

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAY 23 1977
DATE ENTERED MAR 21 1978

**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

Shelby County Courthouse and Main Street Commercial District

AND/OR COMMON
Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

See #10 Verbal boundary description

roughly bounded by Washington, Clay, 4th, & 5th Sts

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN
Shelbyville

VICINITY OF

06

STATE
Kentucky

CODE
021

COUNTY
Shelby

CODE
211

3 CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | PRESENT USE | |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE | PUBLIC ACQUISITION | ACCESSIBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: |

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Multiple owners (see attached list)

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Shelby County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Shelbyville

STATE

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky (Supplement)

DATE

1976

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

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

The Shelby County Courthouse Square and Main Street Commercial Historic District includes the buildings which form the town square and those which front one block off Main Street. Also included are three structures on the east side of Sixth Street which intersects Main and one structure fronting Washington Street one block north of Main.

Immediately east of the proposed district are a number of early 19th century houses which are interspersed with numerous intrusions. To the west is another block of commercial structures beyond which are late 19th century residences, and on the north is Science Hill School (listed on the National Register September 18, 1975).

This district incorporates thirty-two commercial structures, three civic buildings, one residence, and the City Fountain.

MAIN STREET BEGINNING AT SOUTHEAST CORNER OF MAIN AND SIXTH

544 Main Street - This two-story brick structure whose lower level is dressed with rough-cut stone dates from 1873. Symmetrical in arrangement, the first floor's facade contains a centered entrance with a semi-circular transom above. This is flanked by two rectangular windows that also have semi-circular transoms. The spandrels are filled with square pieces of stone, and a stone fascia separates the two levels. The upper wall is pierced by four narrow windows in recessed masonry panels and are treated with segmental hood-molds and decorative keystones of cast iron. A projecting cornice on the north and west sides is supported by scrolled brackets (see photos 1, 2, and 3).

540 Main Street - The lower floor of this two-story building erected ca. 1870 has been altered but several elements of zinc-clad tin including a fascia spanning the width and three engaged columns have been retained. Four windows with segmental arches and quarter-rounded hood molds pierce the second floor's wall. Above each is a bull's eye window contained within projecting masonry. A corbel table supports a zinc-clad corona decorated with repeated shell and fleur-de-lis motifs and a modillioned cornice (see photo 4).

(continued)

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The proposed district, located in the center of Shelbyville, a prosperous agricultural community, is unusual in that it is composed of essentially well preserved late 19th century commercial structures and several public buildings of outstanding architectural quality. Unlike many other small towns in Kentucky, Shelbyville has never suffered a devastating fire in its commercial area, thus allowing for the concentration of relatively unaltered structures.

The town of Shelbyville was initially laid out in 1793, a year after Kentucky became a state and Shelby County was formed. The site selected for the town of Shelbyville was in a bend of Clear Creek and on the Midland Trail, an early road which extended from Maysville to the Falls of the Ohio at Louisville, by way of Lexington and Frankfort. It is thirty-one miles from Louisville and twenty-one miles from Frankfort, the Capital of the State. Shelbyville experienced steady growth and prosperity, being the seat of justice for an agricultural county with rich fertile farmland.

In the 1870s Shelbyville was the terminus for the Shelby branch of the Louisville, Cincinnati, and Lexington Railroad. At this time, according to Collins' History of Kentucky (1874), Shelbyville was one of the leading counties in the State in wealth and productions, in terms of taxable property, land values, and grains produced (p. 709). The wealth of the county was naturally reflected in the commercial district of the town.

As expected, the street levels of almost all the commercial structures of the Shelby County Courthouse Square and Main Street Commercial Historic District have been altered. But the majority of their upper levels have remained much in their original states. The windows and cornices display a variety of treatments, yet an appropriate human scale is maintained and a uniformity exists through the use of common structural materials including brick, cast-iron, limestone and granite and tin clad with zinc. Within the district, various architectural styles are represented.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Atlas of Henry and Shelby Counties, Kentucky. Philadelphia: D. J. Lake and Co., 1882.

Hardin, Bayless. Index to the American Guide of Shelby County. 1936.

(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 6.5 acres

UTM REFERENCES

E) 16/656150/4230440

F) 16/656070/4230470

G) 16/656080/4230620

A | 1,6 | 6,5,6,2,6,0 | 4,2,3,0,6,0,0 |
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B | 1,6 | 6,5,6,2,8,0 | 4,2,3,0,5,6,0 |
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | 1,6 | 6,5,6,2,6,0 | 4,2,3,0,4,6,0 |

D | 1,6 | 6,5,6,2,5,0 | 4,2,3,0,4,3,0 |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The proposed historic district is bounded on the northwest extent by a line running east from Sixth Street along the south side of Washington Street to the east property line of the Centenary United Methodist Church and the rear property lines of those structures that front Main Street to the east property line of 415 Main Street; on the eastern extent by the east property lines of 415 and 416 Main Street; on the south by

(continued)

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

Daniel Kidd, Architectural Historian; Mary Cronan Oppel, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

April 1977

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Eldred W. Miller

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

May 8, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

William H. Hollis Cole
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

3-21-78

DATE

3-9-78

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Shelby County Courthouse and Main Street Commercial District

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-
- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 544 Main Street | ✓ Bank of Shelbyville, 544 Main Street, Shelbyville, Kentucky 40065 |
| 540 Main Street | ✓ Mrs. A. D. Hardin, Smithfield Road, Shelbyville |
| 538 Main Street | ✓ Mark J. Searce, Science Hill Building, Washington Street, Shelbyville |
| 528 Main Street | ✓ Mrs. Mary Ann Middleton Caudill, 205 Adair Street, Shelbyville |
| 524 Main Street | ✓ Steve Wilborn and ✓ Bob Shy P. O. Box 448 |
| 520 Main Street | ✓ Mrs. Mary Ann Middleton Caudill, 205 Adair Street, Shelbyville |
| 514 Main Street | ✓ Lerman Brothers, 522 West Main Street, Louisville |
| 512 Main Street | ✓ Mrs. Charles Bradburg, 100 Alton Road, Shelbyville |
| 500 Main Street | ✓ Federal Land Bank, 500 Main Street, Shelbyville |
| Masonic Lodge Bldg. | ✓ Ben Mathews, Attorney at Law, Fountain Square, Shelbyville |
| 422 Main Street | ✓ Shelby County Trust and Banking, 422 Main Street, Shelbyville |
| 420 Main Street | ✓ I. O. O. F., James W. Scofield, President, 420 Main Street, Shelbyville |
| 418 Main Street | ✓ Shelby County Trust and Banking, 422 Main Street, Shelbyville |
| 416 Main Street | ✓ WCND Radio Station, 416 Main Street, Shelbyville |
| 415 Main Street | ✓ Mr. Rogers, Rogers and Tipton Barber Shop, Governor's Square, Shelbyville |

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- 423 Main Street ✓ Quintin J. Biagi, Todds Point Road, Simpsonville 40067
- Centenary Methodist Church ✓ Centenary Methodist Church Congregation, Fountain Square, Shelbyville
- Shelby County Courthouse, Jail, and Jailer's Residence ✓ Shelby County Fiscal Court, Shelby County Courthouse, Main Street, Shelbyville
- 513-519 Main Street ✓ James H. Byrdwell, 519 Main Street, Shelbyville
✓ Marshall Long, 904 Craig Avenue, Shelbyville
- 521 Main Street ✓ Miss Frances Hartford, 521 Main Street, Shelbyville
- 525 Main Street ✓ Edward W. Hall, Hall & Davies, 219 Seventh Street, Shelbyville
- 527 Main Street ✓ Louie Martin, East U.S. 60, Shelbyville
- 529 Main Street ✓ Shelby County First Federal Savings and Loan Association
529 Main Street, Shelbyville
- 531 Main Street ✓ Edward W. Hall, Hall and Davis, Seventh Street, Shelbyville
- 533 Main Street ✓ David Daniel, Sr.
535 Main Street Midland Trail West, Shelbyville
- 537 Main Street ✓ Biagi Appliance Center
541 Main Street 541 Main Street, Shelbyville
- 543 Main Street ✓ H. A. Barnett, Barnett Realty Co., 543 Main Street, Shelbyville
- 545 Main Street ✓ William Crane, 545 Main Street, Shelbyville

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| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 547 Main Street | ✓ William Matthews, 418 Main Street, Shelbyville |
| 411 Main Street | " " |
| 405 Sixth Street | ✓ George Harris, 1210 West Main Street, Shelbyville |
| 403 " " | " " |
| 401 " " | " " |
| 522 Washington Street | ✓ Mrs. Robert Purnell, 1205 West Main Street, Shelbyville; ✓ Mrs. Robert Walters, 516 West Main, Shelbyville; ✓ Mrs. Ben Mathews, 1213 West Main Street, Shelbyville |

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PAGE 2

538 Main Street - Constructed in the early 1880s, the street level of this two-and-one-half story structure of glazed brick has been remodeled in two different modes. Retained on the east are a corner pilaster and a fascia section of zinc-clad tin. The upper level has five windows of varying widths, but uniform height. All have stone lintels at their heads and sills, and all but the central one are within recessed brick panels having corbel tables at their heads. Three evenly spaced attic vents are below the zinc-clad bracketed cornice (see photo 5).

528 Main Street - Three stories in height and constructed in the early 1880s, this building's street level has been remodeled to include recessed doors and large panes of glass for display purposes. The fenestration of the second and third floors is identical: each contains eight windows with flat-topped hood molds and stone lintels at the sills. Below the zinc-clad bracketed cornice is a row of spaced headers arranged to resemble dentil molding (see photo 6).

524 Main Street - This three-story building of glazed bricks dating from the 1880s is notable for the window treatment of the upper floors. Those of the second floor total six and are rectangular in shape. Due to their placement and width, they are visually incorporated with those of the third story that have semi-circular heads surrounded by soldier courses. All are given proportionally large key stones and the structure is crowned with a denticulated and decoratively bracketed cornice of zinc-clad tin (see photo 7).

520 Main Street - Constructed of glazed bricks with granite trim, this two-and-one-half story building was erected ca. 1900 and has a greatly altered street level. Five windows with transoms pierce the second floor's wall. These are unified with a stone fascia at their heads and a stone stringcourse at their sills. Cartouches of granite are on either side of each transom. On the attic level are three decorative elements of granite molding and above these is another stone molding that follows their contours. The apex is capped with tile (see photo 8).

514 Main Street - This two-story structure dates from the 1890s. Its second floor wall is dominated by two large but attractive window arrangements. These have

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three rectangular lights placed vertically and above these is a wooden entablature. Over the outer two lights of each window are small square panes and over the central lights are panes arranged in a semi-circular pattern with radiating muntins. The effect is not unlike a Palladian window. The two elliptical arched sections are surrounded by soldier courses. A corona treated with a repeated sunburst motif and a cornice supported by brackets with dentils between crowns the street facade (see photo 9).

512 Main Street - A two-story building of smaller proportions than its neighbors to the east, 512 was constructed in the 1890s, and despite its size it maintains visual attraction due to the rounded corner on the east. The rectangular windows are of two widths and a denticulated entablature and cornice of wood surmounts the north and east walls (see photo 10).

500 Main Street - Built in the 1880s, this unimposing two-story structure with three bays has roughly cut stone lintels above the two doors and at the heads and sills of the windows. A wooden entablature and modillioned cornice is on the north, and parapet walls rise above the flat roof on the east and west. A two-story extension of brick was added to the east in the 1950s (see photo 11).

Old Masonic Lodge Building - Built in the 1880s, the Masonic Building is three bays wide and four bays long. Construction is of brick and cast-iron elements include four pilasters and a fascia with dentils on the front facade and a bracketed cornice on the north and west. Windows on the north facade have flat hood molds with an applied fleur-de-lis motif. All other openings are relatively unadorned. The east wall is windowless and has a parapet wall rising slightly above the flat roof. This, of course, would indicate that another structure once joined this side (see photos 12, 13 and 14).

Shelbyville City Fountain - Erected in 1895 at a cost of \$1000, the Shelbyville City Fountain was originally located in the center of Main Street in front of the courthouse. It was moved in 1913 to its present site in a small park that was part of the original city square to make room for the Interurban Electric Line that

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provided transportation between Shelbyville and Louisville. The focal point of the cast-iron fountain is an allegorical figure of the Atlantic Ocean. The work was the creation of a designer of the J. L. Mott Company of New York City (see photo 12).

422 Main Street - This 1961 two-story structure presents a windowless wall to the street. Entrance is gained through the west facade which is of brick, glass and marble veneer (see photo 15).

420 Main Street - A three-story building of brick with roughly dressed stone on the street facade, this structure's street level has been remodeled but three pilasters and a fascia of zinc-clad tin remain. Windows of the second floor are rectangular with three lights. Those of the third floor have four lights and are capped with semi-circular transoms. Four stone stringcourses span the north facade's width and a zinc-clad entablature, modillioned cornice and sloped gable crown the wall (see photos 15 and 16).

418 Main Street - Five pilasters and a fascia with dentils of zinc-clad tin remain intact on the street level of this two-story brick structure dating from the late 1880s. Four windows with stone lintels at their heads and sills pierce the second floor's north wall and a zinc-clad entablature and cornice with repeated motifs are placed above a corbel table (see photo 17).

416 Main Street - The street level of this two-story structure built in the late 1880s has been remodeled, but like its neighbor to the west, five pilasters and a fascia have been retained. Three windows having roughly dressed lintels of stone at their heads and smoothly finished ones at their sills pierce the second floor's wall. A corbel table is placed below a zinc-clad cornice treated with repeated anthemion and fleur-de-lis motifs (see photo 17).

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NORTH SIDE OF MAIN STREET

415-417 Main Street - A two-story, six-bay structure of brick erected in the 1880s, this building was originally arranged to serve two business establishments. A zinc-clad fascia separates the two floors and three zinc-clad pilasters divide the street level into two equal areas. Six rectangular windows are at the second floor level and are visually arranged into two sections by projecting molding. A bracketed cornice of zinc-clad tin provides the crowning element (see photo 18).

419 Main Street - Asymmetrical in arrangement, this two-and-one-half story building retains pilasters and a fascia of zinc-clad tin on its altered street level. Two rectangular windows pierce the second floor's wall. Above these is a denticulated fascia, and centered in the gable is a square window treated with a broken pediment (see photo 18).

421 Main Street - Erected in 1901, this two-story brick structure has a cast-iron front on the south facade's street level. A plaque on the lowermost right-hand corner identifies the manufacturer as being MERSHER BROS., FRONT BUILDERS, ST. LOUIS, MO. Four rectangular windows with stone lintels at their heads and sills pierce the wall of the second level. A corbel table is below the zinc-clad bracketed cornice that bears the date of erection and the original owner's name (see photo 19).

423 Main Street - Reaching the same height as 421, this two-story brick building with cast-iron colonettes, pilasters, and entablature separating the two levels on the street floor was erected in 1896. The second floor's wall is pierced only by a window with two side lights with a pedimented entablature atop the arrangement. This element inflects the structure's crowning feature of zinc-clad tin (see photo 19).

Centenary Methodist Church - Recessed approximately fifty feet from Main Street and constructed in 1897, this structure is composed of brick with limestone trim. A square tower crowned with an octagonal spire is at the southwest area. This

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element is accented with double-tier buttresses on its corners and the main entrance is an equilateral arch containing double doors on the tower's south wall. To the tower's east is a gabled wall pierced by a massive stained-glass window with stone tracery. Further east on the south facade is an octagonal extension having equilateral arched windows on its exposed sides. The over-all dimensions of the church were 73 by 95 feet prior to the addition of a wing in the rear. The gables are 50 feet high, the roof 62 feet, and the spire 102 feet. Inside, the sanctuary measures 64 by 50 feet, the Sunday school room 31 by 43 feet and the primary room 20 by 24 feet. The latter two are separated by a rolling partition and from the sanctuary by a hoisting wall balanced by weights in brick pockets so that the three may be opened together for large services (see photos 21, 22, and 23).

Shelby County Courthouse - Constructed in 1913 and designed by the architectural firm of Joseph and Joseph of Louisville, the Shelby County Courthouse is Beaux-Arts in style and presents a strictly symmetrical facade of five bays and two stories to Main Street. A flight of ten steps flanked by antepodia leads to a colossal portico supported by six Corinthian columns arranged in respect to the central three bays. The centered entrance is treated with an entablature and pediment, and above each of the central three windows of the second floor is a medallion enriched with wreaths and cornucopia. The projecting pediment is treated with dentils, modillions, acroteria and antefixae. In its center are scales of justice and cornucopia in relief. Windows of the two stories east and west of the portico are unified with a band of molding encircling them on three sides (see photo 25).

The east and west facades are equally rich. Each has a recessed portion in the center with a pediment much like that of the south facade. Scrolled brackets with elaborate drip-stones below support a modillioned and denticulated cornice. Windows in the recessed portion's second floor have semi-circular heads whereas all others are rectangular (see photos 26 and 27).

The courthouse's interior is quite rich in detail also. Egg-and-dart molding and pilasters of marble veneer with Ionic capitals of plaster abound throughout. A notable cast-iron staircase is at the north end of the first floor and numerous

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doors are enframed by Greek keys of stained oak. The courtroom on the second floor with its coffered, pressed-tin ceiling and Ionic pilasters has remained relatively unchanged (see photos 29, 30, and 31).

Shelby County Jail - Designed by the McDonald Brothers firm of Louisville and constructed in 1891, the jail is a block-shaped building of roughly dressed stone. Presently covered with a hipped roof, a turret is at the southeast, a tower at the northeast and a smaller tower with a pyramidal projection atop on the northwest corner. A large semi-circular window above the entrance on the east has been filled with concrete as have several of the rectangular ones on the sides. Crenelation is prevalent at the summits (see photos 32, 33 and 34).

Jailer's Residence - A two-story brick house built prior to 1876, the north wall of this residence adjoined the jail before the 1895 one, and the orientation was to the east. With the dismantling of the old jail, a one-story wooden porch with Victorian bracketing was added to the side with which the jail had been connected, and the entrance has been from the north since. All windows, except a single one on the north's second floor added later, have either flat-topped or segmental arched hood molds in respect to their shapes. Widely projecting eaves surround all sides (see photos 32, 33, 35 and 36).

513-519 Main Street - Constructed of brick with cast-iron components, this two-story building's street level has been altered, but its fascia with a saw-tooth brick course above, and its colonettes and pilasters have remained intact. A plaque at the lowermost left-hand corner identifies these as being made by the company of SNEAD & BIBB, 14th ST., LOUISVILLE, KY. The second level is given seven rectangular windows with stylized hood molds. A decoratively bracketed cornice is at the summit and a small centered gable with a semi-elliptical sunburst motif rises above it (see photos 37 and 38).

521 Main Street - A glazed brick structure erected in 1902, this building has three stories and four bays. The street level has been altered--granite columns on this floor are not original. Above these are semi-circular stained-glass windows.

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Stone stringcourses are at the sills of the semi-circular headed windows of the second floor and of the square-shaped ones of the third floor. Above the latter is a corbel table and the crowning feature of cast-iron includes: recessed panels with rounded corners, brackets, dentils, modillions and a pediment gable bearing the date of erection and the original owner's name (see photos 39, 40, and 41).

525 Main Street - The street level of this two-story brick structure built in the 1880s has been extensively remodeled with no original features left except for a cast-iron fascia. The second floor's wall is given three identical window arrangements; each being composed by a rectangular sash window surmounted with a bull's eye. The lower ones are framed by Ionic pilasters. Springing from these are semi-circular moldings that envelope two-thirds of the circular openings (see photos 42 and 43).

527 Main Street - An architectural oddity, this two-and-one-half story structure has been remodeled twice, resulting in no original features being visible on the street facade. In the 1930s, the front was covered with cast concrete and the sole enrichment of this alteration are two highly stylized eagles cast in relief that remain. In the late 1960s the facade was given another "face-left" with a shingled portion in the center that provides a pent roof for the entrance and for the second floor's two windows (see photo 42).

529-531 Main Street - Dating from the 1880s, this two-story structure of brick has four surviving cast-iron pilasters on its street level that is asymmetrical due to alterations. Also retained is a cast-iron fascia with tongue-and-dart molding. Windows of the second floor number five and are of uniform dimensions except the central one. Its sill is higher to accommodate the upward projection of a small pediment in the center of the fascia. All windows have flat-topped hood molds and above each is a perforated attic vent. The cornice and its brackets with dentils between are of zinc-clad tin (see photos 44 and 45).

533 Main Street - Retained on the remodeled street level of this brick structure erected in the 1890s are three cast-iron pilasters and a fascia separating the

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two floors. The eastern end has been shortened resulting in the absence of coupled brackets on the left of the denticulated cornice and resulting in the removal of a pilaster at the lower section of the same end. The second floor's wall contains two recessed brick portions. Each is pierced by a rectangular window that has a pedimented hood mold and scrolled drip-stones (see photos 46 and 47).

535 Main Street - The facade of this two and one-half story building has been extensively remodeled and no original features remain (see photo 47).

537 Main Street - Erected ca. 1900, this structure of two-and-one-half stories has a slightly altered street level of cast-iron made by the firm of Snead and Bibb of Louisville. The upper half has been re-bricked and this level has two juxtaposed windows with soldier courses at their heads. The tile-coped summit is stepped and a cartouche of granite that may be original is centered above the windows (see photo 48).

541 Main Street - Though wider, this brick building has a second floor with windows identical to that of 537. The cast-iron street level has been altered and unlike its neighbor to the east, its brackets are not coupled and the cast-iron cornice is given modillions in place of dentils. The structure was built ca. 1895 (see photos 48 and 48).

543-547 Main Street - Among the oldest buildings in the commercial area of Main Street, this structure was built in the 1850s and was later given cast-iron elements ca. 1870. The six windows of the south facade or of that facing Main Street have decorative hood molds while those on the west are unadorned. However, a denticulated cornice with coupled brackets appears on both exposed sides (see photos 50 through 53).

EAST SIDE OF SIXTH STREET BEGINNING AT NORTHEAST CORNER OF SIXTH AND MAIN

411 Sixth Street - A sizeable portion of this three-story gable-roofed structure is believed to have existed as early as the late 1820s. The street level contains much later features, but the second and third floors have remained much in their original state. Each upper floor has seven sash windows with six-over-six panes with stone lintels at their heads. The ends of anchor bars are exposed between the second and third floors (see photos 54, 55, and 56).

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403-405 Sixth Street - Constructed in the 1880s, this two-story building of brick has several components of cast-iron retained on the street level including five pilasters decorated with flutes, anthemias, and rosettes, and a fascia spanning the width. Six windows with stone lintels at their heads and sills pierce the second floor's wall. All are contained within a recessed masonry section having a corbel table at its apex. A cast-iron cornice is atop the street facade. The cast-iron elements are identified as being made by the GEORGE MESHER CO. OF EVANSVILLE, INDIANA, by a plaque at the sidewalk level (see photo 57).

401 Sixth Street - The street level of this late 1880s brick structure has been remodeled, but the second floor is in its original state. Three windows are evenly spaced and are treated with segmental arched hood molds of brick. Above the central window is a cast-iron attic vent encircled by a rowlock. A semi-circular gable rises above the wall's summit which is given a cast-iron cornice that also envelops the semi-circular gable (see photo 58).

SOUTH SIDE OF WASHINGTON STREET

522 Washington Street - A one-and-one-half story structure of brick, this building's facade has been altered by the placement of large glass panes and the addition of a pent roof sheltering the first level. Originally, it was used for storage and dates from the 1880s.

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South Side of Washington Street (continued)

Immediately west of 522 Washington Street is a one-story brick structure (c. 1895) which is adjoined to the rear of 541 Main Street. It has a garage door opening with a parapet above.

Small parking lots for the commercial structures that front Main Street are located between 522 Washington Street and the brick wall which runs along the west side of the Courthouse and Jail.

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The commercial structures mostly follow the Italianate mode so prevalent in the last half of the 19th century, but also present are buildings constructed in the Romanesque Revival, the Gothic Revival, Beaux-Arts Classicism, one structure (411 Sixth Street) that may have had Federal proportions in its original state, and even one building given a stark Art Deco "face-lift."

Architecturally the finest and certainly the most imposing structure is the courthouse itself. Designed in the Beaux-Arts style, it is the work of Joseph and Joseph, an architectural firm of Louisville founded in 1908. The proportions render the building a grandeur and the exterior and interior alike are rich in detail. Essentially, the courthouse mirrors the prosperity felt by this county seat in the center of an outstanding agricultural region in the 1900s: the cornucopia in relief in the pediments and below the roundels of the main facade were appropriate symbols for sure.

Other notable edifices include the castellated jail to the rear of the courthouse. Designed by the McDonald Brothers firm of Louisville who were responsible for almost 100 jails in six states, that of Shelby County is small in comparison with other such structures, but its purpose is well articulated, and the citizenry of Shelby County consider it among their outstanding landmarks. This is evidenced in the fact that past attempts to replace the jail have always been thwarted by the county's residents.

Among the most outstanding commercial buildings are 514 and 521 Main Street. The former possesses strong visual attraction due to its massive second floor's windows. Although the building's width is greater than its height, the two dimensions seem almost equal because of the fenestration arrangement. The latter is a four-bay, three-story edifice that is rich in ornament and variety of materials. Glazed brick, stone trim, stained-glass, and cast-iron are incorporated into this structure of which the original owner seems to have been so proud that he had his name and the date of erection worked into the gable atop the cornice.

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Structures of particular historical interest are mentioned below:

544 Main Street - The Bank of Shelbyville was the first bank organized in the county in 1856. The bank was operated as the Bank of Ashland, until June 30, 1869, when it became a self-standing enterprise. The present bank building was built in 1873 on the site of the original bank structure.

512 Main Street - The Hall building was constructed in the late 19th century to primarily house the Smith-McKinney Drugstore. The drugstore was established in 1825 by Joseph Hall. In 1822 L. G. Smith joined the firm. In 1889 Smith was joined by J. M. Owen. Jesse McKinney became a partner in 1902, when Owen retired.

Southeast corner of Fountain Square and Fifth Street - This structure was constructed in the 1880s as a Masonic Lodge building.

The Shelbyville City Fountain in the Fountain Square was purchased by the City of Shelbyville in 1895. The fountain, an allegorical representation of the Atlantic Ocean, was cast at the New York foundry of J. L. Mott Company. The fountain was originally placed in the center of Main Street, but was moved to its present location in 1913 when the Interurban Electric Line from Louisville to Shelbyville was extended east to Frankfort.

420 Main Street was built in the late 19th century as the International Organization of Odd Fellows building.

421 Main Street or the John Casey Building was built in 1901 by John M. Casey, who dealt in the merchandising of stoves.

Northeast Corner of Main and Fifth Street - The Centenary United Methodist Church was built in 1897. The Shelby Methodist Circuit was first established in 1797. The first church in Shelbyville was erected by the Methodists in 1814 and was used by all Protestant denominations for several years. In 1857 a second Methodist church was built to replace the first. Forty years later the second church was torn down and the present structure was constructed on the same location.

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Northwest corner of Main and Fifth Street - Shelby County Courthouse. Shelby County was formed in 1792 and was named after Isaac Shelby, the first Governor of Kentucky. The present courthouse was built in 1913 and was the fifth courthouse built on the site. The present structure was designed by the Louisville architectural firm of Joseph and Joseph. The firm was established in 1908 by Alfred S. Joseph, Sr., and his three sons. Alfred, Sr., was an apprentice to McDonald and Dodd in Louisville. As an apprentice, Joseph worked on the details of the Temple Adath Israel (1905-1906) (listed on the National Register December 31, 1974) and the former Presbyterian Theological Seminary (now Jefferson Community College) both of which are in Louisville.

The Shelby County Jail, located behind the courthouse was built in 1891 by the McDonald Brothers. The McDonald Brothers was a Louisville based firm who designed many of the late 19th century courthouses and jails in Kentucky. The firm was noted for their public buildings, not only in Kentucky, but throughout the south as well. (W. J. Dodd joined the firm in 1900.)

The jailer's residence, on the southwest corner of Fifth and Washington Streets between the courthouse and jail, was built prior to 1876.

521 Main Street - The J. H. Hartford Building was built in 1902 by John H. Hartford, and was operated as a saloon by him.

543-545-547 Main Street - The Petry Building was built prior to 1856. At this time the structure was purchased by Captain George Petry. In the late 19th century 543 Main Street was the location of the S. S. Kirk and Co. Bookstore. In 1911 the store was purchased by W. F. Deiss. Around 1890 the Crane Barber Shop was opened at 545 Main Street. The shop remains in the Crane family at this time. The corner store at 547 Main Street was operated as a drug store in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

401 Sixth Street - This structure is believed to date to the early 1800s and was part of the structure known as Megowan's Tavern.

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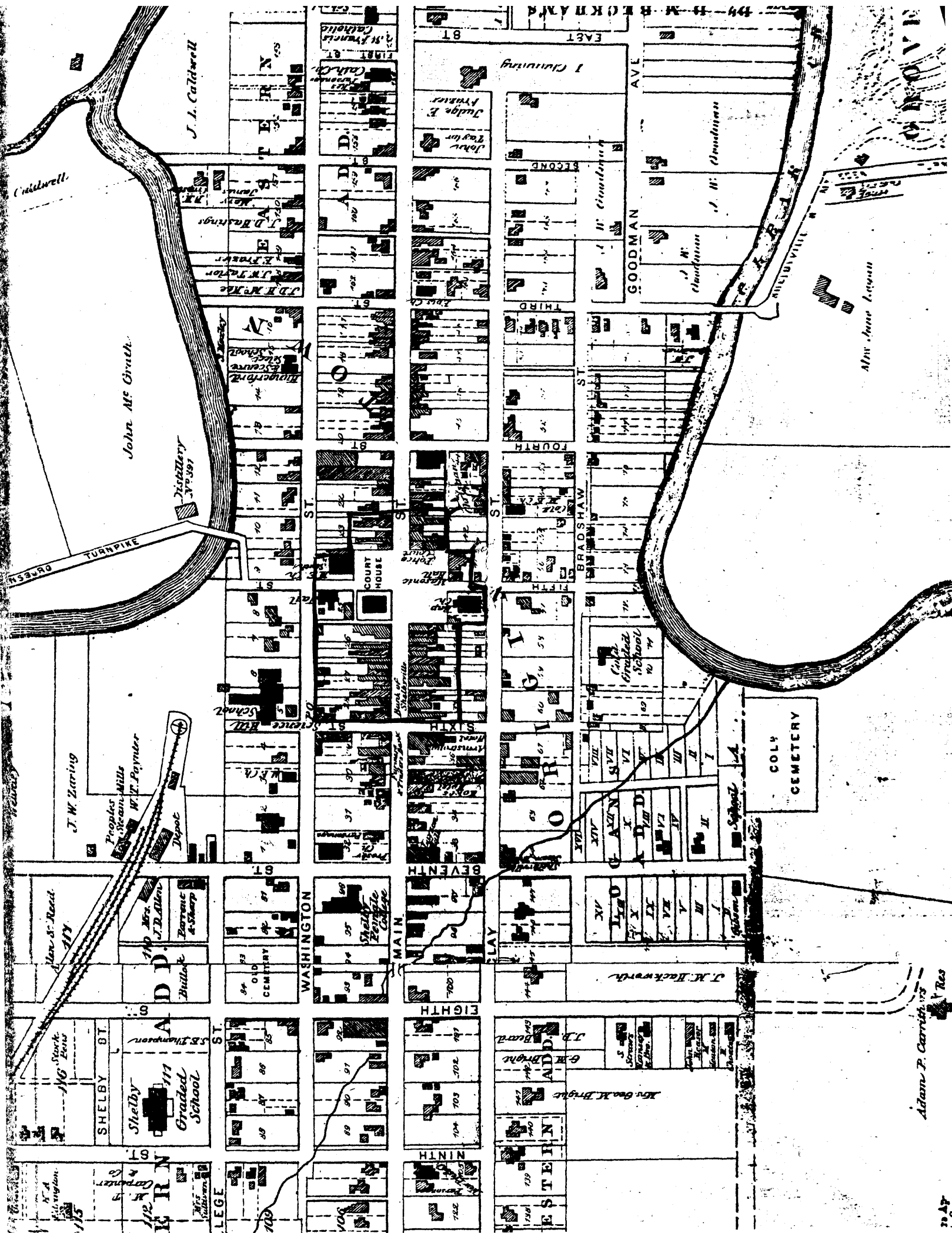
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the rear property lines of those structures that front Main Street to Sixth Street;
and on the western extent by the east side of Sixth Street.



Caldwell

John Mc Grath

Visitary
No. 391

TURNPIKE

J. W. Zaring

Proper Steam Mills
W. T. Paynter

Depot

Rev. S. Reed
117

J. D. Allen
Parent & Stamp

Bulluck

SHELBY ST.
Shelby
Graded
School

S. S. Thompson

W. A. Carrington
& Co.
115

W. R. Kern
111

LEGE

J. L. Caldwell

J. D. Drayton
J. M. Taylor
J. D. McKee

Hungerford
S. C. Taylor

COURT HOUSE

Science Hall

OLD CEMETERY

WASHINGTON

ST. LEGE

ST. FRANCIS
Catholic

D. A. D.

ST. ST.

ST. ST.

ST. ST.

ST. ST.

WASHINGTON

ST. LEGE

J. Taylor
Judge E. Pynter

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WASHINGTON

ST. LEGE

COLBY CEMETERY

J. M. Hackworth

J. D. Brown

W. B. M. Bright

ST. ST.

ST. ST.

ST. ST.

Map Case Layout

Adam P. Carrithers

Shelby County Courthouse and
Main Street Commercial District
Shelbyville, Shelby County
Kentucky

MAR 21 1978

Atlas of Henry and Shelby Counties,
Kentucky, Philadelphia: D. J. Lake
& Co., 1882.

MAY 23 1977

Map 2. District outlined in red.