

1515

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NOV 27 1995

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Harristown Historic District  
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

The area is bounded on the north by Walker Avenue, on the east by Bell Street, street & number on the south by West Washington Street, and on the west  not for publication N/A by West Street.  
city or town Franklin  vicinity N/A  
state Kentucky code KY county Simpson code 213 zip code 42134

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)  
David L. Morgan David L. Morgan, SHPO and 11-1-95  
Executive Director  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
State Historic Preservation Office: Kentucky Heritage Council  
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:  
 entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet. Entered in the National Register Signature of the Keeper 1-11-96 Date of Action  
 determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.  
 determined not eligible for the National Register.  
 removed from the National Register.  
 other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

5. Classification

Ownership of Property  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property  
(Check only one box)

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

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
126	59	buildings
13	11	sites
		structures
		objects
139	70	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Domestic/single dwelling
- Domestic/secondary structure
- Commerce/Trade/Department store
- Religion/Religious facility
- Vacant/Not in use
- Commerce/Trade/Restaurant
- Social/meeting hall
- Education/School

Current Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Domestic/single dwelling
- Domestic/secondary structure
- Religion/Religious facility
- Funerary/mortuary
- Vacant/Not in use
- Education/School

7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Late Gothic Revival
- Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements: Bungalow/Craftsman, Commercial Style

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation Concrete
- walls Wood
- Stone, Brick
- roof Asphalt
- other Stucco

Narrative Description

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

Harristown Historic District  
Name of Property

Simpson Co., Kentucky  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

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

**Criteria Considerations**

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

Property is:

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

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

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

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Ethnic Heritage-Black

**Period of Significance**

1880-1945

**Significant Dates**

1880

1899

1910

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of repository:

Kentucky Heritage Council, Frankfort, Ky.

Harristown Historic District  
Name of Property

Simpson Co., Kentucky  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property approximately 53 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	536740	406461010
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2	16	537420	406451210
Zone	Easting	Northing	

3	16	53731010	406421010
Zone	Easting	Northing	
4	16	53671010	406421710
Zone	Easting	Northing	

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.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Donna G. Logsdon, Historic Preservation Consultant

organization Logsdon & Logsdon Architects date 7-31-95

street & number 1135 Glen Logsdon Road telephone (%02) 528-4698

city or town Horse Cave state Kentucky zip code 42749

**Additional Documentation**

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)

**Property Owner**

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

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

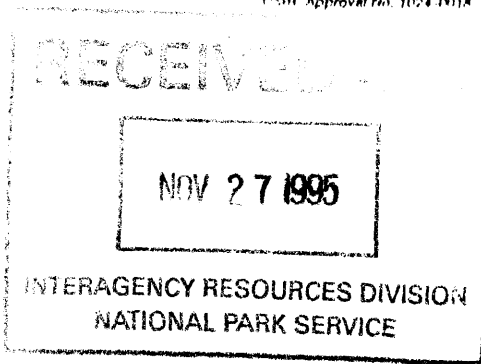
**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to 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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 6,7 Page 1



Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

Current Functions

Funerary/Mortuary  
Recreation and Culture/Theatre

7. Narrative Description

The Harristown historic district is an African-American residential neighborhood comprised of approximately 12 blocks within the city limits of Franklin, in Simpson County, Kentucky. Located northwest of the downtown commercial district, the neighborhood is situated near two major transportation routes: State Route 100 and U.S. Route 31-W.

Harristown, situated two blocks north of State Route 100 and three blocks west of U.S. Route 31-W, is composed of 192 properties which include 126 contributing buildings, 13 contributing sites, 59 non-contributing buildings, and 11 non-contributing sites. Of the 185 buildings in the district, only 11 of the contributing buildings are non-residential: one school, one funeral home, two churches, and seven secondary structures. Nine non-contributing buildings consist of three churches, one commercial building, and five secondary structures that were built after the period of significance, 1945. Of the 185 buildings and 24 sites, all but fifty-nine buildings and 11 sites contribute to the district's sense of time and place.

The historic district is bounded on the north by Walker Avenue, including Lincoln School to the north; on the east by Bell Street, both sides between Walker Avenue and Jefferson Street and only the west side between Jefferson and West Washington Streets; on the south by West Washington Street between Bell and West Streets; and on the west by West Street between West Washington Street and Walker Avenue.

This African-American neighborhood covers approximately 53 acres and is composed of primarily one- and two-story wood-frame residential structures with gabled roofs and front porches. Situated within a twelve block area on short narrow lots, this high density group of historic buildings represents the period of significance spanning from 1880 to 1945.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

List of Resources

HARRISTOWN																		
Code	Address	Stories				Plan Type					Materials				Alter		Date	Eval.
		1	1.5	2	2.5	CP	TP	SG	DP	UD	WD	BR	ST	CB	Y	N		
1	301 BELL																1978	NC
2	400 WASH.																1950+	NC
3	402 WASH.	X						X			X					X	1913	C
4	404 WASH.	X					X				X				X		1940s	C
5	406 WASH.		X			X					X					X	1900	C
6	408 WASH.			X		X					X				X		1890	C
7	504 WASH.																1950+	NC
8	508 WASH.																1950+	NC
9	510 WASH.																1950+	NC
10	512 WASH.			X		X					X					X	1910	C
11	516 WASH.	X					X				X					X	1910	C
12	522 WASH.	X								X	X						1900s	C
13	524 WASH.	X								X	X					X	1920s	C
14	526 WASH.			X				X			X				X		1890	C
15	528 WASH.	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D					1800S	C
16	530 WASH.			X						X	X					X	1900	C
17	532 WASH.																1953	NC

CP=CENTRAL PASSAGE, TP=T-PLAN, SG=SHOTGUN, DP=DOUBLE PEN, UD=UNDETERMINED, WD=WOOD, BR=BRICK, ST=STONE, CB=CONCRETE BLOCK, Y=YES, N=NO, C=CONTRIBUTING, NC=NON-CONTRIBUTING

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

HARRISTOWN																		
Code	Address	Stories				Plan Type					Materials				Alter		Date	Eval.
		1	1.5	2	2.5	CP	TP	SG	DP	UD	WD	BR	ST	CB	Y	N		
18	536 WASH.																1953	NC
19	538 WASH.																1945+	NC
20	540 WASH.	1ST BORN CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD															1921	NC
21	542 WASH.																1990	NC
22	544 WASH.			X		X					X					X	1920	C
23	627 JEFF.																1948	NC
24	625 JEFF.	X				X					X				X		1940s	C
25	623 JEFF.																1950	NC
26	621 JEFF.		X			X					X				X		1940s	C
27	619 JEFF.																1948	NC
28	617 JEFF.	X					X				X				X		1910	C
29	615 JEFF.	X								X	X				X		1940s	C
30	613 JEFF.		X			X					X				X		1930s	C
31	611 JEFF.																1968	NC
32	609 JEFF.		X				X				X				X		1915	C
33	607 JEFF.																1947	NC
34	605 JEFF.	X				X					X				X		1920	C

CP=CENTRAL PASSAGE, TP=T-PLAN, SG=SHOTGUN, DP=DOUBLE PEN, UD=UNDETERMINED,  
WD=WOOD, BR=BRICK, ST=STONE, CB=CONCRETE BLOCK, Y=YES, N=NO, C=CONTRIBUTING,  
NC=NON-CONTRIBUTING

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

HARRISTOWN																		
Code	Address	Stories				Plan Type					Materials				Alter		Date	Eval.
		1	1.5	2	2.5	CP	TP	SG	DP	UD	WD	BR	ST	CB	Y	N		
35	603 JEFF.																1950s	NC
36	(601)JEFF.																1980	NC
37	515 JEFF.	X				X					X				X		1900s	C
38	513 JEFF.		EARL		BURRUS		FUNERAL						HOME				1912	NC
39	511 JEFF.			X			X				X				X		1907	C
40	509 JEFF.			X					X		X				X		1912	C
41	507 JEFF.	X				X					X				X		1880	C
42	505 JEFF.	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D						NC
43	501-03JEFF	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D						C
44	306 JOHN.		X							X		X				X	1940	C
45	407 JEFF.			X						X	X				X		1930s	C
46	405 JEFF.		X				X				X				X		1905	C
47	403 JEFF.	X					X				X					X	1900	C
48	401 JEFF.		X			X					X				X		1913	C
49	401 BELL		X						X		X				X		1910	C
50	400 JEFF.	X					X				X				X		1910s	C
51	402 JEFF.	X	MARGERY	BELL	HOUSE					X	X				X		1910s	C

CP=CENTRAL PASSAGE, TP=T-PLAN, SG=SHOTGUN, DP=DOUBLE PEN, UD=UNDETERMINED, WD=WOOD, BR=BRICK, ST=STONE, CB=CONCRETE BLOCK, Y=YES, N=NO, C=CONTRIBUTING, NC=NON-CONTRIBUTING



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

HARRISTOWN																			
Code	Address	Stories				Plan Type					Materials				Alter		Date	Eval.	
		1	1.5	2	2.5	CP	TP	SG	DP	UD	WD	BR	ST	CB	Y	N			C/NC
52	404 JEFF.	X								X	X				X		1910s	C	
53	406 JEFF.	X					X				X				X		1910s	C	
54	408 JEFF.																1947	NC	
55	410 JEFF.	X				X							X	X			1945	C	
56	500 JEFF.			X						X	X				X		1914	C	
57	502 JEFF.		H. FINN BUILDING															1956	NC
58	504 JEFF.	X					X				X				X		1910	C	
59	506 JEFF.	X					X				X				X		1912	C	
60	508 JEFF.			X						X	X				X		1900	C	
61	510 JEFF.	X					X				X				X		1910	C	
62	514 JEFF.		X				X				X				X		1910	C	
63	600 JEFF.		X				X				X				X		1900	C	
64	604 JEFF.	GREATER TAYLOR CHAPEL AME CHURCH															1949	NC	
65	606 JEFF.																1948	NC	
66	608 JEFF.		X			X					X				X		1945	C	
67	610 JEFF.		X			X						X			X		1932	C	
68	614 JEFF.																1977	NC	

CP=CENTRAL PASSAGE, TP=T-PLAN, SG=SHOTGUN, DP=DOUBLE PEN, UD=UNDETERMINED, WD=WOOD, BR=BRICK, ST=STONE, CB=CONCRETE BLOCK, Y=YES, N=NO, C=CONTRIBUTING, NC=NON-CONTRIBUTING

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

HARRISTOWN																		
Code	Address	Stories				Plan Type					Materials				Alter		Date	Eval.
		1	1.5	2	2.5	CP	TP	SG	DP	UD	WD	BR	ST	CB	Y	N		
69	616 JEFF.																1920s	NC
70	622 JEFF.		X			X					X				X		1900	C
71	624 JEFF.	X					X				X				X		1900	C
72	626 JEFF.		X				X				X				X		1935	C
73	628 JEFF.																1950+	NC
74	629 JACK.		X			X					X				X		1938	C
75	625 JACK.	X							X		X				X		1900	C
77	623 JACK.																1950+	NC
78	621 JACK.	X						X			X				X		1940	C
79	619 JACK.	X						X			X				X		1940	C
80	617 JACK.	X						X			X				X		1940	C
81	6131/2JAC.			X						X	X				X		1940	C
82	613 JACK.	X					X				X				X		1880	C
83	(611)JACK.	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D					1800s	C
84	609 JACK.		X							X	X				X		1915	C
85	607 JACK.	X								X	X				X		1938	C
86	605 JACK.																1964	NC

CP=CENTRAL PASSAGE, TP=T-PLAN, DT=DOG TROT, IH=I-HOUSE, UD=UNDETERMINED, WD=WOOD, BR=BRICK, ST=STONE, CB=CONCRETE BLOCK, Y=YES, N=NO, C=CONTRIBUTING, NC=NON-CONTRIBUTING

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7

Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

HARRISTOWN																		
Code	Address	Stories				Plan Type					Materials				Alter		Date	Eval.
		1	1.5	2	2.5	CP	TP	SG	DP	UD	WD	BR	ST	CB	Y	N		
87	601 JACK.																1930s	NC
88	513 JACK.		X			X					X				X		1910	C
89	509 JACK.	X					X				X				X		1900	C
90	505 JACK.	X				X					X				X		1940	C
91	(503)JACK.	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D					1800s	C
92	409 JACK.		X				X				X				X		1945	C
93	407 JACK.	X				X					X				X		1945	C
94	405 JACK.																1952	NC
95	403 JACK.	X					X				X				X		1939	C
96	401 JACK.		X			X					X				X		1936	C
97	501 BELL	X					X				X				X		1936	C
98	402 JACK.	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D						NC
99	404 JACK.	X							X		X				X		1915	C
100	406 JACK.	X					X				X				X		1901	C
101	408 JACK.		X							X	X				X		1920	C
102	410 JACK.	X					X				X				X		1915	C
103	500 JACK.	X					X				X				X		1890	C

CP=CENTRAL PASSAGE, TP=T-PLAN, SG=SHOTGUN, DP=DOUBLE PEN, UD=UNDETERMINED, WD=WOOD, BR=BRICK, ST=STONE, CB=CONCRETE BLOCK, Y=YES, N=NO, C=CONTRIBUTING, NC=NON-CONTRIBUTING

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 8

Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

HARRISTOWN																		
Code	Address	Stories				Plan Type					Materials				Alter		Date	Eval.
		1	1.5	2	2.5	CP	TP	SG	DP	UD	WD	BR	ST	CB	Y	N		
104	502 JACK.	X					X				X				X		1920	C
105	504 JACK.		X			X					X				X		1900	C
106	506 JACK.		X							X	X				X		1908	C
107	508 JACK.	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D						NC
108	510 JACK.	X				X					X				X		1940	C
109	512 JACK.	X				X					X				X		1900	C
110	514 JACK.		X			X					X				X		1890	C
111	602 JACK.																1940	NC
112	604 JACK.																1900	NC
113	606 JACK.		X				X				X				X		1910	C
114	608 JACK.	X								X	X				X		1930	C
115	610 JACK.	X								X	X				X		1930	C
116	612 JACK.																1984	NC
117	___ JACK.	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D					1800s	C
118	614 JACK.			X						X	X				X		1910	C
119	616 JACK.	X								X	X				X		1940	C
120	618 JACK.																1992	NC

CP=CENTRAL PASSAGE, TP=T-PLAN, SG=SHOTGUN, DP=DOUBLE PEN, UD=UNDETERMINED, WD=WOOD, BR=BRICK, ST=STONE, CB=CONCRETE BLOCK, Y=YES, N=NO, C=CONTRIBUTING, NC=NON-CONTRIBUTING

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 9

Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

HARRISTOWN																		
Code	Address	Stories				Plan Type					Materials				Alter		Date	Eval.
		1	1.5	2	2.5	CP	TP	SG	DP	UD	WD	BR	ST	CB	Y	N		
121	620 JACK.																1949	NC
122	622 JACK.																1972	NC
123	603 WALKER																1978	NC
124	509 WALKER																1949	NC
125	505 WALKER																1959	NC
126	510 PELHAM																1977	NC
127	___ WALKER	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D					1800s	C
128	419 WALKER		X			X					X				X		1930s	C
129	___ WALKER	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D					1800s	C
130	503 WALKER																1960s	NC
131	___ WALKER	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D					1800s	C
132	___ WALKER	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D					1800s	C
133	410 WALKER			X	LINCOLN SCHOOL										X		1940	C
134	513 STEWART	X							X		X				X		1930	C
135	___ STEWART	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D						NC
136	509 STEWART	X							X		X				X		1940	C
137	505 STEWART	X					X				X				X		1905	C

CP=CENTRAL PASSAGE, TP=T-PLAN, SG=SHOTGUN, DP=DOUBLE PEN, UD=UNDETERMINED, WD=WOOD, BR=BRICK, ST=STONE, CB=CONCRETE BLOCK, Y=YES, N=NO, C=CONTRIBUTING, NC=NON-CONTRIBUTING

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 10

Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

HARRISTOWN																		
Code	Address	Stories				Plan Type					Materials				Alter		Date	Eval.
		1	1.5	2	2.5	CP	TP	SG	DP	UD	WD	BR	ST	CB	Y	N		
138	___ STEWART	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D					1800s	C
139	504 STEWART	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D						NC
140	510 STEWART	X							X		X				X		1940	C
141	514 STEWART	X						X		X					X		1940	C
142	(511) RYAN	X								X			X				1940	C
143	509 RYAN		X				X				X				X		1910	C
144	___ RYAN	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D						NC
145	___ RYAN	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D						C
146	503 RYAN		AMERICAN LEGION POST 202												1975	NC		
147	504 RYAN	X								X	X				X		1930	C
148	506 RYAN																1950+	NC
149	508 RYAN																1947	NC
150	510 RYAN	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D						NC
151	507 PELHAM																1964	NC
152	505 PELHAM	X								X	X				X		1935	C
153	503 PELHAM		X			X					X				X		1915	C
154	405 PELHAM		X						X	X					X		1919	C

CP=CENTRAL PASSAGE, TP=T-PLAN, SG=SHOTGUN, DP=DOUBLE PEN, UD=UNDETERMINED, WD=WOOD, BR=BRICK, ST=STONE, CB=CONCRETE BLOCK, Y=YES, N=NO, C=CONTRIBUTING, NC=NON-CONTRIBUTING

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 11

Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

HARRISTOWN																		
Code	Address	Stories				Plan Type					Materials				Alter		Date	Eval.
		1	1.5	2	2.5	CP	TP	SG	DP	UD	WD	BR	ST	CB	Y	N		
155	403 PELHAM	X				X				X					X		1945	C
156	400 PELHAM			X		X				X					X		1920	C
157	402 PELHAM			X			X			X						X	1910	C
158	408 PELHAM	CHURCH			OF	CHRIST											1950+	NC
159	500 PELHAM		X			X				X					X		1920	C
160	506 PELHAM		X			X				X					X		1940	C
161	405 JOHNS.				X	X				X					X		1920	C
162	403 JOHNS.		X				X			X						X	1940	C
163	309 JOHNS.		X						X	X					X		1890	C
164	307 JOHNS.																1940	NC
165	305 JOHNS.		X				X			X						X	1900	C
166	303 JOHNS.	X				X				X					X		1945	C
167	301 JOHNS.	X	ALPHA		MISSIONARY			BAPTIST CHURCH									1899	C
168	302 JOHNS.																1910	NC
169	304 JOHNS.	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D						NC
170	400 JOHNS.		X				X				X				X		1940	C
171	4001/2JOHN	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D					1800s	C

CP=CENTRAL PASSAGE, TP=T-PLAN, SG=SHOTGUN, DP=DOUBLE PEN, UD=UNDETERMINED, WD=WOOD, BR=BRICK, ST=STONE, CB=CONCRETE BLOCK, Y=YES, N=NO, C=CONTRIBUTING, NC=NON-CONTRIBUTING

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 12

Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

HARRISTOWN																		
Code	Address	Stories				Plan Type					Materials				Alter		Date	Eval.
		1	1.5	2	2.5	CP	TP	SG	DP	UD	WD	BR	ST	CB	Y	N		
172	404 JOHNS.	X					X				X					X	1930	C
173	406A&BJOHN																1950	NC
174	511 BELL			X			X				X				X		1890	C
175	505 BELL	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D						NC
176	503 BELL		X			X					X				X		1890	C
177	409 BELL	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D						NC
178	407 BELL	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D						NC
179	405 BELL																1980s	NC
180	403 BELL	X									X				X		1928	C
181	307 BELL			X	ELEVATED BAPTIST				CHURCH				X			1910	C	
182	303 BELL																1950+	NC
183	400 BELL		X							X	X				X		1935	C
184	402 BELL																1980s	NC
185	404 BELL	V	A	C	A	N	T		L	A	N	D						NC
186	406 BELL																1983	NC
187	500 BELL																1983	NC
188	502 BELL	X								X	X				X		1940	C

CP=CENTRAL PASSAGE, TP=T-PLAN, SG=SHOTGUN, DP=DOUBLE PEN, UD=UNDETERMINED, WD=WOOD, BR=BRICK, ST=STONE, CB=CONCRETE BLOCK, Y=YES, N=NO, C=CONTRIBUTING, NC=NON-CONTRIBUTING



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 13

Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

HARRISTOWN																		
Code	Address	Stories				Plan Type					Materials				Alter		Date	Eval.
		1	1.5	2	2.5	CP	TP	SG	DP	UD	WD	BR	ST	CB	Y	N		
189	506 BELL		X							X	X					X	1928	C
190	508 BELL		X							X	X				X		1929	C
191	512 BELL		X			X					X				X		1928	C
192	514 BELL	X				X					X				X		1925	C

CP=CENTRAL PASSAGE, TP=T-PLAN, SG=SHOTGUN, DP=DOUBLE PEN, UD=UNDETERMINED, WD=WOOD, BR=BRICK, ST=STONE, CB=CONCRETE BLOCK, Y=YES, N=NO, C=CONTRIBUTING, NC=NON-CONTRIBUTING

Building Characteristics

The Harristown historic district, is comprised of part of 12 blocks and is encompassed by Walker Avenue, Bell, West Washington, and West Streets, including two partial blocks, one north of Walker Avenue and one east of Bell Street. This district developed adjacent to Franklin's downtown commercial district and near two of the earliest major transportation routes in Franklin; State Route 100 two blocks south, and U.S. Route 31-W three blocks east. It is the most cohesive group of single-family residential buildings which form an African-American neighborhood that remain in existence in Simpson County today.

Harristown is Franklin's primary African-American neighborhood that is comprised of a cohesive collection of buildings which convey its significance through the built environment and its historical associations with the people who owned properties, operated businesses, or resided there. This collection of historic structures formed one of Franklin's earliest residential neighborhoods during its development period, between 1880 and 1945.

Of the 192 properties in the district, there are 126 contributing buildings: 115 primary and 11 secondary structures; 59 non-contributing buildings: 54 primary and 5 secondary structures; 13 contributing sites, and 11 non-contributing sites. The majority of the 115 primary contributing buildings are one- and two-story, wood-frame, single-family residences that have remained intact for over 115 years and exemplify a cohesive group of early architectural plan types and building styles. Residential plan types include

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 14

---

Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

central passage, T-plan, shotgun, and double-pen. Architectural styles vary from Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals represented by the Late Gothic Revival, Late 19th and 20th Century Colonial Revival, Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements represented by the Bungalow and Craftsman style and the Commercial style. The Craftsman and Bungalow styles are predominant throughout the district.

The overall site characteristics of Harristown are similar to other residential neighborhoods in Franklin in relation to lot and block size and configuration, building orientation, landscaping, building materials, and density. Each block in the district is divided into lots averaging 75 feet wide and 150 long. The front building facade is primarily oriented to the street and is occasionally surrounded by trees or low foliage, however, the majority of properties have no landscaping in the small front yard between the building setback line and the concrete sidewalk and curb. Fences, carports, garages, and outbuildings, are rare except for structures built after 1945.

The following individual properties convey the overall visual characteristics of the district and have historical associations with people who influenced the growth and development of Franklin and Simpson County. Beginning on the northwest corner of West Washington Street and Bell Street, property # 1 was the home of Dr. Benjamin Burrus, a prominent black physician. Although his residence has been replaced with a non-contributing brick residence and two car garage built in 1978, the property continues to be referred to as the Dr. Burrus property. Further down the street at 408 West Washington, is one of the oldest properties in the district, built in 1890. This two-story, wood-frame, Colonial Revival residence has a front porch supported by round wood columns on stone piers. Pilasters frame the central entry door with a transom above making this one of the most prominent residences in the district that has remained intact.

A typical T-plan residence in the Craftsman style is located at 609 Jefferson Street (# 32). Built in 1915, minor modifications include wrought iron columns replacing wood porch posts and asbestos shingles covering the original weatherboards. The Margery Bell residence at 402 Jefferson Street (# 51), is a one-story, wood-frame structure, built around 1910. The integral front porch, supported by tapered wood columns on brick piers, is frequently seen throughout the neighborhood. Situated on one of the largest lots in the district with its front facade perpendicular to Jefferson Street, it is believed to have been the main house on the farm land Margery Bell sold to the City of Franklin for the development of Harristown in 1867. Another house, situated on a corner in the district, is the George Mahin House (# 56). Located at 500 Jefferson Street, this two-story wood-frame residence was the home of Mr. Mahin, a barber in downtown Franklin. Built in 1920,

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 15

---

**Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky**

this bungalow has a wrap-around porch supported by tapered columns on brick piers and a dormer projecting from the hip roof. Currently it is being renovated by Franklin's African-American Heritage Commission for a museum and information center on African-American history and culture. Movie pictures were shown in a crudely constructed building at the rear of the lot during the 1920s.

Relatively few commercial buildings are still in existence in Harristown. One of the more recent structures is the Finn Building (# 57), built in 1956. Located at 502 Jefferson Street, this non-contributing building was occupied by several different grocery stores for a period of years, however, is now vacant. This two-story brick, Commercial style building has a stepped parapet wall, an offset entry, and glass storefront windows with a divided transom above. Today, it is a reminder of the African-American owned businesses that helped both Harristown and Franklin grow and prosper.

The earliest schools in Simpson County, organized in the early to mid-1800s, were either private or subscription and taught in homes or school buildings erected for that purpose. By 1870, several small county schools were organized to provide education for African-American children. Within Harristown, the Negro City School, known as Franklin Public School, was first held in the Little Methodist Episcopal Church on John J. Johnson Street between Jefferson and Jackson Streets in 1867. In 1870, Williams Hall on Madison Street was converted into a school known as Franklin Grade School. The school was later moved to a new structure on Walker Avenue, the Lincoln School (# 133), which was dedicated in 1940. The school not only provided the community with a facility for educating African-Americans but also a place for social activities and community events. This two-story brick edifice was renovated in 1994 with a compatible addition that compliments the existing historic structure using similar materials in a contemporary design.

Religious activity began in the early to mid-1800s in Simpson County with several churches organized in homes and brush arbors prior to 1900. Two early churches, located in Harristown, have served African-Americans in Franklin and Simpson County for almost 100 years. The land for the Alpha Missionary Baptist Church at 301 John J. Johnson Street (# 167), was purchased in 1895, four years before the present edifice was constructed. This tall brick structure is enhanced by arched brick corbelling, gothic stained glass windows, dentil work, and a rose window with wood tracery. A two-story brick educational building constructed in 1968 to the rear of the main sanctuary is compatible in design and materials. The Elevated Baptist Church (# 181), at 307 Bell Street, was built in 1910 of formed stone. Stone crenelations appear at the parapet edge and stone buttresses support the long walls which are rhythmically pierced by gothic arched windows. Two additions have been made to the rear of the sanctuary: one in 1968, adding the church office; and

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 16

---

### Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

one in 1979, providing a kitchen and dining area. Both of these prominent churches are outstanding examples of the Gothic Revival style and contribute to the districts sense of time and place.

Throughout Harristown, as in other residential neighborhoods, one-story brick or stone ranch houses, churches, and commercial buildings dating after the period of significance, 1945, have been constructed between historic resources on sub-divided lots. Although these structures are non-contributing due to age, they are directly associated with the growth of Harristown and will contribute to the districts sense of planning and development in the future.

#### Integrity

The Harristown historic district is being considered for nomination under National Register Criterion A in the area of Ethnic Heritage-Black. Harristown is Franklin's primary African-American neighborhood that contains the highest concentration of residences, businesses, schools, and churches that have remained in their original location and setting in Simpson County since 1880. This district is historically significant because it helps us to know the history of Franklin's Black community through its numerous resources that have remained intact for over 115 years and its association with African-Americans that made contributions to the growth and development of Franklin and Simpson County. This collection of properties conveys the sense of a historic environment during the period of significance spanning between 1880 and 1945.

It has been determined that the historical associations of the district are conveyed through the integrity of location, setting, feeling and association. Located adjacent to Franklin's downtown commercial district, the buildings in Harristown have been identified as having an overall high level of integrity since they are an excellent collection of historic resources that have remained in their original location and setting since the late 1800s.

Harristown's historic setting is conveyed through its overall site configuration including setbacks, sidewalks, and rows of single-family residences on short narrow lots. The integrity of residences, churches, schools, and businesses in the district for over 115 years portrays the feeling of a historic time and place for a period of time spanning between 1880 and 1945. The historical associations of people and events in relation to buildings and sites helps us to understand the contributions made by African-Americans in the history and development of Harristown as well as Franklin and Simpson County. Therefore, the integrity of location, setting, and feeling combined with historical associations with people and events in the development of the neighborhood played an important part in the growth of Franklin.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 17

---

Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

The majority of buildings in the district have retained their original building configuration, size, scale, massing, fenestration, location, and setting conveying the feeling of a historic sense of time and place. Some building modifications have taken place in the district over the years to reduce maintenance including the addition of asbestos shingles, vinyl, or aluminum siding covering original wood weatherboards; new aluminum windows usually infilling original openings; and wrought iron columns replacing wood porch columns. There are only a few buildings in the district that have had little or no alteration to the exterior historic fabric. Of these, many require minor maintenance such as painting wood trim or siding and repairing broken windows, doors, or screens. Numerous buildings in Harristown have had moderate alterations which typically include: new aluminum windows and doors; vinyl, aluminum, or asbestos shingle siding covering original weatherboards; wrought iron columns replacing wood porch posts; and one story additions to the side or rear using similar materials and details. Buildings with any combination of these alterations were considered contributing to the district if the original building configuration, details, fenestration, scale, massing, and roof pitch were still visible portraying the historical period of significance between 1880 and 1945. Historic resources that were deemed non-contributing had additions and alterations that were either not compatible in materials, design, scale, or mass, or had covered the original structure to the extent the original building configuration was no longer visible. Vacant land was determined contributing if it was historically vacant. Land deemed non-contributing was previously occupied by a structure that has now vanished.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 18

Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

8. Statement of Significance

The Harristown historic district is being considered for nomination under National Register Criterion A in the area of Ethnic Heritage-Black. Harristown is the best representation of a mid-nineteenth to mid-twentieth century African-American neighborhood in Franklin that contains the highest concentration of residences, businesses, schools, and churches that have remained in their original location and setting in Franklin since 1880. The district is historically significant because it conveys a strong sense of its historic environment through its physical development: by its configuration of streets, alleys, sidewalks, and high density of housing on short narrow lots; and for its historical associations with its citizens who have made contributions to the growth and development of Franklin and Simpson County during a period of significance spanning between 1880 and 1945. Together this information helps us to better understand the history of Franklin's Black community.

This district was evaluated within the context Ethnic Heritage in Franklin, 1819-1945, which focuses on a cohesive group of residential, educational, religious, and commercial buildings in the neighborhood and the people who made contributions to the growth and development of Franklin and Simpson County. This context was developed as part of the survey of Franklin in 1995 and is included in the "City of Franklin Survey Summary Report" on file at the Kentucky Heritage Council in Frankfort, Kentucky. Excerpts from this context is included in the text below.

Franklin, designated the county seat in 1819, is located near the intersection of U.S. 31-W and State Route 100. Downtown Franklin was established on a sixty-two acre site purchased from William Hudspeth in 1819. In 1820, the town was incorporated and surveyed by John B. Smith, Sr. of South Carolina. Mr. Smith was a representative of this district in the Kentucky Legislature and was one of the most influential men of his day in Simpson County. The town was named in honor of the American statesman and inventor, Benjamin Franklin. That same year the courtsquare was laid out 297 feet square with a well on the northeast corner and a log courthouse built in the center.

At that time four dirt or gravel streets surrounded the square eighty feet wide and were lined with commercial buildings. Of the four streets, Main and Market ran in the north-south direction, with Cedar Street and Kentucky Avenue in the east-west direction. Main Street, the Louisville and Nashville Turnpike, became the major north-south transportation route, later known as U.S. Route 31-W. Cedar Street became the major east-west transportation route with East Cedar Street, State Route 100, heading east to Scottsville and West Cedar Street, State Route 73, heading southwest to Russellville from

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 19

---

## Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

downtown. In relationship to these major arteries, Harristown is situated two blocks north of State Route 100 and three blocks west of U.S. Route 31-W.

Harristown developed after the Civil War adjacent to two major transportation routes with the sale of the Margery Bell farm in 1867. Bell, believed to be a white woman, divided her farmland into a series of blocks and lots bound by Walker Avenue on the north, Bell Street on the east, and West Washington Street on the south. Known as the Margery Bell Addition, Bell sold lots to the City of Franklin and individuals in an effort to develop this residential neighborhood. The name "Harristown" is believed to have been named for a man named Harris who was given a lot to build a house on by Margery Bell. Originally both Whites and Blacks resided in this neighborhood, however, today it is known as an African-American neighborhood. Lots sold to White individuals eventually rented their property to Blacks. White slave owners also gave lots or houses to Blacks in consideration for the work they had done for them. Margery Bell's House, the main house on the farm, still remains at 402 Jefferson Street (# 51).

In 1909, Harristown Annex was added to the City of Franklin which expanded the neighborhood south of Walker Street and west to West Street. Lincoln Park, the area north of Walker Street bound by Pelham on the east, Todd on the West, and Bryant on the north, was included in Harristown in 1930. This area was not included in the district because almost all of the buildings in this area were built after the period of significance, 1945.

Historically, there were four African-American neighborhoods in Franklin: Pea Ridge, New Town, Frog Level and Harristown. Pea Ridge was the first African-American neighborhood in Franklin, however, none of the original buildings exist today. Frog Level, a continuation of Pea Ridge, is located off Springfield Road and has only a small number of historic resources intermixed with contemporary structures. New Town is second to Harristown in terms of numbers of existing structures and population. Harristown has the highest concentration of buildings remaining intact and is considered Franklin's primary African-American neighborhood. In terms of its development, many of the people who resided in Harristown had businesses in Franklin's Downtown Commercial District surrounding the courthouse.

In 1860, the 1820 log courthouse located in courthouse square, was torn down and a brick structure was erected on the same site. On May 17, 1882 the courthouse burned. Later that year another courthouse was erected with a bell and clock tower. Today, this courthouse remains with two two-story wings that were added to the courthouse in 1962. Historically, commercial development surrounded the courthouse as early as 1819 with the establishment of both Black and White businesses. The first stores in Franklin were located on the east side of the public square, however, there were also grocery stores,

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 20

---

Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

general merchandise stores, barber shops, hotels, and hardware stores. Several barbershops, located on the square and on adjoining streets, were owned by Blacks who lived in Harristown. In 1895, Elwood James and Tom Martin's barbershop (for Whites) was located on Main Street above Bryant's Photo Center. This was considered the last Black business on the square when James died in 1939.

Ned Mahin's Barber Shop (for Whites) was an African-American owned and operated business near the courtsquare on College Street in 1878. Ned, his son George, and several other Black men, worked in the shop. George Mahin's home was located at 500 Jefferson Street (# 56) in Harristown. His home was recently purchased by Franklin's African-American Heritage Commission and is being renovated as a historical museum. This museum, a pivotal building in the district, will be an information center for those interested in researching the history of African-Americans in Franklin and Simpson County. The first Movie Picture Show was seen in a crudely constructed building that had a sawdust floor, rough seats, and bleachers, located on the rear portion of George Mahin's yard in the 1920s. A 1925 Sanborn Map confirms the location of the movie building. Later, Hiram and Hattie Harris operated movies on Jefferson Street where a vacant lot is now (# 43).

Several prominent Black men who resided in Harristown had offices downtown. Dr. James O. Burrus, M.D., Dr. Yarbrough, Dentist, and Dave Williams' Benefit National Life Insurance, occupied a building Williams owned on the corner of Kentucky Avenue and Main Street. Dr. Burrus, from Swanquarter, North Carolina, resided on the corner of Bell and Washington Streets (# 1) from 1900 until his death in 1931. His residence burned and was replaced with a garage in 1978. Dr. W.F. Beckett, M.D., of Providence, Rhode Island had his home and office at 408 Jefferson Street (# 54) for a brief period of time until he moved to Bowling Green, Kentucky in 1945. Dr. John Young's Dentist Office was also on Jefferson Street.

After early settlers built their homes, their thoughts turned to building structures for worshipping God. Many of the early churches were held in brush arbors, barns, or private homes. The First Born Church of the Living God, at 540 West Washington Street (# 20), was organized in Simpson County in 1920, however, the existing building was not constructed in Harristown until the late 1940s, after the period of significance. The Greater Taylor Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, organized in 1865, is the oldest Black church in Franklin and the only African-American Methodist Church in Simpson County. Originally located on West Madison Street, the building was destroyed by fire in 1945 and was built at its current location at 604 Jefferson Street (# 64) in 1949. Although these two churches do not contribute to the architectural character of the district, they do provide us with historical information about early religious activity in Harristown.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 21

---

Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

Two prominent African-American churches, organized in Harristown in the late 1800s, exist today and are contributing to the architectural and historical significance of the district. The Elevated Baptist Church was organized in 1889 in the Ed Grainger home on the corner of John J. Johnson Street and Kentucky Avenue. The present edifice, located at 307 Bell Street (# 181), was built in 1910. The Alpha Baptist Church, organized in 1870, met in their first building on the corner of Jefferson and Pelham Streets. The present building at 301 John J. Johnson Street (# 167), was erected in 1899 and in 1968 the educational building was attached to the rear of the sanctuary. Both churches, designed in the Gothic Revival style, have remained active and committed to serving the spiritual needs of the community for over 95 years.

Businesses that were established by African-American men and women at the turn-of-the-century provided goods and services to the community and contributed to the growth and development of Harristown and Franklin. Jarrett Phillips' Barber Shop, operated by Joe Phillips, was located on Jefferson Street between Pelham and John J. Johnson Avenue. Mrs. Myrtle Mahin was the first owner and operator of a Beauty Parlor on Jefferson Street between 1912 and 1917 and taught the art of Hair Grooming. Two beauticians who operated businesses in their own homes were Mrs. Isabel Tarrence on Bell Street during the 1930s and 1940s and Mrs. Hazel Anthony on Jefferson Street during the 1940s.

Although private homes were the location of many businesses, the hub of the black businesses district in Harristown was located at the corner of John J. Johnson and Jefferson Street. Numerous grocery stores in Harristown were owned by African-Americans and provided subsistence for the body and a place for people to gather and talk. W.H. Bogan's Grocery store was located on the corner of John J. Johnson Avenue and Jefferson Street in the Odd Fellows Hall for many years. Louis Bogan's barbershop was located in the rear of this building. John Perdue and later Hugh Neely also operated a grocery store in this building during the 1940s and 1950s. Mrs. Homer Neal's Grocery, later operated by Hubert Neal and then Reverend J.J. Northington, was located on the northeast corner of Jefferson Street and John J. Johnson Avenue (# 55), during the 1940s. Northington's Grocery moved to Sarver Street in the 1980s and continues to be open to the public in his private residence. Harry Finn's Grocery in the Finn Building at 502 Jefferson Street (# 57) was later occupied by Reverend J.N. Spates's Grocery. Rutherford's Grocery was also on Jackson Street. John Hampton owned and operated the first Huskter Business selling vegetables and meats in the early 1900s on the corner of Jackson and West Streets. V.K. Ryan owned and operated a Slaughter House on Pelham Street. All of these African-American owned businesses in Harristown promoted the growth of Harristown.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 22

---

## Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

Several African-American organizations that provided community services to the residents of Franklin were: the Odd Fellows Lodge; the KP Lodge; American Legion Post 202; and the Good Samaritan Lodge. Odd Fellows, organized in 1862, is the oldest organization in Harristown. Their two-story building, located on the southwest corner of Jefferson and Jackson Street (# 163), burned between 1916 and 1918. Odd Fellows Hall was rebuilt in 1918 on the same site and meetings continued to be held on the second floor while commercial businesses occupied the ground floor. Today, the site is vacant. The KP Lodge, organized in 1916, held meetings in the Odd Fellows Hall until the building burned. They moved their meeting location to Dave Williams store on the corner of Main and Kentucky Streets and came back to Harristown in 1945, after they built the one-story concrete block building known as the Knights of Pythian Building (# 55). American Legion Post 202 was organized in 1932 and the present structure, located at 503 Ryan Street (# 146), was built in 1975 under the leadership of undertaker Earl W. Burrus. Post projects included sponsoring recreational activities, financing free lunches for students on the government lunch program, and aiding families in need. The Harristown American Legion Auxiliary 202 was also organized in 1932 by a group of ladies interested in improving the community, state, and nation. This Post gave to soldiers, hospitals, sick people, and bereaved families. The Good Samaritan Lodge, organized in 1936, occupied the old picture show building which is now a vacant lot owned by the Alpha Missionary Baptist Church (# 43).

Most of the restaurants in Harristown were located in the Odd Fellows Hall, however, several others were operated in back yards throughout the neighborhood out of mobile units. Joe Anthony operated a Diner out of a bus located in his yard on Jefferson Street as well as a Dry Cleaners out of his house. Beasley's Barbeque was also mobile unit selling barbeque on a trailer on the corner of John J. Johnson Avenue and Jefferson Streets. The Finn building, built in 1956 at 502 Jefferson Street (# 57), was occupied by Rudolph Anderson's restaurant, Robert Hale's Ice Cream Parlor, and Finn's Diner.

Schools, organized in the late 1800s in Simpson County, were a source of education and guidance. The Negro City School, known as the Franklin Public School, was first held in the Little Methodist Episcopal Church on John J. Johnson Street between Jefferson and Jackson Streets in 1867. This school offered education to both adults and children after the Civil War. In 1870, Williams Hall on Madison Street was converted to a school and became known as the Franklin Grade School until 1926. Two years of high school were added in 1926-1927 and the name was changed to Franklin Grade and High School. A third year was added at the end of the term 1928-1929. The graduating class of 1929 had to leave Franklin to complete their fourth year of high school. At the beginning of 1930-1931, the fourth year was added. The school was

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 23

---

### Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

moved to a new two-story red brick building on Walker Avenue and dedicated in 1940 as the Lincoln School (# 133). County schools merged with Lincoln School in 1944 and in 1965 the school was integrated. Today, this school serves as a reminder of efforts to provide public education to African-American residents of Harristown as well as serving as a place for community activities.

One outstanding educator was John Henry Perdue, a unique African-American resident of Harristown who contributed a variety services to Harristown and Franklin. Born a son of a slave in Gallatin, Tennessee, he was given his master's name, escaped from his owner, and settled in Franklin, Kentucky where he became a preacher, church builder, and educator. This self educated man became an educator in the Simpson County public school and owned a grocery store on the corner of John J. Johnson Avenue and Jefferson Street, presumably in the Odd Fellow Hall building (# 163) which was directly across from his home. His residence was replaced by George Mahin's House at 500 Jefferson Street (# 56) in 1914.

African-Americans were also involved in the construction business and built many of the contributing structures still visible in Harristown. In the early 1900s, Alex Conley of Jefferson Street, was a mason contractor who made the blocks that were used to build the Elevated Baptist Church. Jim Lee was a plaster and mason contractor and a resident of Pelham Street. His sons, Buford and Chester Lee, were his helpers. Buford continued on as a plasterer and mason contractor while residing on Pelham Street. Charles Williams and Reverend J.J. Northington were also mason contractors. Robert Hale, a contractor and builder who lived on Jefferson Street, built many homes for Whites and Blacks as well as churches and other structures in Franklin and Bowling Green. Some of his sons were helpers and electricians. Hubert Ellis was a carpenter and contractor who built homes in Harristown and other places.

Funeral director and undertaker Earl W. Burrus was also a general contractor for homes built in Harristown between 1971 and 1979. Burrus established his Funeral Home on the corner of West Washington and John J. Johnson Streets in 1936. In 1940 it was moved to its present location, 513 Jefferson Street (# 38), and remains in business today. Burrus was an embalmer and both he and his wife, Mrs. Virgie J. Burrus, were funeral directors.

In conclusion, it is evident that Harristown is defined by the residences, businesses, churches, and schools, as well as the African-Americans who resided there. This information is historically significant because it helps us to know the history of Franklin's Black community that has the highest concentration of historic resources with enough integrity for us to understand its heritage.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 24

9. Bibliography

• Previous Research at the Kentucky Heritage Council:

National Register Nominations:

The Franklin Downtown Commercial District, listed 1984.  
Individual Kentucky Historic Resources Inventory Forms for Franklin and  
Simpson County

• Historical Maps:

Fire Insurance Sanborn Maps. Franklin, Kentucky. Pelham: 1886, 1892,  
1897, 1901, 1908, 1913, 1925, 1940, 1947.  
USGS Maps: 1968 PR 1982  
Simpson County General Highway Map: 1968 rev. 1971  
Property Identification Maps: 1990, 1991

• Archival Resources:

Articles:

Crossly, Cynthia. "Franklin." Our Town. (1992): 54-57.  
"Spotlight on Simpson County." Back Home in Kentucky (1994):  
26-29.

Simpson County Archives:

Deeds, vertical files, photographic files, historical researchers

• Secondary Resources:

Atlas of Kentucky. Lexington, Kentucky: The University Press of  
Kentucky, 1977.  
Beach, Sr. Mrs. James and Henry Snider. Franklin and Simpson County: "A  
Picture of Progress 1819-1975". Tompkinsville, Kentucky: Monroe  
Press, 1976.  
Beach, Sr. Mrs. James and Henry Snider. Franklin and Simpson County:  
Reflections of 1976 and a supplement to "A Picture of Progress  
1819-1975". Tompkinsville, Kentucky: Monroe Press, 1976.  
Burrus, Virgie Lee James. Facts To Remember. Franklin, Kentucky:  
Printer's, Incorporated, 1984.  
Clark, Thomas D. A History of Kentucky. Lexington, Kentucky: the John  
Bradford Press, 1954.  
Kleber, John E. The Kentucky Encyclopedia. Lexington, Kentucky: The  
University Press of Kentucky, 1992.  
Klotter, James C. Our Kentucky: A Study of the Bluegrass State.  
Lexington, Kentucky: The University Press of Kentucky, 1992.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 25

- Lee, Lloyd G. A Brief History of Kentucky and Its Counties. Berea, Kentucky: Kentucky Imprints, 1981.
- Martin, Charles E. The Penneyrile Cultural Landscape. Frankfort, Kentucky, 1988.
- Montell, William Lynwood and Michael Lynn Morse, Kentucky Folk Architecture. Lexington, Kentucky: The University Press of Kentucky, 1976.
- Rennick, Robert M. Kentucky Place Names. Lexington, Kentucky: The University Press of Kentucky, 1984.
- Rone, Wendell H., Sr. An Historical Atlas of Kentucky. Evansville, Kentucky: Burkert-Walton, 1965.
- Simpson County, Kentucky Families Past and Present 1819-1989. Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing, 1989.
- Simpson County Centennial Celebration 1882-1982. Franklin, Kentucky: 1982.
- Simpson County History - Kentucky Bicentennial Edition 1792-1992. Franklin, Kentucky: 1992.

INTERVIEWS

The following interviews were conducted by Donna G. Logsdon in Franklin, Kentucky, between October 1994 and July 1995.

Keith Pawley  
Tom Moody  
Nancy Stone  
Lucille Brooks  
Katie Nolan  
Kathryn McCutchin  
Alice Bailey  
Sarah Smith  
Sue Groves  
Mary Lanier Wilson  
Gilbertine Douglass Moore  
Sherry Ford  
Cindy Ford  
Virginia Walters  
Jack Forshee  
Margaret Snider  
Pearl Snider

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 10 Page 26

## Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky

## 10. Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Harristown historic district includes all of the properties on the south side of Walker Street between West and Bell Streets and only one property north of Walker Street between John J. Johnson Avenue and Pelham Street, Lincoln School; on the east by the rear property line of lots on the east side of Bell Street between Walker Avenue and West Washington Street and the front property line of those lots on the west side of Bell Street between Jefferson and Washington Streets; on the south by all the properties on the north side of West Washington Street; and all of the properties on the east side of West Street on the west. The site is delineated on Property Identification Map 9, block 25, lots 1-15; block 24, lots 1-46; block 21, lots 1-27; block 20, lots 1-16; block 26, lots 1-20; block 40, lots 1, 32-40; block 27, lot 1-12; block 19, lots 1-16; block 18, lots 1-13; block 17, lots 1-12; block 16, lots 1-10; and block 9, lot 2, in Franklin's Property Valuation Office. The district consists of approximately 53 acres.

## Boundary Justification

The boundaries for the Harristown were chosen to designate the most cohesive group of residential buildings that represent one of the earliest African-American neighborhoods in Franklin from a period of significance from 1880-1945. This contiguous group of buildings possesses the highest degree of integrity in regard to its location, setting, and association with the development of Franklin and Simpson County.

Although historically the boundary of Harristown extends to the north to include Sarver Drive, Lincoln Park, Simmons Drive, and Todd Street, it was determined that the majority of the buildings in this area were built after the period of significance, 1945. The property on the east side of Bell Street between Jefferson Street and West Washington Street was not included since it is owned by Franklin's Electric Plant Board and is non-residential. The properties on the south side of West Washington Street were either not residential or were built after 1945 and therefore were not included in the district. Properties on the west side of West Street were not included in the district since the residences were built after 1945.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Photos Page 27

**Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky**

The following information is the same for all photographs.

3. Donna G. Logsdon
4. 1/95
5. Kentucky Heritage Council  
300 Washington Street  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Photograph # 1

6. 608 Jefferson St.  
South, front elevation

Photograph # 9

6. 404 Jackson St.  
South, front elevation

Photograph # 2

6. 514 Jefferson St.  
South, front elevation

Photograph # 10

6. 410 Walker Avenue  
South, front elevation

Photograph # 3

6. 502 Jefferson St.  
South, front elevation

Photograph # 11

6. 513 Stewart St.  
East, front elevation

Photograph # 4

6. 500 Jefferson St.  
South, front elevation

Photograph # 12

6. Northwest, front elevation

Photograph # 5

6. 613-1/2 Jackson St.  
Northeast, front elevation

Photograph # 13

6. 301 John J. Johnson Ave.  
Southeast, front elevation

Photograph # 6

6. 614 Jackson St.  
South front elevation

Photograph # 14

6. 307 Bell St.  
Northeast, front elevation

Photograph # 7

6. 514 Jackson St.  
South, front elevation

Photograph # 15

6. 511 Bell St.  
East, front elevation

Photograph # 8

6. 410 Jackson St.  
South, front elevation

Photograph # 16

6. 506 Bell St.  
West, front elevation

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Photos Page 28

---

**Harristown Historic District Simpson County, Kentucky**

The following information is the same for all photographs.

3. Donna G. Logsdon
4. 1/95
5. Kentucky Heritage Council  
300 Washington Street  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Photograph # 17

6. 526 West Washington St.  
Southwest, front elevation

Photograph # 19

6. 408 W. Washington St.  
South, front elevation

Photograph # 18

6. 512 W. Washington St.  
Southwest, front elevation

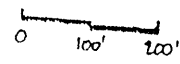
Photograph # 20

6. 402 W. Washington St.  
South, front elevation





HARRISTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT  
FRANKLIN, KENTUCKY



- - - DISTRICT BOUNDARIES
- ① CODE
- 408 ADDRESS
- ⓪ PHOTO #

- THIS MAP SERVES AS THE VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION -