

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED FEB 29 1980

DATE ENTERED

MAY 8 1980

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Morgan Street Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Morgan St.

Multiple--see continuation sheet.

--NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Versailles

VICINITY OF

6

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Kentucky

021

Woodford

239

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

 DISTRICT PUBLIC OCCUPIED AGRICULTURE MUSEUM BUILDING(S) PRIVATE UNOCCUPIED COMMERCIAL PARK STRUCTURE BOTH WORK IN PROGRESS EDUCATIONAL PRIVATE RESIDENCE SITE PUBLIC ACQUISITION ACCESSIBLE ENTERTAINMENT RELIGIOUS OBJECT IN PROCESS YES: RESTRICTED GOVERNMENT SCIENTIFIC BEING CONSIDERED YES: UNRESTRICTED INDUSTRIAL TRANSPORTATION NO MILITARY OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Multiple--see continuation sheet.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Woodford County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Versailles

Kentucky 40383

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Frankfort

Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Situated in Versailles, the seat of Woodford County, Kentucky, the Morgan Street Historic District is a tightly knit group of historic structures located near the center of town. The western boundary abuts the Versailles Historic District, encompassing the core of the downtown. Morgan is an east-west residential street which at its northward extension becomes Maple Street. Among the more important buildings within the district are the following:

#1. J.C. Carter House

Listed in the National Register on May 2, 1975, the Carter house is the oldest structure in the district. The house was built in 1792, about the same time Versailles was established (see photos 1-2).

#2. Built during the 1850s, this Gothic Revival house belonged to Thomas Paine Porter. A member of the state legislature and speaker of the state senate, Porter was ex officio lieutenant governor in 1861. A Southern sympathizer, Porter was a member of the Border State Convention in 1862. After the Civil War he resumed his law practice in Versailles and lived there until his death. The house has several interesting features such as double front doors and windows and octagonal chimneys (see photo 3-4).

#3. Constructed during the first third of the 19th century, this house in the late 1800s belonged to John Amsden, Sr., the father of John Amsden (see #17). The house was constructed in two different sections-- originally a side passage plan, the two left bays were added later (see photos 5-6).

#4. Known as the G.A. Redd House, this two-story, three-bay, brick house was probably constructed around the first third of the 19th century. The house is a side-passage plan with a two-story brick ell which projects from the rear. The back yard contains an octagonal, pyramidal-roofed outbuilding (see photo 7).

#5. Built ca. 1821 by David Thornton, this house has remained in the family since that time. Thornton was the first president of the Woodford Bank and Trust Company, from 1852 to 1873. All of the bank business was originally transacted in David Thornton's counting house. The one-story, three-bay brick structure has a portico which contains a Palladian window. The main entrance has a fanlight with sidelights and double christian cross doors. An early brick wing was constructed on the east side, and the one-story brick ell is original. A one-story brick kitchen pen is connected to the end of the ell. Two single-pen brick outbuildings are located in the rear yard (see photos 8-13).

#6. Built during the last quarter of the 19th century this one-story brick T-plan building has common bond brickwork and segmentally arched openings. The bracketed cornice provides the only decorative element to this otherwise simple structure (see photo 14).

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Morgan Street Historic District, located on the fringe of the commercial district in Versailles, is one of the community's oldest residential areas. Since the establishment of the town in 1792, Morgan Street has proved to be one of the most attractive and desirable areas in which to live, comprising a large number of residences notable for their history and architectural quality.

Woodford, the last of nine counties formed before Kentucky's statehood, was created in 1788. It is located near the center of the Bluegrass region of Kentucky and is known affectionately as "the asparagus patch" in the "Garden of the Bluegrass." Woodford is known for its rich and productive soil which was the primary attraction for the first settlers.

Versailles, named by Revolutionary War soldier General Marquis Calmes after a city in France, was established June 23, 1792. It was the only incorporated town in the county until 1835, making it an important commercial center. Originally the corporate limits of the town extended just 660 yards in all directions from the courthouse, forming a circle. Morgan was one of six streets laid out at that time.

The structures which comprise the Morgan Street District, many of which were constructed or owned by families prominent in Versailles history, range in age from the late 18th to early 20th century and display an unusual variety of architectural styles. The more outstanding examples of the Federal style include the following:

Masonic Hall Building was constructed in 1817, Victorianized in the late 1800s, and has since been restored to its original Federal character.

David Thornton House and William Barr House are two houses of similar design and exceptional quality. Both exhibit fanned entrances Palladian openings.

The Joseph Carter House, little altered since construction in 1792, displays unusually fine interior woodwork.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES **UTM NOT VERIFIED**

"Family History Describes Old-Time Holiday Fun in Versailles Home of Mr., Mrs. David Thornton." Lexington Herald-Leader, 1 January, 1961.

McCord, Cathrine. Versailles, Kentucky. Interview, 26 October 1979.

Newcomb, Rexford. Old Kentucky Architecture, New York: Bonaza Books, 1940 (cont.)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA **ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 14 acres.

UTM REFERENCES Versailles, Kentucky

A	1,6	6,9,9	7,4,0	4,2	1,3	8,4,0	B	1,6	6,9,9	7,2,0	4,2	1,3	6,8,0
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			
C	1,6	6,9,9	1,6,0	4,2	1,3	7,0,0	D	1,6	6,9,9	1,8,d	4,2	1,3	8,8,d

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See continuation sheet.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Jayne C. Henderson/Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

November 1979

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

502/564/3741

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort,

STATE

Kentucky

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

SIGNATURE

Cedric W. Metter

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

2-28-80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

W. Ray Luce

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

5/8/80

ATTEST

Kristin O'Connell

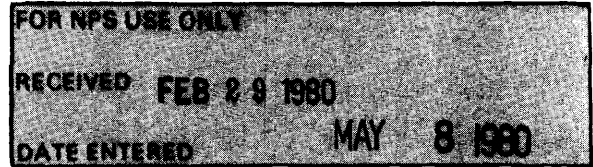
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

5/7/80

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Morgan Street Historic District
Versailles, Woodford County

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4 PAGE 2

Note: Unless otherwise indicated, all addresses are Versailles, Ky. 40383

	<u>Property</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Address</u>
#1	110 Morgan Street	Joe Carter	110 Morgan Street
#22	111 Morgan Street	Edwin L. Cunningham	142 Elm Street
#2	120 Morgan Street	Joe Carter	110 Morgan Street
#21	125 Morgan Street	B. R. Miller	125 Morgan Street
	130 Morgan Street	Alfred J. Lacazette	130 Morgan Street
#20	131 Morgan Street	Nave Insurance Co.	131 Morgan Street
	135 Morgan Street	O. K. Hackley, Jr.	7583 Spalding Ln. Atlanta, Ga.
#3	150 Morgan Street	Irwin Picketts	249 S. Locust Street
	153 Morgan Street	Michael Myers	153 Morgan Street
#19	161 Morgan Street	Kathleen McWilliams	c/o General Del., Midway, Kentucky
#4	170 Morgan Street	Leonard K. Nave	170 Morgan Street
#5	200 Morgan Street	David Thornton	200 Morgan Street
#18	201 Morgan Street	Mrs. David Thornton	200 Morgan Street
	206 Morgan Street	David Thornton	206 Morgan Street
#6	210 Morgan Street	Matt Blackard	210 Morgan Street
#17	211 Morgan Street	C. R. Ryley	211 Morgan Street
#7	220 Morgan Street	Jimmy Bond	220 Morgan Street
#16	221 Morgan Street	Margie McCabe	1133 Gainesway Dr., Lexington, Ky.
#8	230 Morgan Street	Margaret Farmer	230 Morgan Street
#15	231 Morgan Street	W. S. Hunter	231 Morgan Street
#14	235 Morgan Street	Louise Ward	160 Morgan Street
#14	237 Morgan Street	" "	" "
	239 Morgan Street	Mervin Wash	239 Morgan Street
#9	240 Morgan Street	Manley Morgan	240 Morgan Street
	241 Morgan Street	Porter Welch	241 Morgan Street
	250 Morgan Street	Mac Miller	250 Morgan Street
#13	251 Morgan Street	Herman L. Sharp	251 Morgan Street
	260 Morgan Street	E. M. Barnes	260 Morgan Street
	261 Morgan Street	Jeffery Ashly	261 Morgan Street
	301 Morgan Street	J. N. Fisher	301 Morgan Street
	310 Morgan Street	J. R. Binsford	310 Morgan Street
	311 Morgan Street	Ray Peden	311 Morgan Street
	330 Morgan Street	Eugene Nolan	330 Morgan Street
#10	340 Morgan Street	E. A. Davis	340 Morgan Street
	350 Morgan Street	Gentry McCauley	350 Morgan Street
	110 Maple Street	Charles R. Sallee	110 Maple Street
	120 Maple Street	Fred Coakley	120 Maple Street

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Morgan Street Historic District
Versailles, Woodford County, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4 PAGE 3

<u>Property</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Address</u>
122 Maple Street	N. Ber Rasnick	122 Maple Street
130 Maple Street	Robert L. Griffin	130 Maple Street
#11 131 Maple Street	Woodford Co. Board of Education	131 Maple Street
#12 Woodford County Junior High School	Woodford County Board of Education	131 Maple Street
330 Lexington Street	Mrs. H. T. Hendricks	330 Lexington Street

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Morgan Street Historic District
Versailles, Woodford County, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

#7. Built ca. 1830s this structure is known as the William Barr House. The wife of William Barr was the daughter of Herman Bowman (1769-1855), state senator and one time deputy sheriff of Woodford County. Similar in scale and design to the Thornton House (#5), this structure has Palladian style windows and a fanned front entrance. Double chimneys extend from each end of the main block. The rear gallery has been enclosed and aluminum sided (see photos 15-17).

#8. Number 230 Morgan Street was built in 1900. It is a two-story brick T-plan house with stone lintels and sills. Semi-octagonal bays grace each side of the house and a one-story ell projects from the rear (see photo 18).

#9. Constructed in 1900, this two-story, brick pyramidal roofed T-plan house is located at 240 Morgan Street. Stone lintels top the window openings and the structure has unbonded brick. Fish scale shingling decorates the gables (see photo 19).

#10. This ca. 1930s bungalow is located at the intersection of Morgan and Maple Streets (see photo 20).

#11. The A.L. Childers House occupies one of the most visually significant sites in the district. The structure sits on Maple Street at the crest of the hill, facing west down Morgan Street. A one-story brick Greek Revival structure, the house has a portico with square piers instead of the more common columns. The detailing of the piers is also unusual--displaying a version of the Greek key not generally used in capitals. Located south of the main house is a one-story, three-bay brick outbuilding.

During the late 1800s the house was owned by Dr. Adam Childers and served as a school building in the early 1900s and is presently occupied by the Board of Education. A new school building was erected in 1928 (see photos 21-25).

#12. The Woodford County Junior High School, built in 1928, was designed by John J. Curtis. The brick school is three stories in height with a semi-projecting entrance element and corbeled eaves (see photos 26-27).

#13. 251 Morgan Street was constructed in 1915 using the materials from a nearby mansion which had been razed. This one-story, three-bay brick house was probably modeled after the Thornton (#5) and the Barr (#7) houses which are similar in scale and design. The facade of this house is unbonded with flat arches over the window. A Palladian style window graces the tympanum of the portico (see photo 28).

#14. Originally constructed as a two-family dwelling, this house was built ca.1800. The two units share a fourteen inch wall and a central chimney.

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Morgan Street Historic District
Versailles, Woodford County, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

#14. Continued.

There is no connecting door between the units. A 20th century frame addition was added to the rear (see photo 29).

#15. Built in 1823 as the Versailles Presbyterian Church, this building was used as such until 1859. At that time the congregation split into factions. The structure was used by the old faction until 1863 when it was sold to J.C. Carter.

The original entrances were in the gable end of this brick structure. After being restored for use as a residence (late 1800s) another entrance was opened in the west facade. A dormer and rear porch were both added at a later date (see photos 30-31).

#16. Known as the Twyman House, this two-story brick and frame house was built around the late 1800s (see photo 32).

#17. The John Amsden House was constructed in 1887 by one of the founders of the Bank of Amsden. John Amsden and Henry George established the bank in 1869. C.R. Ryley purchased this two-story brick house in 1934. The structure has an octagonal frame turret which projects from the second floor and corbeled chimneys. The leaded glass windows are the most interesting feature of the house (see photos 33-35).

#18. Constructed ca. 1890, this is known as the D.L. Thornton House. A prominent lawyer in town, Thornton also served one term in the Kentucky legislature. He was a distant cousin to David Thornton (see #5). This two-story, frame, T-plan has a pyramidal roof and bracketed eaves. A semi-octagonal bay projects from the gable end front (see photos 36-38).

#19. This tiny, one-story brick structure was used by Dr. J.W. Crenshaw as an office around the mid-1800s. The main house which he owned was razed (see photo 39).

#20. Constructed in 1873, this two-story, three-bay frame house was built by Henry Luneberg. Incorporating a side passage plan, the house has an entrance element which consists of a cornice mold and brackets (see photo 40).

#21. Built in 1817, this structure was the original headquarters for the Masonic Lodge No. 41. Victorianized in the late 1800s, the building was returned to its original appearance in 1969. It has Flemish bond brickwork, and a fanned entrance. A frame shed addition was attached to the rear during the 20th century (see photos 41-42).

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 4

#22. Known as "Carter Flats," this building was constructed by Josephine Carter, granddaughter of Goodloe Carter (see #1). The flats were built around the turn of the century (see photo 43).

The character of the Morgan Street District is completely residential, with no intrusions located within it. Most of the non-historic 20th century structures range in style from I-houses and bungalows to ranch style and new colonial revival homes. Although contemporary in nature, the architecture of these structures is homogeneous with the older character of the district. Only ten of these buildings do not meet the fifty-year age criteria. They include:

130 Morgan Street	301 Morgan Street
161 Morgan Street *	311 Morgan Street
239 Morgan Street	110 Maple Street
241 Morgan Street	122 Maple Street
261 Morgan Street	330 Lexington Street

The nominated area includes all the buildings which front on Morgan Street and all the properties on Maple to Lexington Street which comprises the extent of the historic residential neighborhood.

* There are two structures at 161 Morgan Street. One (#19) is over fifty years old, the other is not.

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Morgan Street Historic District
Versailles, Woodford County, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

The best example of the Gothic style in the district is the T.P. Porter House. This cottage, probably built ca. 1840s, has imaginative bargeboarding around the eaves. The use of double doors and windows and a Palladian style window in the front gable contribute to the balanced appearance of the facade.

The Adam Childers House, located at the junction of Morgan and Maple Streets, is the best illustration of the Greek Revival style in the district. In Old Kentucky Architecture, Newcomb states "while the typical Kentucky Greek Revival house is fronted by a two-storied portico of Doric or Ionic design, many examples exhibit variations there from as charming as they are unusual. An excellent and unique portico is that of the old Adam Childers House at Versailles, where a splendid effect has been obtained not by the use of columns at all, but by the use of square piers, simply molded and decorated by a necking embodying a simple Greek fret." ¹ The interior molding is also exceptional with denticulated door trim and fretwork which echoes the portico design.

Two of the best examples of Victorian era houses are the John Amsden House and the D.L. Thornton House. Constructed in 1887 the Amsden House was designed in the Queen Anne mode. The most interesting details in the house are the stained glass windows which are important elements in the overall design.

The other late 19th century structure of note is the D.L. Thornton House. The house is basically Queen Anne in style but some Italianate details give the style some variation.

Two examples of 20th century architecture in the district are the Woodford County Junior High School and the "Carter Flats." Constructed in 1928 the Woodford County Junior High School was designed by John J. Curtis of Lexington, Kentucky. Round arches and variations of colored brick were tastefully used to give this utilitarian structure a sense of style.

The "Carter Flats" were probably built during the 1920s or 1930s. This apartment structure appears to have been designed to resemble a single-family dwelling, which would better conform to the character of the area.

¹Rexford Newcomb. Old Kentucky Architecture (New York: Bonanza Books, 1940).

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Morgan Street Historic District
Versailles, Woodford County, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

9 PAGE 2

"One of Versailles' Oldest Buildings Being Restored." The Woodford Sun,
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Railey, William E. History of Woodford County. Lexington: The Thoroughbred
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Sun Company Print.

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Morgan Street Historic District
Versailles, Woodford County, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 2

Starting with the rear property line of the Woodford County Junior High School, the boundary extends southward to the rear property line of the County Board of Education; turning west following the rear property lines of the buildings fronting the south side of Morgan Street, to the western property line of the J.C. Carter House (approx. 2,000'); turning northward approximately 300'; and turning eastward following the rear property lines of the properties fronting on the north side of Morgan, approximately 1,200' to the rear property line at the northwest corner of Morgan and Maple; turning north following the rear property lines of the houses on the west side of Maple to Lexington Street (approx. 400'); turning eastward along the south side of Lexington Street to the rear property line of the school.

Morgan Street Historic District
Versailles, Woodford County, Ky.
Versailles & Environs
Kentucky Dept. of Highways Map/
Jayne C. Henderson Map 2
Kentucky Heritage Commission

