue located in the archway. Stone steps with a wrought-iron bannister leads up to the doorway. The four front windows each have twelve-over-twelve sash and stone sills and lintels. The windows are obscured by modern aluminum store windows. Recessed areas in the front and sides of the building provide light to the basement level windows. A classical fascia with dentil molding runs across the front and sides of the building. The hipped roof is topped with a four-sided cupola with a weather vane. The interior retains the original wood entrance vestibule, brass mail boxes, and aggregate flooring.

The Cadiz Post Office opened for service on January 1, 1942. The cost of the building and equipment was \$76,000. A stone plaque at the southeast corner of the building identifies Louis A. Simon as the supervising architect and Neal Malick as the supervising engineer. (C) Photo #3

2. Trigg County Insurance Agency. 67 Main Street. Modern brick structure with large round-arched openings for doorways and windows. Building is compatible to scale and rhythm of street. (NC) Photo #4

3. 65 Main Street. C. 1900. This is a two-story brick building, divided into two sections. The altered east section has a large garage door and an entranceway on the first floor and four rectangular windows on the second floor. A pressed-metal material made to look like brick covers the original brick. The west section of the building has a large wood storefront with transoms and double doors. Arched windows on the second floor have four-over-four sash. This L-shaped building has had a garage addition added to the rear. (C) Photo #5

4. 63 Main Street. C. 1905. This two-story brick structure has the most intact cast-iron storefront in the downtown area. Especially distinctive is the recessed corner entrance with its large double doors, panelled door surrounds, and cast-iron corner column. The entrance is flanked on both sides by window configurations containing wood panelled bulkheads, display windows, and transoms. Nameplates identify the cast iron as being manufactured by George Mesker and Company. A west storefront has a modern insert storefront but retains a cast-iron pilaster on its western edge.

The second floor of the building has a row of brick patterning above each storefront. The six second-floor windows have one-over-one sash and stone lintels and sills. The building is topped with a row of recessed brick panels and an advanced brick corbelled cornice with dropped pendants. The second floor windows continue down the Marion side of the building. There is a recessed service area at the rear of the building with a double door. (C) Photo #6

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53-61 Main Street is a row of similar one-and-a-half story buildings constructed in the 1920s as infill construction. Some of these buildings, while never architecturally elaborate, do retain some of their detailing while others have been significantly altered. Each building has a first floor storefront topped by a tall parapet wall concealing attic space. Photo #7

5. 61 Main Street. Glass and steel storefront topped by a brick parapet wall that is divided into three sections by brick piers. (C)

6. 59 Main Street. Glass, steel and brick storefront with pressed-metal covering over parapet wall area and pressed-metal cornice and corner pendants. (C)

7. 57 Main Street. Glass and steel storefront with a pressed-metal covering on the parapet wall. A decorative metal cornice runs above the storefront. (C)

8. 55 Main Street. Cast-iron threshold appears to be only original material on front. The modern brick front has a Colonial entrance. (NC)

9. 53 Main Street. Glass, aluminum and brick front with the upper portion covered by vinyl siding. (NC)

10. J. W. Cowherd Company/Street's Department Store. 47-49-51 Main Street. 1900. This substantial two-story brick structure is highlighted by polychrome brickwork and stone detailing. The Main Street facade is divided into three sections by massive stone piers on first floor and yellow brick piers on the second floor. The first floor is divided into three storefronts, which are distinguished by similar details such as low marble bulkheads and glass and aluminum display window configurations. Each storefront has a slightly recessed side entrance with a large flanking display window. All of the storefronts are topped by a large section of black Carrerra glass panels. A simple metal cornice with decorative tie rods runs above the storefronts.

The red brick second floor facade is divided into three sections by yellow brick piers. Each section has three one-over-one windows with stone sills and lintels. The corniceline of the facade is decorated with a row of red brick dropped pendants topped by a similar yellow brick row.

The facade detailing continues around the southwest corner of the building briefly. The west side of the building has three porthole windows on the first floor and rectangular windows with one-over-one sash on the second floor. Photo #8 (C)

The eastern two sections of the buildings contains Street's Department Store, which is operated by the E. R. Street Company. The Streets were pioneer merchants in Cadiz. The western section of the building once contained the J. W. Cowherd Company, the town's principal grocer.

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11. Cadiz Hardware Company. 64-68 Main Street. 1903. This monumental building with fine pressed-metal detailing dominates the downtown district. The main three-story building has a cast-iron storefront on the first floor and decorative sheet-metal front on the second and third floors. The northwest corner of the building is angled to emphasize the original entrance to the first floor. The first floor storefront is divided into sections by cast-iron pilasters, which are not marked as Mesker iron but similar to other local examples. Unfortunately, the first floor storefront, other than the cast-iron pilasters, has been removed and replaced with a modern one made of glass and steel. This modern storefront configuration is similar to the original one, with bulkheads, display windows, and transoms. The main entrance to the first floor has also been moved from the corner to the center of the Main Street side. The original stone step leading to the earlier entranceway remains.

The second and third floors of the building are covered with a highly decorative pressed-metal front that has been applied to the brick exterior. Raised decoration creates a cornice effect above the first floor storefront. Much of the remaining sheet metal is pressed to resemble courses of cut stone. Narrow one-over-one windows run across the front and recessed corner on the second and third floor. The building is topped with a sheet-metal bracketed cornice. Photo # 9

A two-story structure, constructed in 1912, is attached to the east wall of the main building. This matching structure has a cast-iron storefront on the first floor and a sheet-metal front on the second. There is a one-story brick addition to the rear of this building. Photo #9

The west brick wall of the main building, visible to the eastbound traffic on Main Street, has a first floor loading bay with a double, panelled doorway. The second and third stories have windows with two-over-two sash and raised brick lintels. The rear of the building has a pressed-metal covering, done to make the building attractive to traffic using the road leading to and from the Little River. The entire structure is built on a stone foundation that provides a basement level. Frame storage additions have been built on to the southeast corner of the building.

The main structure was constructed by Kee R. McKee between 1900 and 1903. By 1903, the building was purchased by the White Family, who operated the Cadiz Hardware Company for many years. The eastern 1912 section contained the Post Office until 1942. (C)

12. Lermans. 60 Main. C. 1900, with modern front. This one-story building apparently once had a second floor which has been removed. The entire first floor has been covered with metal siding and the original storefront replaced with a modern one. The exposed east brick wall has two painted advertisements. (NC) Photo #10

13. 56-58 Main. C. 1900, with modern front. The facade of this two-story brick building has been completely covered with modern material, with a metal front on the second floor and two replacement storefronts on the first floor. Some original details probably exist under the new materials. (NC) Photo #10

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14. A. Bros. & Son Building. 48-50-52 Main Street. 1907. This is a three-sectioned building united by common second floor details. The first floor storefronts are divided by George Mesker cast-iron pilasters. A metal cornice with decorative tie rods tops each of the three storefronts.

52 Main Street has a storefront which retains the original cast-iron pilasters and transoms but has modern steel and glass windows and doors. A side entrance leads to the second floor.

50 Main Street has a modern brick storefront with a recessed central entrance and two small windows.

48 Main Street has the original cast-iron pilasters, transom and side entrance but a modern storefront with a side entrance and large display window. The interior contains the original tin ceiling, cornice and mezzanine level.

The second floor of the building is divided into three sections by brick piers. The central section has a double lancet window in the center and flanking double rectangular windows. The east and west sections each have three rectangular windows with one-over-one sash. All of these windows have stone lintels and sills. A pattern of raised brick pendants runs across the top of the building. A central stone plaque reads A. Bros. & Son 1907. The brick front of the west section has been painted to highlight the detailing. (C) Photo #11

15. George L. Smith Drug Store/ Blane's Drug Store. 44-46 Main Street. 1905. This former drug store building is a two-story brick structure with cast-iron elements on the first floor and a sheet-metal facade on the second floor. The first floor is divided by cast-iron pilasters into two storefronts, with a central entryway leading to the second floor. The east storefront retains the original transom and cast-iron threshold but the large display window has replaced the original doorway and window configuration. The west storefront has been infilled with brick and has a central recessed entry and two flanking windows. A sheet-metal cornice with protruding capitals runs above the storefronts. The iron pilasters are marked with George Mesker nameplates.

An elaborate sheet-metal front covers the entire second-floor facade. The front is decorated with a variety of details, such as sunburst patterns, dentil molding, and V-shaped pendants. The sheet metal is patterned to resemble stone quoins at the corners and in the middle of the building. The sheet-metal front ends in a raised cornice effect. A row of seven two-over-two windows runs across the front of the building. The west side of the building has a first floor entry and a row of four-over-four windows on the second floor. Photo #12

The building was constructed in 1905 for the George L. Smith Drug Store. It was later the home of Blane's Drug Store, which operated until 1943. (C)

16. Trigg County Courthouse. Town Square. Classical Revival 1921. The current courthouse,  
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the sixth one constructed in Cadiz, was built after the 1882 courthouse burned in 1920. The current courthouse was designed by noted Chattanooga architect R. W. Hunt.

The courthouse is a simple two-story, brick structure. Ornamentation is concentrated on the central entranceway on the Main Street facade. The entrance is highlighted by a stone pair of pilasters holding a decorative lintel. The entrance is topped by a cornice supporting a false balcony. A modern steel and glass door has replaced the original door. The central entrance is flanked on both sides by double windows with four-over-one sash.

The second floor of the Main Street facade has a central, three-part window and flanking double windows with four-over-four sash. Raised brickwork creates rectangular patterns between the first and second floor windows. A stone band runs across the top of the building, creating a cornice effect. The window configurations continue around the east and west sides of the building. Photo #13,14

On the interior, the central entranceway opens onto a hallway that runs the width of the building, with various county offices opening off of it. A double flight staircase leads to the second floor courtroom. This room has original wood benches, panelled walls, and judge's bench. (C)

Directly in front of the courthouse on Main Street is the 1915 Confederate Soldier monument. Four marble Doric columns rest on a splayed base and support an arched lintel, upon which four cannonballs rest. The four columns surround a drinking fountain placed in a rectangular block of stone. Inscribed in the stone base are the words IN MEMORY OF THE CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS OF THIS COUNTY. Photo #15

17. Gulf Station. 21 Main. C. 1921. This corner, two-story structure was built for use as a service station. The Main Street first floor facade has brick piers dividing the front two sections, The second floor has three one-over-one sash windows. Simple brick corbelling runs across the corniceline. The building is one of many in the downtown area built after devastating fires in the 1920s. (C) Photo #16

18. Wilbur Boggess. 25 Main. C. 1921. This is a 1920s era building built for the display and sale of automobiles, which remains the building's current use. The one-story Main Street facade is divided into three sections by brick piers. The east bay has a central doorway, flanking display windows, and a transom. The central bay is open to allow automobile access to the rear garage. The west bay has one large display window and a transom. The brick facade ends in a stone-capped parapet wall. The rear of the building has two stories, with the first floor used as a garage. The building wraps in a L-shape around the Gulf Station at the corner of Main and Court. (C) Photo #16

19. Cadiz Christian Church. 31 Main. Romanesque. 1898. This brick structure has a southeast corner tower and main sanctuary building. The entry tower has entranceways on both the south and east sides. Each double door entrance is topped with a stained-glass fanlight and a brick archway. The east and south sides of the tower also have (See continuation sheet)

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circular rose windows contained stained-glass quatrefoils. The belfry of the tower is topped with an octagonal spire covered in slate and decorated with a weather vane.

The gable front of the sanctuary of the church faces Monroe Street. The front has a central round-arched stained-glass window flanked by smaller rectangular windows. A stone plaque above the windows reads CHRISTIAN CHURCH 1898. Other stone detailing on the church includes lintels and sills, the steps leading up to the entrances, a water course, and a beltcourse on the tower.

Gothic-arched stained-glass windows run down the south and north sides of the main building. The basement level has windows that were added in 1954.

(C) Photo #17

20. Josiah Miller House. 35 Main. Greek Revival. C. 1840. This is a two-story brick Greek Revival house with an entry portico, central doorway, and flanking three-part windows. The two-story portico has four octagonal wood piers supporting it at each level. The portico is topped by a pedimented gable. The original first floor door surround remains but the original door has been replaced with a modern glass and aluminum one. The second-story doorway to the balcony is original, with a double panelled doorway, rectangular sidelights, and a stone lintel. The portico has flanking, three-part windows on each side on the first and second floors. Each of the windows has a simple stone lintel. The shutters and raised panelled sills appear to be modern additions. The L-shaped house has a rear west wing. (C) Photos #18,19

The house was constructed circa 1840 by Josiah Miller, who lived here until 1854. The house was renovated in the 1940s and was later used as a boarding house. It currently serves as the educational building for the adjacent Cadiz Christian Church.

21. Masonic Lodge. Northwest corner of Jefferson and Monroe. Greek Revival. C. 1855. This early two-story brick structure is a rare local example of Greek Revival architecture employed for a non-residential use. The gable end of the building, which fronts on Jefferson Street, is divided into three sections by brick piers that rise from the ground to the roofline. The first floor of the facade has a central entrance with a double, panelled doorway topped by a transom and a triangular stone lintel. The second floor has a central window with nine-over-nine sash and a stone lintel. A modern metal attic grate has been installed. A wide fascia with brackets runs along the roofline.

The Monroe Street side is divided into four sections by brick piers. Four rectangular windows with nine-over-nine sash runs across the first and the second floors. Visible on this side of the building is the limestone foundation of the building. The rear of the building has no openings. (C) Photo #20

The Masonic Lodge was built around 1855 and is one of the town's oldest buildings. The Masons built this structure in partnership with the Christian Church. The Masons used the second floor and the church used the first floor. In recent years, the building has been used by the Trigg County Fiscal Court as a senior citizens center. It was listed on the National Register in 1979.

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22. Julia Cunningham Boarding House. Jefferson Street. Greek Revival. C. 1860, porch addition circa. 1900. This two-story brick I-shaped structure was once Cadiz's leading boarding house and is now used for the local senior citizens organization. The front is dominated by a frame, two-story porch with simple wood piers at each level. The first-floor central entranceway is flanked by two windows on each side. The door and windows have simple wood surrounds and two-over-two sash. The front porch has its original brick floor. A modern door and storm windows have been added. The second floor also has a central doorway that leads to the second-story porch. The one-room deep house has interior chimneys at the east and west ends. The house was known as the Julia Cunningham Boarding House during the first three decades of this century. (C) Photo #21

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by Abraham Boyd in 1799. He founded a shipping point on the Cumberland River that was to become known as Boyd's Landing. In 1820 the Kentucky State Legislature formed a new county from portions of Caldwell and Christian counties and named it for Revolutionary War hero Stephen Trigg. Justices of the peace were appointed to govern the county and to establish a county seat. A commission appointed by the justices recommended a section of land on the east bank of the Little River to be the new county seat. The commission described the land as being "on top of an eminence above the spring." The land was owned by Robert Baker, who donated a stable yard and fifty acres surrounding it for use as a public square and town.

The new town, named Cadiz after the ancient Spanish town, was organized and laid out in Baker's home. The first meeting of the Trigg County Court was held also in Baker's home. The decision to make Cadiz the county seat was challenged by the residents of Canton, the established town on the Cumberland River that was originally Boyd's Landing. A countywide referendum was held and the voters endorsed the decision to make Cadiz the county seat.

Cadiz's geographical position at the center of Trigg County made it a advantageous choice for the county seat. The Little River, which was navigable up to Cadiz, provided access to the Cumberland River and subsequently to the Tennessee, Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. Roads also connected Cadiz to docking places on the Cumberland River such as Olive's Landing and Boyd's Landing (Canton). The Trigg County Justices of the Peace ordered the construction of roads from Cadiz to Dover, Tennessee, Princeton, and Hopkinsville. This road construction became a critical factor in the early growth of Cadiz as the town developed as a regional trade center and as a supplies and rest stop for travelers. The east-west route from Hopkinsville to Columbia that passed through Cadiz became the principal thoroughfare for the community and the Main Street commercial district developed along it. This route later became part of U. S. Highway 68, which channeled enormous traffic through Cadiz.

The first Trigg County Courthouse, a wood frame building measuring 26' by 36', was constructed in 1821 on the new town square. In 1833 a two-story brick courthouse was built on the site. This 40 foot square building survived until December, 1864 when it was one of a series of west Kentucky courthouses burned by Confederate troops. The first meeting of the city trustees was held on October 14, 1820. The first merchants in the town were John Hill, Robert Baker, and W.P.M. Scott and the first hotel was a two-story log structure owned by James Thompson.

The early development of Cadiz became tied to the utilization of the rich natural resources in the area. The rich alluvial bottom lands allowed the cultivation of such crops as grain and tobacco. The abundance of grain and water power created by the Little River led to the construction of mills along the river. The discovery or large desopits. of high grade iron ore spurred the construction of iron furnaces in the area. Vast hardwood forests provided the fuel for running the iron furnaces.

Robert Baker operated the first mill in Cadiz. The firm of Jones and Gateswood later built the Cadiz Mill in 1869 on the site of the Baker mill. The Cadiz mill  
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was taken over in 1870 by Robert Wilford, who expanded it to four stories and made it into the largest mill in the county. Wilford also operated an extensive distillery in the city, again capitalizing on the grain and water resources of the area.

The first iron furnace in the county was Empire Furnace, built in 1841. At one point in the nineteenth century, fifteen iron furnaces operated in Trigg County. With each furnace employing an average of one hundred people, the iron industry provided a strong base for the economic growth of the county. The iron industry continued until the 1880s, when the depletion of the timber resources led to the closing of most of the furnaces. The envisioned need for coal to be imported as fuel for the furnaces was an important factor leading to the construction of the Cadiz Railroad.

The river access enjoyed by Cadiz made the town an important distribution point for tobacco. The first tobacco warehouse was built by town founder Robert Baker. Tobacco would be bought and stored in warehouses until it could be loaded onto flatboats and shipped to New Orleans. The economic prosperity created by the tobacco business was enjoyed by both the farmers and the tobacco dealers and warehouse owners in the town. This prosperity attracted more and more people to Cadiz.

With a solid agricultural and industrial base, the town of Cadiz developed into a thriving community during the nineteenth century. The 1853 Nashville, State of Tennessee and General Commercial Directory reported that Cadiz "contains the county buildings and several churches and academies." The population of the town was 600.

One building in Cadiz that survives from this early period is the Masonic Lodge, which was constructed around 1855 as a lodge and church building for the Christian Church of Cadiz. (Entry #21) The Cadiz Masonic Lodge was chartered in 1841 and held meetings in different houses until it built a headquarters in 1855. The Masons occupied the second floor of the two-story brick building and the Christian Church held services on the first floor. During the Civil War, the building was used as a prison for Federal soldiers captured by Confederate forces of General H. B. Lyon. These soldiers were held for several months, during which time the building's interior was damaged. The building continued to be used by the Masons until 1978, when the Trigg County Fiscal Court received title to it. It is now used as a community center and meeting place for senior citizens. The building was listed on the National Register in 1979.

Two residential structures in the downtown district date from the era. The Josiah Miller House (#20) and the Cunningham House (#22) both exhibit Greek Revival details such as symmetrical fronts with a central entranceway and flanking windows. These houses serve as reminders of the early appearance of the residential areas of Cadiz.

The 1833 Trigg County Courthouse burned during the Civil War was replaced in 1865 by a two-story brick structure. This courthouse was replaced in 1882 with a  
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two-story brick structure that measured 95' by 65'. The courthouse had a front tower with a four-sided clock tower that became a community landmark.

The business activities in the town of Cadiz during the last half of the nineteenth century can be traced through a series of directories that reported on the community. The 1870 Kentucky State Directory noted that the town of Cadiz had six dry goods businesses, eight grocers, two drug stores, one bank, and one furniture store. The town also supported a carpenter, a tobacco dealer, a carriage and wagon manufacturer, an iron manufacturer, and a miller. This hosts of goods and services provided by the town reflects its role as an important supplier to the surrounding region.

The 1879 Kentucky State Gazetteer listed 66 entries for Cadiz in its business directory. The town at that time contained five churches, three private schools, one weekly newspaper, five dry goods businesses, two leaf tobacco warehouses, two liverys, one saloon, and one hotel. Individuals finding employment in the town included a photographer, blacksmith, plasterer, stonemason, tinner, shoemaker, and brickmason. Cadiz's role as a county seat provided employment for a town marshall, police judge, county judge, county clerk, circuit clerk, sheriff, jailor, justice of the peace, and county attorney. The town's legal activities also employed seven lawyers.

The town of Cadiz plunged into the 1890s with an open attitude toward accepting and utilizing technical improvements. In 1893 the first telephone lines were installed by Percy White from his mill on the Little River to his father's office in the downtown area. In 1897 the Cadiz City Council sold the water rights of the adjacent Big Spring and the Cadiz Waterworks Company was formed. In 1894 the first mayor and city council for the town was elected.

A significant downtown structure built in the 1890s is the Cadiz Christian Church at the corner of Main and Madison. (#19) The Romanesque church contains a sanctuary with stained glass windows, a baptistry under the pulpit area, and a highly arched ceiling above the pulpit. The building was restored in 1910 after being damaged by a severe explosions. The Christian Church is the only significant structure in the downtown district that dates from the late nineteenth century period. Other buildings from the period were destroyed during the 1920s by fire.

The first decade of the twentieth century was a time of daring enterprise and growth for Cadiz. This general prosperity spurred the expansion of the town's commercial district along Main Street. The town's role as a regional center for trade and governmental activities was strengthened and expanded. As in most small towns, it is easy to identify the community leaders who spurred the growth in Cadiz.

Cadiz's premier businessman and financier in the first quarter of the twentieth century was W. C. White. The enterprises he founded and championed were the major reasons for the growth and prosperity in Cadiz. He co-founded the Trigg County Farmers Bank and served as its president from 1900 to 1925. This bank was the town's leading financial institution and financed many new businesses in the community. White founded the Cadiz Railroad in 1900 to help market the natural resources of the area  
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and to provide a vital trade link to the outside world. At only ten miles long, the Cadiz Railroad had the distinction of being the shortest railroad in America. White owned and operated one of the largest tobacco warehouses in western Kentucky and used his railroad to ship the tobacco. White also operated the Center Furnace in western Trigg County and used the railroad to haul in coal for fueling the furnace.

The one surviving downtown building in Cadiz most closely associated with White and his family is the Cadiz Hardware Company building on Main Street. (#11) This structure was purchased in 1903 by the White family, who operated the hardware business here for many years. The Cadiz Hardware Company became a major supplier for the everyday needs of the people of Cadiz and the surrounding area. The White family involvement with the Cadiz Railroad allowed the easy importation of the many goods provided by the hardware company. The firm grew into one of the town's leading retail businesses.

The construction of the Cadiz Railroad can be considered as the most important economic development factor for growth in Cadiz in the first half of the twentieth century. The line connected Cadiz with Gracey, Kentucky, where connections could be made with the Illinois Central, Ohio Valley, and Louisville and Nashville railways. The Articles of Incorporation for the Cadiz Railroad were filed on March 6, 1901 and construction began on April 22nd. The railroad had its first run on the 10.3 mile line in March, 1902. Two round trips between Cadiz and Gracey were made each day. The railroad became the lifeline of Cadiz as lumber, tobacco, country hams, hay and live poultry were exported and oil, coal, fruit, vegetables, sugar, wool and fertilizer were imported. Affecting the architectural character of downtown Cadiz was the importation of cast-iron storefront and pressed-metal facades from the George Mesker Iron Foundry in Evansville. It is noteworthy that Cadiz's four most significant commercial buildings, the Cadiz Hardware Company Building (#11), the A. Brothers & Son Building (#14), the George L. Smith Drug Store (#15) and the Cowherd-Street Building (#10), were all built after the construction of the Cadiz Railroad and have some type of cast-iron detailing.

W. C. White's co-founder of the Trigg County Farmer's Bank was E. R. Street, another important citizen of Cadiz in the early part of this century. The Street family's merchandising business in Cadiz was founded in the 1820s by Spotswood Wilkinson and passed on to John L. Street in 1840. The firm of John L. Street and Son later became E. R. Street Company, which continues to operate Street's Department Store on Main Street. Street's Department Store has been one of Cadiz's leading retail establishments for the past eighty years. (#10)

The Street's family department store occupies the substantial two-story brick structure at the corner of Main and Monroe. The Street Department Store building and the Cadiz Hardware Company Building dominate the Cadiz commercial district and reflect the dominance of the White and Street families on local affairs and retail activities.

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As a county seat and trade center, Cadiz became a focus for legal and commercial activities for the area. The great number of visitors to Cadiz created the need for accommodations; a need met by hotels and boarding houses. One surviving structure in the downtown area of this nature is the Julia Cunningham Board House on Jefferson Street. (#22) Mrs. Cunningham opened her boarding house around 1906 and operated it for nearly twenty-five years. Especially busy times for this and other boarding houses in the town were Saturdays and County Court Days on the second Mondays of each month.

The Cadiz commercial district was drastically altered by the devastating fire of November 29, 1920. Destroyed in the fire were several blocks of buildings. The fire destroyed the buildings containing such Cadiz institutions as the Turner-Wilkinson Department Store, the Trigg County Farmers Bank, and the Cadiz Hotel. The fire also destroyed the 1882 Trigg County Courthouse. Total fire damage was over \$200,000.

Two days after the fire, the Trigg County Fiscal Court met and began efforts to replace the courthouse. In the interim, a local movie theater was rented and used as a courtroom and county offices. Insurance coverage and a 10% tax levy provided funds for the new courthouse. (#16) On January 18, 1921, the courthouse building committee met with R. H. Hunt, a Chattanooga architect, to initiate the design process. Hunt's partner in his architectural firm was married to a member of the White family of Cadiz. The current Trigg County Courthouse was finished in 1922. Its simple classical design did not meet the approval of all citizens of Cadiz, many of whom missed the clock tower of the former courthouse.

Much of the current flavor of downtown Cadiz was created by the rebuilding process of the 1920s. Two structures built to cater to the automobile traffic passing through Cadiz were the Boggess Auto Sales Building (#18) and the Gulf Station at the corner of Court and Main (#17). Other structures along Main Street between Monroe and Marion streets (#5-9) were also built during this era.

A relatively recent addition to the downtown commercial area was the 1941 U. S. Post Office. The first post office in Cadiz was opened on January 5, 1821. The first floor of the 1912 addition to the Cadiz Hardware Company building served as a post office from 1912 to 1941. The current post office opened on January 1, 1942. The building and equipment costs \$76,000. Local history books claim that the Cadiz post office was the last post office building in the United States built with federal money.

Two significant developments in the mid-century period affected the growth of Cadiz. First, Main Street became part of U. S. Highway 45 that stretched from Paducah to Maysville. Cadiz's location on this important east-west roadway continues to bring tremendous traffic through the downtown area. This access has helped to maintain the downtown's role as a regional trade center.

The second important development was the damming of Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers to create Kentucky and Barkley Lakes. Cadiz's location on Lake Barkley and its proximity to newly created recreation areas made it a destination for tourists.

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In recent years, much of the town's new commercial growth had centered on the east side of town on the five mile stretch of Highway 68 between the Trigg County High School and Interstate 24. Thus the strip development common to most small towns has been averted from downtown Cadiz and its adjacent neighborhoods. The economic vitality of this new development has also been shift away from the downtown. Especially damaging has been the location of such institutions as the library, hospital and newspaper office in the eastern section of town. The result has been the stagnation of development in the downtown area and the closing of some longtime establishments, such as the Cadiz Hardware Company.

However, a new sense of appreciation for the town's architectural heritage has been developing and Main Street buildings have been restored or beautified. A Main Street redevelopment effort is underway. Many important downtown institutions, such as the Trigg County offices, the Trigg County Farmers Bank, the Post Office, Streets Department Store, and the Christian Church, have made commitments to remaining. This combination of new enterprise and old institutions should guarantee a healthy economic future for the Cadiz downtown commercial district.

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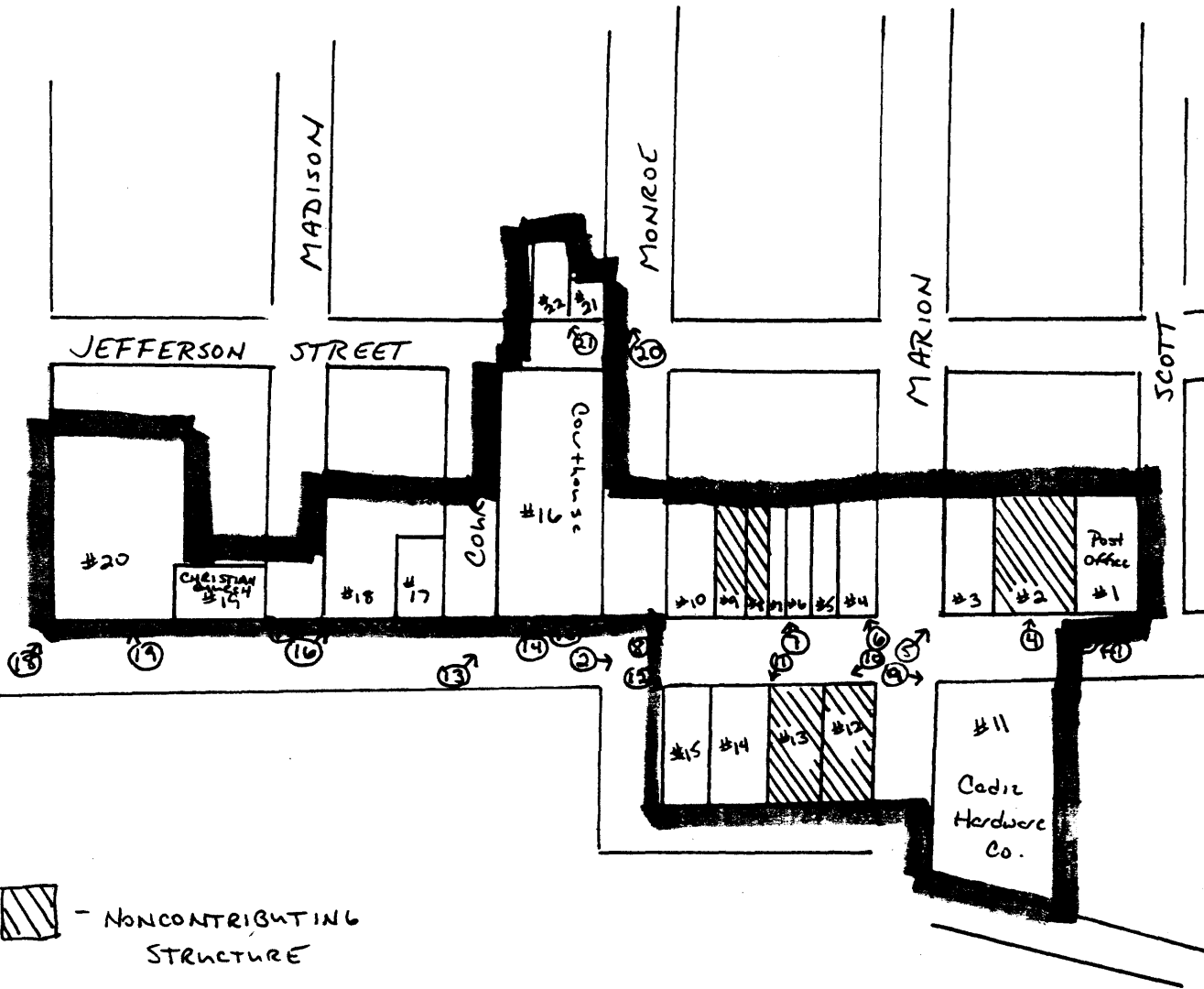
Verbal boundary description

The Cadiz Downtown Commercial District is situated within the corporate limits of the town of Cadiz. All resources are located on Main Street and Jefferson Street. Boundaries of the district follow property lines and streets.


The Cadiz Downtown Commercial District boundary starts at the NE corner of the U. S. Post Office lot, where it goes south along Scott Street to the SE corner of the lot, where it turns west and goes in front of 71 and 67 Main for half the block, where it turns south, crosses Main Street, and runs along the eastern, then the southern boundaries of the Cadiz Hardware Company. At the SW corner of the Cadiz Hardware Company, it turn north and runs half way up the west lot line, where it turns west to run along the southern boundaries of the properties from 44 to 60 Main Street. At the SW corner of 44 Main, it turns north and runs along the western boundary of 44 Main, crosses Main, and comes to the NE corner of the intersection of Main and Monroe, where it turns west and runs along the north side of Main Street 3 blocks to the NE corner of Main and Franklin. Here it turns and runs along the west, north and east boundaries of 35 Main until it runs into the north boundary of the Cadiz Christian Church. Here it turns east and runs along the north boundary of the church, cross Madison, and continues along the north boundary of 25 Main, crosses Court, and runs into the west side of the Public Square. Here it turns north, runs along the eastside of Court, crosses Jefferson, and runs along the western boundary of Cunningham House, then turns and runs along the northern boundary of the Cunningham House and the Masonic Lodge. At the NE corner of the Masonic Lodge lot, it turns south and runs along the west side of Monroe, crosses Jefferson, and goes half way down the west side of Monroe, where it turns east and runs along the northern boundary of the properties from 47 Main to 63 Main, crosses Marion, and continues along the northern boundary of 65, 67, and 71 Main to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses a cohesive collection of nineteenth and twentieth century resources that form the heart of the commercial district of Cadiz, Kentucky. The boundary was drawn to include significant buildings along Main Street, plus two adjacent landmarks on Jefferson Street, and to exclude peripheral buildings that do not contribute to the district's historic character. Overall, the district retains a high degree of architectural and historic integrity.



CADIZ DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL DISTRICT  
 PHOTOGRAPHIC KEY  
 KEYED TO ENTRY NUMBERS

 - Noncontributing Structure

Not drawn to scale



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Photographic key  
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FOR ALL PHOTOGRAPHS

CADIZ DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL DISTRICT  
RICHARD HOLLAND  
KHC

JUNE, 1988

<u>PHOTO #</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1.	MAIN STREET, LOOKING WEST
2.	MAIN STREET, LOOKING EAST FROM MONROE
3.	US POST OFFICE, LOOKING NORTH (#1)
4.	TRIGG COUNTY INSURANCE COMPANY BUILDING, LOOKING NORTH (#2)
5.	65 MAIN, LOOKING NORTHEAST (#3)
6.	63 MAIN, LOOKING NORTHWEST (#4)
7.	53-55-57-59-61 MAIN, LOOKING NORTH (#9, 8, 7, 6, 5)
8.	CORNER OF MAIN, LOOKING NORTHEAST AT 47-51 MAIN, (#10)
9.	SOUTHEAST CORNER OF MAIN AND MARION, LOOKING SOUTHWEST AT CADIZ HARDWARE COMPANY, (#11)
10.	LOOKING SOUTHWEST AT MAIN STREET BLOCK BETWEEN MONROE AND MARION, (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) 60, 58, 56, 52, 50, 48, 46, 44 MAIN (#12, 13, 14, 15)
11.	LOOKING SOUTHWEST (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) AT 52, 50, 48, 46, 44 MAIN (#14, 15)
12.	LOOKING SOUTHWEST AT (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) 52, 50, 48, 46, 44 MAIN (#14, 15)
13.	LOOKING NORTHEAST AT PUBLIC SQUARE AND TRIGG COUNTY COURTHOUSE (#16)
14.	LOOKING NORTH AT TRIGG COUNTY COURTHOUSE (#16)
15.	LOOKING NORTH AT CONFEDERATE MONUMENT ON PUBLIC SQUARE (#16)
16.	LOOKING NORTHEAST AT 21 AND 25 MAIN (#17, 18)
17.	LOOKING NORTHWEST AT CHRISTIAN CHURCH (#19)
18.	LOOKING NORTH AT JOSIAH MILLER HOUSE, 35 MAIN (#20)
19.	LOOKING NORTHWEST AT JOSIAH MILLER HOUSE, 35 MAIN (#20)
20.	LOOKING NORTHWEST AT MASONIC LODGE, (#21)
21.	LOOKING NORTHWEST AT SENIOR CITIZENS BLDG. (#22)