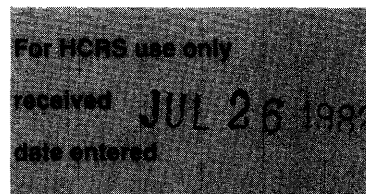


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Randall Building/Bogaert's Jewelry Store

and/or common Bogaert's Jewelry Store

2. Location

street & number 127--129
~~127-29 West Main Street~~ NA not for publication

city, town Lexington NA vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Kentucky code 021 county Fayette code 067

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>NA</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>n/a</u> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Thomas A. Collins

street & number 134 North Limestone Street

city, town Lexington NA vicinity of state Kentucky 40507

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Fayette County Courthouse

street & number 251 West Main Street

city, town Lexington state Kentucky 40507

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Kentucky Historic Resources Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date June 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records Heritage Division - Kentucky Department of the Arts

city, town Frankfort state Kentucky 40601

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance The Randall Building is a tall three-story four-bay Italianate commercial building located in a block of mostly nineteenth and early twentieth-century commercial structures on Main Street just off the Courthouse Square of Lexington. Although many older downtown commercial buildings have deteriorated and there are many vacancies, Main Street remains the major downtown commercial thoroughfare, and the Courthouse Square is still the active center of the city. The one hundred block of West Main Street is one of the most intact remaining in the downtown area, with the three other most important structures between Limestone Street on the east and Upper Street on the west at the edge of the square already listed on the National Register. These are the First National Bank Building on the northeast corner of Main and Upper, a sixteen-story buff brick, stone, and tile-clad high-rise office building designed by McKim, Mead & White, and erected in 1913-14, (listed February 27, 1980); the Higgins Block, a three-story, 6-bay 1870 masonry structure with an important Italianate castiron front, believed to have been designed by John McMurtry (listed August 12, 1977); and two doors east of the Randall Building, the former Odd Fellows Temple (now the Skuller's Building), designed by Cincinnatus Shryock and constructed in 1869-70 (listed February 27, 1980). Although the half-dozen other buildings on this blockfront (which is split by Wrenn Court or Alley, a narrow lane entering just east of the Higgins Block) in fact date from the nineteenth century, all have been drastically refaced during the twentieth century and bear little or no resemblance to their original appearance.

The facade of the Randall Building, however, is virtually intact above the street level (Photo 1). The storefront now consists of an entrance to the upper stories on the left (west) with the remainder recent infill between rusticated stone piers supporting a steel beam on which rests the upper two stories of the facade. The infill appears to have been replaced a number of times. The current version (Photo 4) consists of a handsome continuous prismatic transom (believed to have been made by the Luxfer Prism Company of Chicago, and therefore possibly designed by Frank Lloyd Wright). Recently cleaned and reset, this transom now extends above a minimal contemporary anodized aluminum and glass front consisting of an entrance flanked by display windows. This treatment is unobtrusive and compatible.

The upper two stories of the facade are believed to be intact. The second-story openings are round-arched (Photo 2); those of the third floor are stilted and segmental-arched (Photo 3); the openings are very large in both height and width in proportion to the masonry wall surface, which is almost completely articulated by brick pilasters and frames. In fact, the front rivals that of the nearby iron-front Higgins Block in the amount of light provided to the interiors by the south-facing fenestration.

The outer edges of the upper stories of the facade are marked by plain panelled pilasters. Between these are the somewhat smaller panelled pilasters of the window openings, which do double duty for the openings on either side. The pilasters on the second story rest on flat pedestals and have vestigial impost blocks; the arches themselves consist of multiple layers of brick moldings, with panelled stone keystones. The third-floor archframes are similar, but the openings are slightly shorter. Between the upper floors is a horizontal brick band with a dentil course of single bricks on its lower edge.

The prominent cornice is of molded pressed metal, although the panels between the main consoles (now covered by blind but temporary panels) are probably wood. The verticals between the window bays are sustained in the cornice by large geometric consoles with convex and concave curves; between them are three smaller modillions or brackets over each bay; raised diamonds or pyramids accentuate the cornice over the end consoles.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates circa 1870 **Builder/Architect** attributed Phelix Lundin

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) The tall two-story, four-bay Italianate brick commercial Randall Building--one of the most handsome and elaborate of its period in Lexington--forms an integral part of one of the major remaining downtown block-fronts dominated by nineteenth-century structures. Except for the recently and tactfully modernized street-level, the front is essentially as it was when built perhaps as an investment property, for clothier Charles S. Randall, in the early 1870s. The tall facade is highly articulated by a pattern of round and segmental-arched windows divided by shared and paneled pilasters and brick arches with keystones under a metal cornice. It is believed to represent one of the few surviving commercial buildings designed in Lexington by Phelix L. Lundin, a Swedish-trained architect responsible for many important buildings in the Blue Grass from 1870 until his death in 1885. Among the early occupants of the building was the well-known firm of Barkley & Pilkington, who had their saddle and harness store here during the 1880s. A series of prominent jewelers occupied the shopfront of the building from the 1890s until its recent conversion into offices. These are intended for the use of attorneys, as the Courthouse Square--still the governmental, financial, and commercial center of the city--is almost adjacent. For almost fifty years, from 1934 until 1979, this was the location of Bogaert's Jewelry Store. Victor Bogaert, Sr. (1859-1950), a Belgian given an award for his services to the Belgian government during World War I, established his jewelry business in Lexington almost a century ago, and the firm still exists at a suburban location.

The property belonged in the 1870s to Charles S. Randall, who had purchased it from Isaac W. and Sarah T. Scott and John S. and Lydia Wilson in 1870.¹ (Wilson was a noted druggist who is said to have provided the earliest photographic views of Lexington before and after the Civil War.) Randall was described as a "young, promising, and popular merchant" at his early death in 1876; his own store to have been located elsewhere on Main Street, but Thomas G. Randall, no doubt a relative, may have had his stove and tinware store here in the late 1870s.² The Randall heirs sold the property in 1892 to Thomas Cassell, a prosperous grocer whose widow (Talitha Randall Cassell) inherited it in 1917 and sold it six years later to the then-adjacent Phoenix and Third National Bank and Trust Company. By 1941 it was in the hands of the Spanton-Searles family whose trustees recently sold it to the present owners.

Although the original occupants have not been identified owing to the lack of street directories prior to 1887, by the mid-1880s the building was occupied by Barkley & Pilkington's Saddle and Harness Store. Both John L. Barkley and Albin Pilkington, Sr., were well-known local businessmen who also ran a livery stable nearby. Barkley's obituary in 1909 described him as 61 years old and proprietor of the Barkley Brothers Turf Goods Store and West Short Street, and as "one of the oldest business men of this city." Born in nearby Scott County, he came to Lexington from Georgetown in 1880 or 1881 and established himself as a dry good merchant and harness dealer with Samuel P. Simpson. After the latter's death Barkley went into partnership with Pilkington and by 1883-84 they seem to have moved to the Randall Building. Barkley was also active in municipal affairs, serving on the General Council for 15 years and as president of the Board of Aldermen twice.³

Albin Pilkington, Sr. (1844- ?) was brought from his native New Jersey to Boyle Co.,

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .06 acres

Quadrangle name Lexington East, KY.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>116</u>	<u>711961210</u>	<u>41211371915</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

D			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

E			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

F			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

G			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

H			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheet.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
<u>N/A</u>			

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Walter E. Langsam, Architectural Historian and Consultant

organization Lexington-Fayette County Historic Comm. date May 3, 1982

street & number 253 Market Street telephone (606) 255-8312

city or town Lexington state Kentucky 40508

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Mary Casman Boyd

title State Historic Preservation Officer date July 12, 1982

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Maria Ann Boyd date 9/9/82
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Patrick Andrews date 9/2/82
Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

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

RANDALL BUILDING , Fayette County, Kentucky

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

The entire upper facade has been painted grey for some time; it is hoped that the proper balance between unpainted brick surfaces and painted hoodmolds can eventually be reclaimed (see the Chinn photograph; map 1). The roof slopes slightly back from the front cornice, with stepped parapets at the top of the blind sidewalls. The third floor is not so deep as the second. There is extensive functional fenestration at the rear, and some side openings onto a very narrow light-well between the south rear section of the building and its slightly taller neighbor.

The first floor interior (Photo 4) has recently been totally modernized except for a rather elegant pressed-metal ceiling (with square panels of circular Adamesque garlands in relief) and covered cornice, which remain essentially intact above a newly dropped ceiling to permit fire-protection and other utility lines. The metal ceiling was probably added at the turn of the century when the front with prismatic transom was inserted.

The upper-story interiors are basically intact. The enclosed staircase rises from the street entrance to a shared hall near the center of the west side of the building; front and back units are reached through doors with transoms set diagonally on the landing. The stairs continue to the third floor along the east side wall, with much of the original railing, spindles, and octagonal newel post intact. Probably originally used for storage or workshops, these upper floors have no other distinctive features, and are now used very congenially as rental apartments.

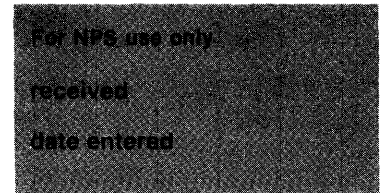
The present owners, who have applied for tax certification, have remodelled the storefront as described above, and installed a series of offices along a corridor of the first floor.

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Fayette County, Kentucky

Continuation sheet Randall Building Item number 8 Page 2



Kentucky, in 1851. In 1859 he began to work as an apprentice for Rule & Brother carriage builders--the Rules were relatives of his mother, Jane Rule Pilkington. Albin "began the carriage-building business on his own account in 1864." Apparently he later carried on his business in Frankfort, Kentucky.

Spencer and Rash had a shoe store in the building in 1893, but it was apparently vacant by 1895.

By 1902 the first of a series of prominent jewelers, which continued until 1979, occupied the street-level store. King & Metzger were here in 1902; A.K. Lyon in 1912; W.E. Caskey, circa 1914-15; Harry Skuller (whose widow still operates a store nearby on the former Odd Fellows Building; see number 7), 1920-30; Victor Bogaert, 1934-79. The upper floors probably had separate tenants during much of this time, as an interesting circa 1921 photograph from the Chinn Album shows the name of A. Schellberg, a tailor, on a sign between the second and third stories, and an optometrist named Thatcher was also listed here in the late 1920s.⁵

The building has been identified for almost half a century with Bogaert's Jewelry Store. Victor Bogaert, Sr., was for decades one of the city's leading businessmen, although the firm was apparently carried by his sons, Victor, Jr., and Edwin, after World War I, the latter acting as manager after 1914. Bogaert, Sr., a native of Belgium, came to Lexington and established the firm in 1883, making it now one of the oldest businesses in the area. After several moves the company, which then included the manufacture of jewelry, located at the turn of the century next door at 133-35 W. Main Street, moving to the larger present structure in 1934.⁶

Born in Bruges, Victor Adolphe Bogaert, Sr., was trained there, as well as in Brussels and Geneva. "When France made the call for volunteers for service in the famous expedition into Central Africa, in 1879, for the purpose of abolishing slavery in her possessions, Mr. Bogaert joined it, and was a lieutenant on that memorable three years' expedition all through Africa." (Although he is said to have met the famous explorer David Livingstone during this trip, the latter had died in 1873.) In 1883 he came to North America, travelling in Canada for a year or more. In 1885 he came to Lexington and opened his jewelry store, moving several times before settling at 133-35 West Main Street at the turn of the century. According to the St. Louis Trade Review in 1892, "Mr. Bogaert is also a manufacturing jeweler of skill and experience and is prepared to make to order promptly anything in the line of medals, both gold and silver, fine etchings, etc." Bogaert was described in a 1900 newspaper series on prominent citizens as "one of Lexington's leading business men, and by his untiring energy and honorable dealings has won for himself the confidence of people in this, his adopted city."

Bogaert is said to have made more than fifty crossings of the Atlantic, especially during World War I, when "he practically surrendered the responsibilities of his private business and gave his time to the cause of the Belgian war orphans, and collected thousands of dollars and gave generously of his own means to war relief. He was delegated by the War Department of this country and the allied nations of England and France and Belgium to specific missions and work and in recognition of what he did was personally decorated (as) a Knight by King Albert (of Belgium)."

During and after World War I the firm was conducted by two of Bogaert's long-lived and highly respected sons, Victor, Jr., and Edwin. The latter was also trained in Brussels,

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Continuation sheet Randall Building

Item number 8

Page 3

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as well as Paris, France, and was associated in business with his father after 1912 and as active manager of the concern after 1914.

The attribution of this building to Phelix L. Lundin, a prolific but now little-known Swedish-trained Lexington architect, is based on the similarity of its facade to the documented (although castiron) facade of the Citizens Bank Building in Winchester, Kentucky, and Lundin's own claim in an 1872 advertisement that he had designed nine buildings on Main Street in Lexington since his arrival only two years before. The Randall Building's facade closely resembles that of the existing but vacant former Leet Building on the northwest corner of Main Street and Broadway (see Victorian Commercial Block National Register form) and several others no longer in existence. Aside from numerous commercial and residential buildings throughout the Blue Grass currently being gradually identified and attributed, Lundin is known to have designed the following important Lexington buildings: the famous 1879 Phoenix Hotel; Jackson Hall, the former City Hall and Market (1879); Floral Hall (1882; listed on the National Register, August 29, 1977), but wrongly attributed there to John McMurtry, who may have built it; and the former Odd Fellows Building (1885-86), later Brower's Furniture Store, on the southeast corner of Main Street and Broadway, which was recently demolished after much alteration. Lundin seems to have been the first of several architects trained in Northern Europe who radically transformed the stylistic character and urban landscape of Lexington (and the Blue Grass) during the period between the Civil War and World War I. The attribution of the Randall Building to him would also contribute to the series of local and national architects whose work has been recognized on this block (see number 7).

1. Deed research in Fayette County Courthouse records by Walter Place.
2. Charles S. Randall obituary, Lexington Press, September 17, 1875, p. 4, col. 2.
Other information from Lexington city directories.
3. On Barkley, see Press, 12/25/1880, 4-3; Herald, 11/18/1899, 3-1; Herald, 1/20/1900, p. 5 (a biographical sketch); and his obituary, Herald, 6/28/1909, 1-1.
4. On Pilkington, see Perrin, p. 690; Lexington Public Library Newspaper Index; and Barkley obituary cited above.
5. Information from Lexington city directories, confirmed by Sanborn Insurance maps.
6. On the move, see Herald, 5/3/1934, 8-5, an interesting article in which the availability in the present building of space for the jewelry manufacturing facilities is emphasized. Impressive views of the storefront and interior of the store when next door at 133-35 West Main appeared in Illustrated Lexington, KY. (1919), pp. 57 and 58. On the recent closing of the downtown store, see Leader, 9/25/1979, C-8.
7. On Victor Bogaert, Sr., see the Lexington Public Library Newspaper Index, particularly on his wartime activities and travels to and from Belgium; Herald, 1/29/1900, p. 5 (a biographical sketch); his obituary, Herald, 3/8/1950, 1-7; St. Louis Trade Review, p. H; Industrial Record, p. 4; Kerr, III, 392 (in biography of son Edwin); Who's Who, p. 39.
8. On Edwing Bogaert, see obit., Leader, 10/25/1974, 20-4, age 83; Kerr, loc. cit.
On Victor Bogaert, Jr., obit., Leader, 8/20/1977, A-8, col. 1, age 89.
9. On Lundin, see Architect Files of Lexington-Fayette County Historic Commission; Lancaster, *passim*; additional research by Bettye Lee Mastin and Walter E. Langsam.

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Fayette County, Kentucky

Continuation sheet Randall Building

Item number 10

Page 2

SEE MAP 3.

The nominated property, which is situated in a row of commercial buildings on West Main Street, consists of a rectangular lot approximately the same dimensions of the building being 25 feet across Main Street and 105 feet deep. The boundary begins at a point (3), which is approximately 112 feet southeast of the southeast corner of Wrenn Court and West Main Street) and runs southeast along the facade 25 feet to the south corner of the building (2), thence 105 feet northeast along the property line to the east corner of the building (1) thence 25 feet along the rear to the north corner (4), thence southwest 105 feet to the point of origin, thereby incorporating the building.



4. 1922

from Chinn (A-28)

G4-A

BB108hb

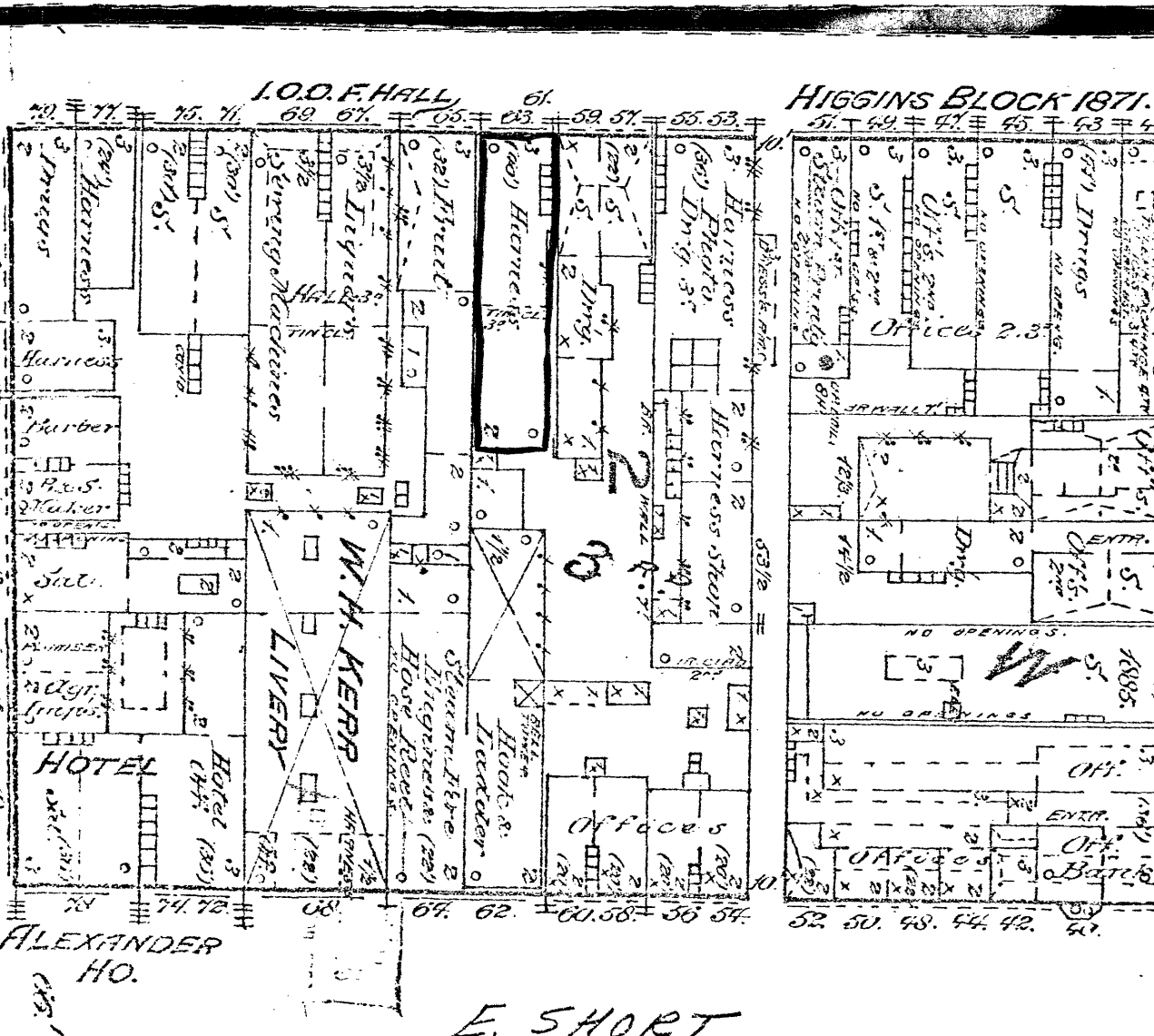
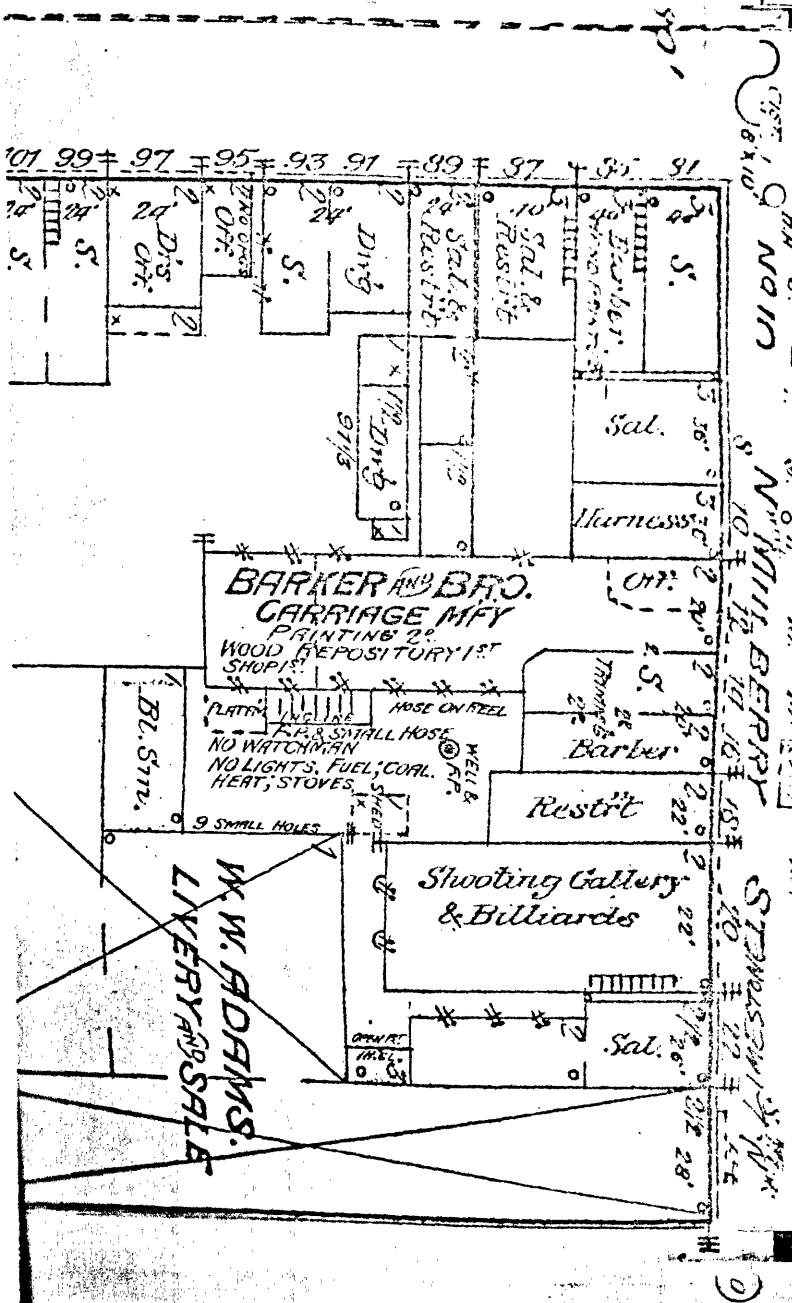
Randall Building
Fayette County, Kentucky
Chinn Album Photograph
1922

View of part of the one-hundred block
of West Main Street. Bogaert's was
then located next door to the west at
133-35 West Main Street.

Map 1 of 4

FLORENTINE HOTEL
E. MAIN

86 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100



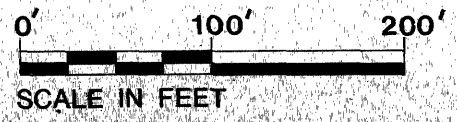
W. SHORT




Randall Building
Fayette County, Kentucky
Sanborn Map
1886
Scale 1" = 50'
Map 2 of 4



200.000N

199,000N



-  PROPERTY LINE
-  PAVEMENT EDGE
-  PRIVATE OR SECONDARY ROAD

-  950 CONTOUR
-  X 947 SPOT ELEVATION
-  BUILDING

Randall Building
Fayette County, Kentucky
Urban-County Planning Commission Map
Current
Scale: 1" = 100'
Map 3 of 4
Nominated area shown in red.