

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED JUL 30 1979

DATE ENTERED

SEP 26 1979

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

House of Weller

AND/OR COMMON

same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

121 West Main Street

—NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Louisville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Kentucky

VICINITY OF
CODE

021

COUNTY

Jefferson

3&4

CODE

111

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**

DISTRICT
 BUILDING(S)
 STRUCTURE
 SITE
 OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC
 PRIVATE
 BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
 IN PROCESS
 BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED
 UNOCCUPIED
 WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
 YES: RESTRICTED
 YES: UNRESTRICTED
 NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE
 COMMERCIAL
 EDUCATIONAL
 ENTERTAINMENT
 GOVERNMENT
 INDUSTRIAL
 MILITARY
 MUSEUM
 PARK
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE
 RELIGIOUS
 SCIENTIFIC
 TRANSPORTATION
 OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Louis J. Fredrick

STREET & NUMBER

212 S. Peterson Ave.

Kentucky 40206

CITY, TOWN

Louisville,

VICINITY OF

STATE

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

Jefferson County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

517 W. Jefferson Street

CITY, TOWN

Louisville

Kentucky

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Kentucky Survey of Historic Sites

DATE

—FEDERAL STATE —COUNTY —LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort, Ky.

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

121 West Main Street is situated on the north side of the street, one block south of the Ohio River. The structure is in the same block as the old Louisville and Nashville Railroad Office (National Register May, 1973).

121 West Main Street is a four-story warehouse with a red sandstone facade. The ground floor of the facade consists of four cast-iron piers. The bottom section of the piers are fluted and have stylized capitals.

The second floor has a square opening articulated by a band of Greek fret. Two piers are set "in antis". Windows are set behind the piers. The stringcourse between the second and third floors is badly deteriorated and only remnants of egg and dart mold remain. The window treatment visually ties the third and fourth floors into one unit. The third floor is flanked by two piers with egg and dart mold capitals. Next to the piers are columns which support the architrave, forming a Palladian window motif. The windows are set behind the columns. Classical bulls' eyes are between the piers and the columns. The wall above the arch contains two protruding lions' heads.

The structure is capped by an extended cornice. The cornice is decorated by brackets alternating with garlands and a band of guilloche and Greek fret. The cornice is topped by a balustrade.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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
c. 1895-1900

BUILDER/ARCHITECT
unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

121 West Main Street is significant as one of the finest late Victorian whiskey warehouses remaining in Louisville. The warehouse is unusual for its use of classical decorative elements, influenced by the Beaux-Arts style. The architect is unknown but the structure is similar in style to buildings designed by such prominent local architects as C.J. Clark, Wm. J. Dodd and J.B. Hutchings.

The structure is one of the most unique designs in an intact block of Victorian warehouses. Louisville's Main Street is one of the richest collections of cast-iron and masonry structures in the United States. Very few of the structures employ Beaux-Arts motifs and no other rises totally in red sandstone above the first floor cast-iron piers.

This structure, as many of the others in the block, was originally associated with the distilling industry, the second largest commercial concern in the city after tobacco. A structure in this location housed the Wm. H. Thomas Warehouse in the early 1880's. A fire in an adjacent structure caused damage to the Thomas Warehouse and local architect Charles J. Clark was retained to do the repairs. The structure was purchased in 1896 at a court ordered sale by distiller, Issac Bernheim. His company was listed in that location for one year in 1899. The structure was vacant in 1900 when it was purchased by George P. Weller and became the House of Weller distillery. The present structure was probably built after the 1893 fire or at the time of Weller's purchase of the property. The use of the Beaux-Arts decorative motifs preclude a date much earlier than 1893.

This exceptional red sandstone structure is an important part of Louisville's rich heritage of Victorian architecture.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Caron Directories of the City of Louisville. 1885-1910.

Jefferson County (Kentucky) Deed Books.

"Wiped Out by Fire", The (Louisville) Evening Post. 21 June 1893.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

QUADRANGLE NAME New Albany, Ind.-Ky.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 116 610921810 4234181010
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

City of Louisville Block 18.A Lot 18

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

Marty Poynter Hedgepeth Director of Research July 10, 1979

ORGANIZATION

Historic Preservation and Landmarks District Commission 502-587-3501

STREET & NUMBER

727 West Main Street Kentucky

CITY OR TOWN

Louisville STATE

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Edward W. Gullett

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

July 24, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

William H. Brown

DATE

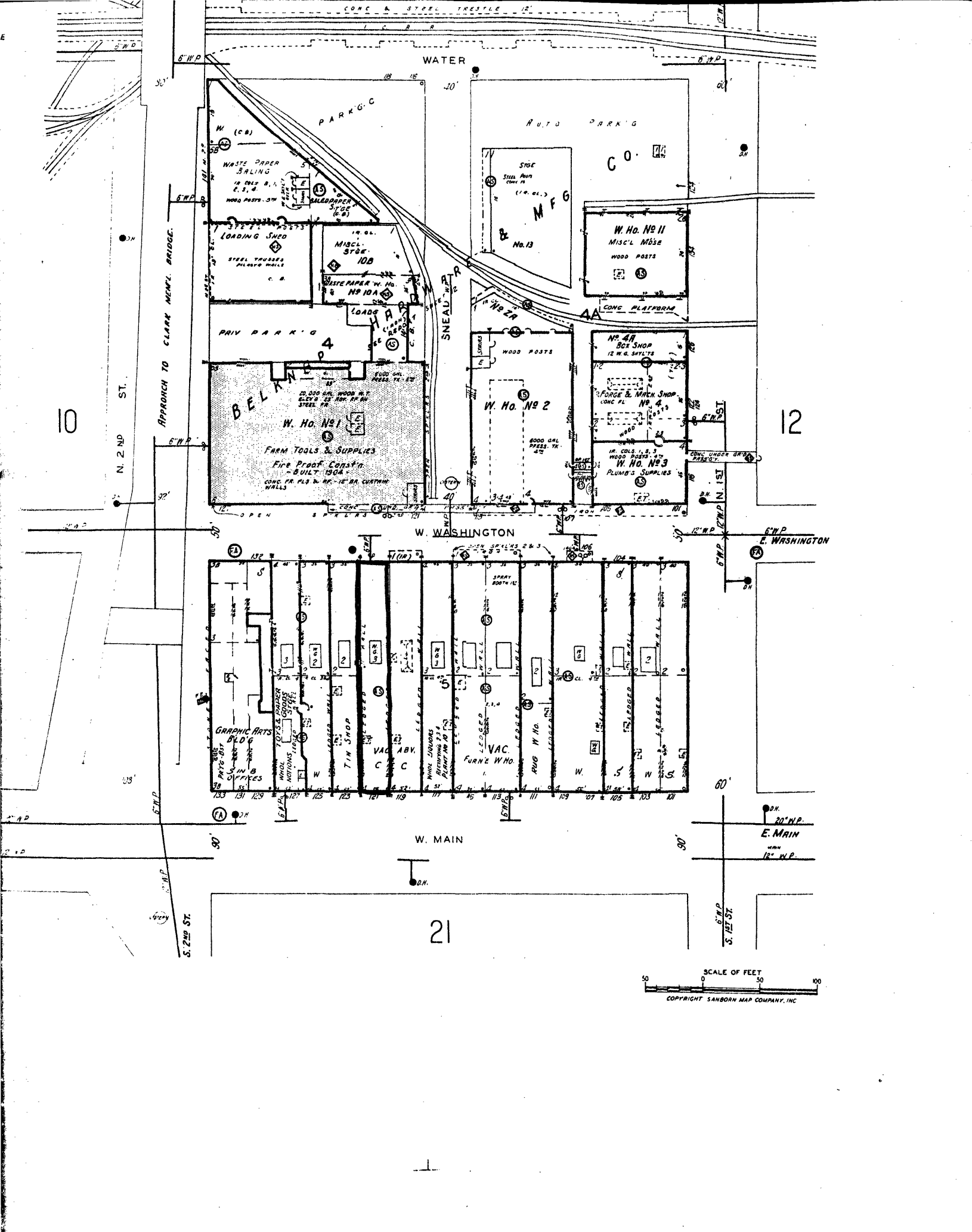
9-26-78

ATTEST: *Beth Brown*

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

9/25/79



WATER

PARK'G

AUTO PARK'G

C O

M F G

W. HO. NO. 11

MISC'L MUSE

WOOD POSTS

W. (CB)

WASTE PAPER

LOADING SHED

MISCL. STGE.

WASTE PAPER W. HO. NO. 10A

LOADS

PRIV. PARK'G

BELKIN

W. HO. NO. 1

FARM TOOLS & SUPPLIES

FIRE PROOF CORNISH

BUILT 1904

CONC. OR FLG. W. OR 12" BR. CUSTOM WALLS

STGE.

STEEL PAV. CONC. FL.

(18" CL.)

No. 13

W. HO. NO. 11

MISC'L MUSE

WOOD POSTS

CONC. PLATFORM

WOOD POSTS

W. HO. NO. 2

6000 GAL. PRESS. TK.

NO. 4A

BOX SHOP

12 W.G. SHYLT'S

FORGE & MACH. SHOP

CONC. FL.

W. HO. NO. 3

PLUMB'S SUPPLIES

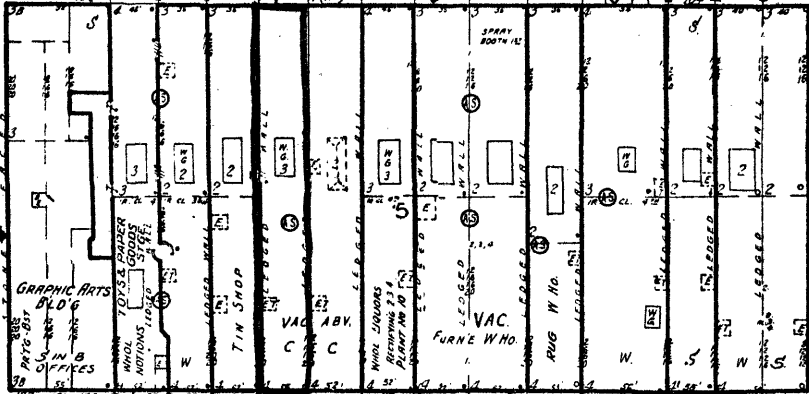
18" COLS. 1, 2, 3

WOOD POSTS

CONC. UNDER GRAD. PIPING

W. WASHINGTON

E. WASHINGTON



GRAPHIC ARTS BLDG

TIN SHOP

VAC. ABV.

VAC. FURNE W. HO.

RUG W. HO.

WHOLE SALES

W. MAIN

E. MAIN

21



SEP 26 1979
121 West Main Street
Louisville, Jefferson, Ky.
Sanborn Map Co., Philadelphia
1972
Map 2. JUL 30 1979