

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



796

## 1. Name of Property

historic name North Main Street Historic District

other names/site number NA

## 2. Location

street & number Various addresses, 105-414 North Main Street; 109 W. Lexington, 101

NA

not for publication

W. Broadway, 163 E. Broadway

NA

city or town Harrodsburg

vicinity

state Kentucky Code KY county Mercer code 167 zip code 40330

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide X local

*Lindy Casebier*

9/22/2011

Signature of certifying official/Title Lindy Casebier/Acting SHPO

Date

**Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office**

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

☒ entered in the National Register

☐ determined eligible for the National Register

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register

☐ removed from the National Register

other (explain)

*James Schultz*

Signature of the Keeper

12/19/2011

Date of Action

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## 5. Classification

### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

☒ private  
☐ public - Local  
☐ public - State  
☒ public - Federal

### Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

☐ building(s)  
☒ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
23	4	buildings
	1	sites
		structures
		objects
23	5	<b>Total</b>

### Name of related multiple property listing

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

NA

### Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

COMMERCE/TRADE/business

GOVERNMENT/post office

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store

### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

COMMERCE/TRADE/business

GOVERNMENT/post office

TRANSPORTATION/road-related

COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store

LANDSCAPE/vacant lot

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EARLY REPUBLIC/Federal

MID-19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY/Greek Revival

MID-19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY/Gothic Revival

LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate and Queen Anne

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> & 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/Colonial  
Revival

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> & EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> C.

AMERICAN/Bungalow/Craftsman

### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE/limestone

BRICK; WOOD/Weatherboard;

walls: STONE/limestone SYNTHETICS/vinyl

roof: METAL; ASPHALT

other:

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## Narrative Description

### Summary Paragraph

The North Main Street Historic District is a mixed-use district located in the county seat town of Harrodsburg, in Mercer County. The current nomination seeks to unite several previously-listed resources within their common context. The listed buildings in this district include: U.S. Post Office (MEH-84, NRHP 1989, Resource 2, Photo 1); the Passmore Hotel (MEH-39, Resource 8, NRHP 1989, Photo 5); Cardwellton (MEH-8, Resource 9, NRHP 1989, Photo 6); Alexandria (MEH-6, Resource 17, NRHP 1989, Photo 10); Courtview (MEH-3, Resource 28, NRHP 1977, Photo 14) and the Pulliam-Curry House (MEH-146, Resource 34, NRHP 1989, Photo 16). The district contains 34 resources: 29 contributing buildings (six of which are previously listed), four non-contributing buildings and one non-contributing site.

## Narrative Description

### *Development of the District*

Mercer County lies in the southern part of the Bluegrass region. Harrodsburg, the county seat, has the distinction of being the first permanent English settlement west of the Allegheny Mountains. The district sits directly across Lexington Street (which would become the Lexington, Harrodsburg and Perryville Turnpike) from the Harrodsburg Commercial District. The three blocks contained within this district have been historically linked with the commercial core of town. Instead of exclusively commercial uses, the first two blocks of the district (from East Lexington Street to the railroad) historically housed commercial and residential functions in the same building. With the Town Branch running through the district, industrial uses in the nineteenth century were also prevalent in this area. If the traditional commercial district on South Main Street presented a vision of Harrodsburg as it would like to be seen – on top of the hill, safely removed from both flood waters and undesirable occupations, then North Main Street can be seen as the nitty-gritty end of the commercial and industrial interests needed to meet the needs of locals and travelers. The third block of the district has long been primarily residential, and was home to early settlers, and then later, businessmen with vested interests in residing within town proper.

The blocks north of the district, which was part of Spillman's Addition (platted 1889) contain primarily residential structures of a different scale, style and development pattern than the resources in the North Main Street Historic District. The College Street Historic District flanks the district to the west, while the resources on the east side, along North Greenville Street, are from a later time period and differ in scale, style and development pattern from the North Main Street Historic District.

As shown on the original plat map of 1818, the area proposed for listing occupies the north end of Harrodsburg's original Main Street, where it stopped at out-lot 6 (Figure 1). The town lots that make up the district as it is today include: original in-lots numbered 45-46, 66-67, 86, 88, 89, 92, 133, 136, 138, 139, as well as the original out-lots numbered 3-6.

### *Physical Character of the District*

The district's North Main Street crosses Broadway (originally Water Street, and laid out by James Harrod) and Factory Street, before ending at the "Y" intersection of North Main and Price Avenue. Town Branch runs under North Main Street just behind (north) of the Passmore Hotel (MEH-39, Resource 8) and Cardwellton (MEH-8, Resource 9). The Norfolk Southern Rail Road crosses through the district (west to east) at Factory Street.

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The district buildings all front either the north-south running Main Street or the west-east Broadway Street. Some take advantage of being located on two prominent thoroughfares, particularly during the early days of the vehicle age, and are sited diagonally to face both streets. Despite a fairly long period of significance, the layout of the district is fairly regular.

The setback varies depending upon the period of construction. The first two blocks, with the exception of the two contributing filling stations (MEH-53, Resource 8 and MEH-246, Resource 16) maintain a very close relationship to the street, which is natural given their construction during the early- to mid-nineteenth century, and the need to use as much of the in-lot parcel as possible for buildings, both primary and ancillary. The third block maintains more setback from the street than do the first two blocks, which reflects the division between in-lots and out-lots. Lot sizes currently range from between .30 and .68 acres.

The district streets were originally platted without alleys, and all are currently paved with concrete curbs and sidewalks, on both the east and west sides of North Main Street. Through the proposed district, North Main Street is wide enough to allow for two-way traffic. On-street parking occurs only in the first block of the district, south of Broadway. There is very little change in topography within the district, though a slight uphill slope occurs while travelling north.

The landscaping in the district varies depending on the age of the resource and size of the lot. There is very little vegetation in the first two blocks of the district, with the exception of the mature trees on the east side of the street between Broadway and Factory Street. A few resources on the west side of the first block have small areas of lawn between the sidewalk and the building, and the occasional small deciduous tree tucked into that diminutive patch of green space. There are no street trees (between the road and sidewalk) in the district. The houses along the third block of North Main Street have ample front and back yards, with mature trees and landscaping. Most of the front lawns in the district contain deciduous trees and shrubs. There is little fencing in the district, with the exception some fenced rear yards (mostly non-historic) and the wrought-iron fence defining the edge of the front lawn of the Isaac Pearson House (MEH-5, Resource 22).

The first block of North Main Street (up to Broadway and including the Passmore Hotel, MEH-39, Resource 8) features reproduction vintage streetlights modeled after the ones previously located in the district in the late-nineteenth century. During the early-1990s, a Transportation Enhancement grant to the city of Harrodsburg provided for streetscape improvements that include the broader sidewalks as well as a border of brick pavers between the sidewalks and curbs.

The structures within the proposed district range from one-story, one-and-one-half and two-story residences. Though some contain basements, none have basement levels that are visible or easily identifiable from the front façades. With the exception of Courtview (362 North Main Street, MEH-3, Resource 28), a brick Federal dwelling from 1823, all of the one-and-one-half story structures are bungalows built between 1914-1920 on neighboring lots. Exterior materials also give a consistency to the district, as only two primary materials are utilized within the proposed district – brick and horizontal board wood siding.

The most prevalent roof forms include cross gable and side gable but there are also pyramidal, front gable, and hipped roofs. Most of the roofs in the district are covered in asphalt shingle, with a few clad in standing seam metal. Wood sash windows maintain prevalence in the district even today, with all structures retaining either the original windows, or replacement windows consistent enough in material and style to appear historic. Two-over-two double-hung wood sash windows are by far the most common, but six-over-six wood double-hung sash windows, and one-over-one double-hung windows also make an appearance.



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Woven in with the domestic architecture in the district is an array of freestanding domestic outbuildings, the majority being carriage houses or garages located beside or to the rear of the dwellings. A few garages date to the period of significance and are constructed of frame, brick or concrete block. Cladding materials include weatherboard, synthetic siding or brick veneer. Additional contributing outbuildings include meathouses, smokehouses, chicken houses, workshops and small sheds.

The contributing resources of the district, built over a period of 119 years, comprise a number of high-style buildings as well as many regional interpretations of national styles popularized during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Buildings in the district employ a variety of construction materials and types. Frame and brick construction are most common, with stone and poured concrete foundations, while cladding materials change depending on the building's architectural style. A more thorough look at the resources in the district follows.

### *Types and Architectural Styles*

Nearly every form and architectural style common in Kentucky county-seat towns across the period of significance is represented in the North Main Street District. Settlement-era single pen log construction is found at Cardwellton (163 East Broadway, MEH-8, Resource 9), located on inlot number 86. The additions that surround the log core are likely timber-frame, representing another construction method utilized in central Kentucky.

The central passage brick house made its appearance by 1823, at Courtview (362 North Main, MEH-3, Resource 28). This Federal style one-and-one-half story dwelling is one of three resources built by Richard M. Sutfield in the district. In 1843, Benjamin Passmore purchased a portion of inlots 89 and 90 and built a two-story brick hotel (101 West Broadway, MEH-39, Resource 8) with Greek Revival detailing. Two more resources built by Sutfield, in 1845 and 1848 respectively, include Alexandria (304 North Main Street, MEH-6, Resource 17) and the two-story brick house at 229 North Main Street (MEH-7, Resource 14, Photo 8). Although the latter resource features some late-nineteenth-century additions and stylistic updates, both resources have Greek Revival influences.

The remaining pre-Civil War structures in the district included 114, 130-132, 320, 343, 367, and 414 North Main (Resources 3, 6, 20, 29, 24 and 34) all of which were constructed between 1823-1864. The Pulliam-Curry House (414 North Main, MEH-146, Resource 34, Photo 16) was built on a triangular lot on the south end of outlot number 6 following the construction of Price Avenue. This road, located at the north end of the district, was cut through to connect North Main Street to North Warwick (College) between 1839 and 1857.

The second major construction phase in the North Main Street District occurred after the Civil War, 1865-1900, when five more resources were constructed, including 124-128, 320, 330, 331 and 342 North Main (Resources 520, 21, 22, and 23). The construction of 330 and 342 North Main Street (MEH-230, Resource 21, and MEH-231, Resource 23, Photo 13) signify the start of another trend on North Main Street – the splitting of lots. These two properties were constructed between 1894-1908, 342 on the south end of the former Courtview lot, and 330 on the north half of the "Head Lot."

The third wave of development in the North Main Street Historic District occurred between 1900 and 1940. This period was characterized throughout Harrodsburg and rural Mercer County by WPA activity, rural

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electrification, the spread of automobiles, and other innovations and trends. The last 13 contributing resources in the district built during this period maintain the materials, forms, and setbacks established by their earlier neighbors, though they utilized popular national styles of the day, such as Craftsman.

These resources include 105, 123, 127-131, 220, 230, 350, 351, 357, 374, 38 and 406 North Main. The circa 1930s bridge at Town Creek is a contributing structure from this period. As livery stable gave way to filling station, the North Main Street District became one of the hubs of the automobile age in Harrodsburg. The first service station in Harrodsburg opened up on November 16, 1920, at the southeast corner of Main and East Broadway. Consumer Service Station at 127-131 North Main Street (MEH-55, Resource 7) was followed by the service station at 230 North Main Street (MEH-246, Resource 15, Photo 7) and one at 201 North Main Street (MEH-222, Resource 16). A car dealership opened at 220 North Main Street (MEH-244, Resource 12, Photo 7) between 1929 and 1942.

The houses at 357 and 351 North Main (MEH-226, Resource 26 and MEH-227, Resource 27, Photo 17) were constructed after a previous residence was destroyed, and its single lot split in half around 1908. With the exception of 406 North Main Street (MEH-236, Resource 33, Photo 16), which was constructed on the south half of the lot belonging to 414 North Main, the remaining houses in the third block (380, 374, 368 and 350) joined 342 North Main on parcels split from the former large lot belonging to Courtview.

### *Alterations*

The most common changes in the district, with the exception of the subdivision of large parcels of land over the Period of Significance, would be material changes to the buildings. Cladding, both of walls and roof, has changed with the availability of new materials. For the most part, the application of aluminum or vinyl siding to a historic frame dwelling does not fully remove the district's integrity of design. Windows are another common alteration observed in the district; historic sash from the mid-nineteenth century was updated in the late-nineteenth century or early twentieth, and the trend continues today, with the replacement of double-hung wood sash windows with metal or aluminum sash. The addition of porches, the removal of porches and the enclosure of porches, is another common change in the district. Ell additions or shed roof additions, usually containing a kitchen, is another typical alteration (usually in keeping with the scale and materials of the original house) in the district. These alterations do not, however, prevent the North Main Street District from conveying its significance to the development of Harrodsburg and Mercer County. As a whole, the district's excellent integrity of setting, location, design, materials, workmanship and feeling allows the district to convey its significance.

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### *Resource Inventory*

The Resource Inventory which follows describes the properties found within the North Main Street Historic District. Properties considered to be contributing to the character of the district are marked with a "C," while those evaluated as non-contributing are marked with an "NC" either because they post-date the c. 1823-1942 Period of Significance (POS) of the district or because their integrity has been compromised by insensitive alterations. Vacant lots, including parking lots, which formerly contained buildings, are classified as non-contributing sites. The parking lot that is part of the U.S. Post Office parcel at 105 North Main Street (MEH-84, Resource 2) was not inventoried separately, since that parking lot existed at the time of the listing of the Post Office and was surveyed as part of that parcel. It is, however, coded as non-contributing on the sketch map, since historically that portion of the parcel was built upon.

Additionally, some non-additions to contributing resources have been coded as noncontributing on the sketch map if they could be construed by the viewer as a separate building (for example, the addition to the side of the People's Oil Company, 127-131 North Main Street, MEH-53, Resource 7). These additions, do not, however, fully obscure the integrity of the resource in question.

The contributing resources are those which date from within the POS of the District and retain integrity, evaluated according to National Register Bulletin No. 15, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*.

The inventory table that follows contains a number of abbreviations. The National Register Numbers (NR #) are the resource numbers referred to in Sections 7 and 8, and are keyed to the map accompanying the nomination. The Survey Number (KHC #) is the number assigned to the property by the Kentucky Heritage Council.

The Date is the approximate date of construction, using the codes utilized by the Kentucky Heritage Council. If an exact date of construction is known, it is included in parentheses.

Style refers to the predominant architectural style of the resource. If no particular style is evident, the area is left blank. The following abbreviations are used in the Style column:

FD: Federal	GR: Greek Revival
IT: Italianate	QA: Queen Anne
GoRe: Gothic Revival	NCR: Neo-Classical Revival
CR: Colonial Revival	CRFT: Craftsman
CRFT C: Craftsman Commercial	

The next column, HT, refers to the height of the resource in question. The "MAT" column stands for exterior material cladding of the resource, with the following abbreviations:

BO: solid brick	FR: Wood
BV: Brick veneer	CB: Concrete Block
PC: Poured concrete	

The "Type-plan" column refers to the interior floor plan or type of resource. If the plan is not known or is not applicable, then the entry is left blank. The following abbreviations are used:

CP: Central Passage	TP: T-plan
---------------------	------------

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AS: Asymmetrical  
4S: American Foursquare

U: Unknown  
BG: Bungalow

The "Changes" column provides a key to alterations to the contributing resource, as follows:

S: non-historic siding installed, building integrity not fully compromised

RW: replacement windows installed, building integrity not fully compromised

SA i/POS: Sympathetic addition within the Period of Significance for the district

SA o/POS: Sympathetic addition outside of the Period of Significance for the district

AD: Adaptive reuse of a building that, while changing a portion of the appearance, is a reversible change and the building form remains recognizable

NH: non-historic building

NSA: No significant alterations. While minor changes may have occurred, none significantly affects the overall integrity of the property within the context of the district as a whole

The column labeled "OB" refers to outbuildings, if any, associated with the main resource. If there are not any outbuildings, then the entry is blank. The following abbreviations are used and if the outbuilding is contributing, it is followed by a "C" for contributing. Likewise, if the outbuilding does not contribute to the significance of the district, a "NC" follows the initial code.

G: Garage

CRH: Carriage House

CH: Chicken House

OBU: Outbuilding, function unknown

The "S" column refers to the status of the resource within the district. A "C" means it is contributing; a "NC" is non-contributing. If the resource is previously listed in the National Register, a "NR" will follow the initial code.

NR #	KHC #	Location	Property Name/Description	Date	Style	HT	MA T	Type/Plan	Changes	OB	S
1	MEH-241	109 W. Lexington	Mercer County Public Library	1975-2000, 2011		1	BV	U	NH		NC
2	MEH-84	105 N Main St	US Post Office	1925-1949 (1930)	NC	2	BV	U	NSA		C/NR
3	MEH-237	114 N Main St	residential/commercial "Old Fort Inn"	1850-1874	GR	2	BO, FR	TP	S, RW	G/NC	C
4	MEH-240	123 N Main St	Claunch&Hatchell Dry Goods, now C&T Food Mart	1925-1949	CRFT C	1	BV	U	RD		C
5	MEH-238	124-128 N Main St	residential/commercial	1875-1899	IT/QA	2	FR	TP	S, RW		C
6	MEH-239	130-132 N Main St	residential/commercial "Reed's Furn"	1875-1899	IT/QA	2	FR	TP	S, RW		C
7	MEH-53	127-131 N Main St	People's Oil Company	1900-1924	CRFT C	1	BV	U	AD		C
8	MEH-39	101 W Broadway	Passmore Hotel/Harrodsburg Herald	1825-1849	GR	2	Brick	U	SA		C/NR



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NR #	KHC #	Location	Property Name/Description	Date	Style	HT	MA T	Type/Plan	Changes	OB	S
9	MEH-8	163 E Broadway	Cardwellton	1785-1799, 1800-1824	GR	2	BO	CP	S, SA i/POS		C/NR
10	MEH-242	211 N Main St	George Chinn's office	1950-1974		1	CB	U	NH		NC
11	MEH-243	N Main St Bridge	Bridge	1925-1949			PC	N/A	NSA		C
12	MEH-244	220 N Main St	Hburg Water & Sewer	1925-1949		1	BV	U	S, RW		C
13	MEH-245	223 N Main St	Judy's Networking & Computers	1900-1924	CRFT C	1 1/2	FR	U	S	G/NC	C
14	MEH-7	229 N Main St	Darland House	1825-1849	GR/IT	2	BO	CP	RW, SA i/POS	G/NC	C
15	MEH-246	230 N Main St	Security Station	1925-1949	NC	1	BV	U	AD		C
16	MEH-222	301 N Main St	Precision Auto Repair	1925-1949		1	BV	U	NH		NC
17	MEH-6	304 N Main St	Alexandria	1825-1849	GR	2	BO	CP	NSA		C/NR
18	MEH-228	312 N Main St	Vacant Lot	N/A			FR		N/A		NC
19	MEH-223	315 N Main St	Mercer Assoc of KY Baptists	N/A		1	BV	U	NH		NC
20	MEH-229	320 N Main St	Head House	1875-1899	QA	2	FR	TP	S		C
21	MEH-230	330 N Main St	W.F. Wollatson House	1878-1899	QA/FC	2	FR	TP	S, RW		C
22	MEH-5	331 N Main St	Pearson House	1875-1899	IT	2	FR	TP	SA i/POS	OBU/C, CRH/C, CH/C	C
23	MEH-231	342 N Main St	Maggie Curry House	1875-1899	QA	2	BO, FR	AS	RW		C
24	MEH-225	343 N Main St	Bottom House	1850-1874	IT	2	FR	CP	S, SA o/POS	G/NC	C
25	MEH-232	350 N Main St	James T. Ingram House	1900-1924	QA	2	FR	TP	S, RW		C
26	MEH-226	351 N Main St	C.E. Rankin House	1900-1924	CRFT	2 1/2	BO, FR	BG	NSA		C
27	MEH-227	357 N Main St	Ingram/Rankin House	1900-1924	NCR	2	BO	4S	RW	G/C	C
28	MEH-3	362 N Main St	Courtview	1800-1824 (1823)	FD	1 1/2	BO	CP	NSA		C/NR
29	MEH-4	367 N Main	John Tumey House	1850-1874	GR, QA	2	BO	CP	SA i/POS	G/C	C
30	MEH-233	368 N Main St	McGuffin Claunch House	1900-1924	CRFT	1 1/2	BV, FR	BG	NSA	G/NC	C
31	MEH-234	374 N Main St	Charles H. Smith House	1900-1924	CRFT	1 1/2	BV, FR	BG	RW		C
32	MEH-235	380 N Main St	Gore Moberly House	1900-1924	CRFT	1 1/2	FR	BG	S, RW		C
33	MEH-236	406 N Main St	J.A. Levan House	1900-1924	CRFT	1 1/2	FR	BG	NSA	G/NC	C
34	MEH-146	414 N Main St	Pulliam-Curry House	1850-1874 (1857)	GoRe	2	FR	CP	NSA		C/NR

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

### Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

### Period of Significance

1823-1949

### Significant Dates

NA

### Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

NA

### Cultural Affiliation

NA

### Architect/Builder

Sutfield, Richard (builder)

### Period of Significance (justification)

The Period of Significance is 1823 to 1949, the year the first house is documented to have been built, to the date of the last contributing resource constructed. The district as it appears today was fully developed by shortly after the end of World War II.

### Criteria Considerations NA

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## Statement of Significance

### Summary Paragraph

The North Main Street Historic District meets National Register Criterion C, and is significant in the Area of Architecture for the way that it helps us understand the development of Harrodsburg for the period 1823 to 1949. The Period of Significance (POS) beginning with the construction of the district's permanent housing stock through the time shortly after the end of World War II, when the district's shape as it is today was fully formed. The North Main Street district is significant within the historic context "Development of Harrodsburg and Mercer County, Kentucky, 1767-1950." The district is the one mixed-use neighborhood within the original town limits, and throughout the POS, it has resulted from the melding of the different rhythms of a busy county seat: industry, transportation, commerce and the homes of its residents. Unlike the Lexington and Cane Run District, which evolved mainly outside of the town plat as the first suburbs of the town along a major transportation route, the North Main Street District is an outgrowth of the commercial core of Harrodsburg. The concentration and density of the commercial center on South Main did not allow as much space for expansion and competition, particularly for less-desirable enterprises such as mills, blacksmith shops and livery stables. Locating on the other side of Lexington Street, especially with access to Town Creek, proved a sensible development option. Devastating fires in the 1880s and 1890s forced the rebuilding of much of the South Main Street area, so that the Harrodsburg Commercial District did not reach its present form until around 1900.<sup>1</sup> The North Main Street District had its share of rebuilding as well, but most of that is concentrated in the first block of the district and resulted from purposeful rebuilding and responding to changing trends – such as the rise of the automobile.

### Research Design

One of the first considerations for the way to accomplish this project was by expanding the Harrodsburg Commercial District's boundary northward. The 1980 commercial district nomination expresses the connection between the mixed-use blocks on the north side of Lexington Street with the commercial blocks on the south, stating that "present-day Main Street evolved as the commercial center with the establishment of a tavern on the northwest corner of Main and Lexington Avenue which competed with Chiles' Tavern and offered a stopping place for those proceeding on up the Main Street Hill."<sup>2</sup> This would be the current location of the non-historic Mercer County Public Library. It would not have been a stretch of the imagination to include the first two blocks of the North Main Street District into that original district, especially given its focus on commerce.

Given the 30+ years since the nomination was prepared, our understanding and appreciation of context and local significance has changed considerably. Historic records and the built environment show that the North Main Street District, while obviously closely linked with the district across Lexington Street, also possesses enough identity, integrity and character to stand on its own. Mirroring the trend since the mid-twentieth century toward downtown neighborhoods and their functions, understanding and nominating mixed-use districts does not appear to have appealed to many nomination writers, though mixed-use has traditionally been more the norm in small Kentucky towns than neighborhoods of more homogenous use and appearance.

<sup>1</sup> Charlotte Schneider. "Harrodsburg Commercial District." *Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places*. On file at the Kentucky Heritage Council. Listed 1980.

<sup>2</sup> Schneider, Section 8, page 2.

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In order to place the context of the district within the larger patterns in Mercer County, an overview of the historical background of the county and town is necessary, so the **Development of Harrodsburg and Mercer County, Kentucky, 1767-1950** explores the larger patterns of development on a local level. Once that understanding is achieved, a focus, appropriate to this project, looks at the way that that development is expressed in building styles, within a section titled "**An Architectural Evolution: Popular National Styles and Their Regional Interpretation in Mercer County, 1820-1940.**" Since the district is a mixed-use one, it illustrates how both commercial and residential resources evolved *in the form of materials and design* during the period of significance.

### **Historic Context: Development of Harrodsburg and Mercer County, Kentucky, 1767-1950**

The early history of Mercer County forms a substantial portion of the early Euro-American settlement of Kentucky. The first permanent English settlement west of the Allegheny Mountains, the area was settled by James Harrod, a hunter and explorer from Pennsylvania. Harrod's exploration of the area began in 1767; after recruiting some 31 men, Harrod led a group of pioneers to a spring near the Salt and Kentucky Rivers. In 1774, these settlers laid off lots near the spring and the new town was christened Harrodstown.<sup>3</sup> The first street laid out ran east and west and was named Water Street, later to become Broadway, which runs through the North Main Street Historic District.

In the summer of 1775, George Rogers Clark, the commander of the Virginia militia in Kentucky (then a large county of Virginia), oversaw the construction of Fort Harrod, which was attached to his command. A year later, the Virginia legislature named Harrodstown the county seat of Kentucky County. In 1786, the town was surveyed and laid off in a grid system of one-half acre inlots and five-acre outlots. The town of Harrodsburg covered one square mile, or 640 acres. This plat was entered into the Mercer County plat book in 1818. The fort's substantial size included blockhouses on two of the corners and a row of single pen log cabins on one side. Almost 200 people were living in and around Fort Harrod in 1777.<sup>4</sup>

The Virginia legislature (Kentucky was created out of Virginia in 1792) established Mercer County, partitioning off a portion of Lincoln County, in 1785. Harrodstown became the county seat and was renamed Harrodsburg. Named for Scotsman Hugh Mercer, the county, which covers 250 square miles, is bordered by Washington, Boyle, Garrard, Jessamine, Woodford and Anderson Counties.<sup>5</sup> The Kentucky and Dix Rivers form the eastern and northeastern boundaries of the county.

Settlers moving out from Fort Harrod did not venture far. Harrodsburg "developed eastward from the initial log fortification erected by James Harrods and his followers."<sup>6</sup> John Chenoweth, the first owner of inlot number 86, appears to have constructed a log house, likely just one pen, on the site at 163 East Broadway by 1786. By 1820, he had expanded the dwelling with a frame addition. Cardwellton (MEH-8, Resource 9), as the home has come to be known, is the earliest dwelling within the North Main Street District.

<sup>3</sup> Helen Powell, ed. *Historic Sites of Harrodsburg and Mercer County, Kentucky*. (Harrodsburg, Kentucky: Mercer County Landmark Association and Kentucky Heritage Council, 1988), 10.

<sup>4</sup> Max Charleston, *The Oldest Town in Kentucky*. (Harrodsburg, Kentucky: 1929), 11; George Chinn, *The History of Harrodsburg and the Great Settlement Area of Kentucky 1794-1900*. (Harrodsburg, Kentucky: Self-published, 1985), 21; Willard Rouse Jillson, *Pioneer Kentucky*. (Frankfort, Kentucky: The State Journal Company, 1934), 4.

<sup>5</sup> Ron D. Bryant, "Mercer County," in *The Kentucky Encyclopedia*, ed. John Kleber (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1992) 627.

<sup>6</sup> Schneider, Section 8, page 1.



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Over much of the land-locked Bluegrass region, Mercer County had an early-travel advantage in its location on the Kentucky River. Warwick Landing (formerly Harrods Landing) was improved with warehouses to store tobacco and hemp for shipment south.<sup>7</sup> Despite the blessings of geography, the return on hogsheads of tobacco, should they survive the arduous river journey, was low, only two to three cents a pound.<sup>8</sup>

The waterways of Mercer County, were instrumental in the European settlement, for stations like Boiling Spring, Fountain Blue, Hugh McGary's Station on Shawnee Run, Trigg's Station at Viney Grove, Wilson's Station, Liberty Fort and McAfee Station, had to be close to a source of water. These waterways influenced the location of the earliest roads. Lexington Street led to the mouth of Shawnee Run and the Kentucky River, so in early records that street is referred to as Shawnee Run. Later, as shown as the 1818 plat of Harrodsburg, it went by the moniker "Main Cross."<sup>9</sup> Eventually it received the name of the town to which it led, and is recorded as Lexington Street on the 1876 *Beers Atlas of Mercer and Boyle Counties*.

In 1800, only 135 residents of Harrodsburg were counted in the federal census, but there were "eight retail stores, seven saloons, billiard tables..."<sup>10</sup> Owners of lots within the town plat had to erect a "dwelling-house, of the dimensions twenty feet by sixteen, at the least, with a brick or stone chimney..." within three years of the date of purchase.<sup>11</sup> Other regulations, in time, applied to owners of inlots and outlots within Harrodsburg.

Harrodsburg, as the first settlement in the Commonwealth, figured largely in the affairs of state as Kentucky wrestled with government and civic concerns. The initial settlement period of the state was over by this time, and the War of 1812 "triggered a commercial and agricultural expansion."<sup>12</sup> Morgan Row, brick row houses completed on Chiles Street, one block west of Main Street, in 1814 by Joseph Morgan, housed an early tavern and "became the focal point of social and business activity in Harrodsburg during the early 1800s."<sup>13</sup>

Four years of growth followed, but the 1820s and 1830s would bring even more economic panics and depressions. The 1820s and 1830s saw the town of Harrodsburg growing slowly, though in population, it ranked only behind Jefferson and Fayette counties. Richard M. Sutfield, a trustee of Harrodsburg and veteran of the war of 1812, chose the rise of hill on the west side of North Main Street to build his Federal-style brick home in 1823. Courtview, as it came to be known, commanded a view of the courthouse on South Main Street, and its expansive lawn swept down to Factory Street, where the driveway commenced. The house's location on the hill raised it above the industries associated with Town Creek.

In the fall of 1835, the country was on the verge of another economic crisis, the depression of 1837, which was a financial panic induced by a reduction in the flow of British capital investment. This triggered an extended economic depression, lasting from 1837 to 1843. In the midst of this, Harrodsburg was beset with cholera

<sup>7</sup> Powell, 11.

<sup>8</sup> Richard Troutman, *The Social and Economic Structure of Kentucky Agriculture, 1850-1860*. (Lexington, Kentucky: Dissertation, University of Kentucky, 1958) 81.

<sup>9</sup> George Chinn and Rebecca Wilson Conover. *Through Two Hundred Years: Pictorial Highlights of Harrodsburg and Mercer County, Kentucky*. (Harrodsburg, Kentucky: Mercer County Humane Society, 1974), 155.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

<sup>11</sup> Laws of Virginia, 224.

<sup>12</sup> Daniel Feller, *The Jacksonian Promise: America 1815-1840* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1995), 39.

<sup>13</sup> Harrodsburg Commercial District NRHP nomination.

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epidemics and also the indignity of its fierce rival, Danville, being partitioned out into a new county, and a loss of population and good land.

Benjamin Passmore's purchase of a portion of inlots numbers 89 and 90 was a calculated business move. Passmore already had a blacksmith shop on the parcels, and the construction of a substantial brick hotel to capitalize on the traffic associated with the recently completed Lexington, Harrodsburg and Perryville Turnpike (US 68) would prove fruitful.<sup>14</sup> Though listed in the NRHP as the Passmore Hotel (MEH-39, Resource 8), the building went by many names during the heyday of the stagecoach: "Lyens House, City Hotel, Mercer House, Hansford House, Williams Hotel and the Chambers House."<sup>15</sup> Due to Graham Springs and Harrodsburg's "location on the main-stage routes, the tavern business flourished."<sup>16</sup> An 1851 account of the hotel states that the "house and all the outhouses are entirely new and recently erected in a favorable part of town...it takes its place among the taverns of the place, according to the design of the builders."

Industries and manufacturing were not the only interests to take up residence in the North Main Street Historic District in the first quarter of the nineteenth century. A slave market run by A.O. Robards was located on the corner of North Main and East Lexington Streets, the site of the current U.S. Post Office (MEH-84, NRHP 1989, Resource 2).<sup>17</sup>

Prior to the advent of grocery stores, most county seat towns in Kentucky had market houses. The first market house in Harrodsburg was located south of the North Main Street District, near the current site of the Mercer County Courthouse. It did not remain there long, however, and its removal to Water Street (now Broadway) in the District allowed for an expansion of the sellers and wares. Market was held three days a week, and "there was everything a housewife could want...meat, fish, oysters, fowl, vegetables and fruits."<sup>18</sup>

During the first decade of the nineteenth century, natural springs with "beneficial qualities of iron and saline water" were discovered in Harrodsburg.<sup>19</sup> The development of four or five of these springs into resorts would infuse the local economy for the next four decades. The most successful proprietor of what began as the Greenville Springs<sup>20</sup> was Dr. Christopher C. Graham, who commenced operation of the "Harrodsburg Springs" in 1820. Visitors arrived "by steamboat, stage or carriage from New Orleans, Vicksburg, Natchez and Nashville, wealthy families, escaping the hot humid summers of the South, came...to vacation in Harrodsburg."<sup>21</sup> It is estimated that over "four million dollars in revenue" pumped into the Harrodsburg economy during the 25-year lifespan of Graham Springs. Graham sold the springs in 1853 to the United States government, and the resort life which brought so much attention to the community was in ruins after the Civil War.

<sup>14</sup> John Lewis. "Lexington, Harrodsburg and Perryville Turnpike Rural Historic District." *Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places*. Listed 2003. Section 8, page 17.

<sup>15</sup> Chinn, 89c.

<sup>16</sup> Chinn, 107.

<sup>17</sup> Minnie Ball Moore Goddard. *History of Harrodsburg, Kentucky*. Unpublished manuscript on file at the Harrodsburg Historical Society, 2.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid.

<sup>19</sup> Chinn, 82.

<sup>20</sup> Later the site of the Greenville Female Institute, then Daughter's College, Beaumont College and now Beaumont Inn.

<sup>21</sup> Chinn. 94.

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Harrodsburg incorporated in 1836, and additional restrictions, including taxes, fire prevention measures and improvements to roads, alleys and sidewalks applied to property owners within the town plat. The residents of the North Main Street District were part of a well-ordered effort during the antebellum era to present their businesses and homes in the best light possible. Residents were "required to place white locust or cedar posts in front of their property as well as pave the area in front of their homes with brick. Pavement for the spaces in front of...business houses was also ordered."<sup>22</sup>

Richard Sutfield continued to buy inlots and construct dwellings within the North Main Street District in the 1840s. In 1843, he received the deed to inlot number 133 and constructed a much larger house than his previous home up the hill. Alexandria, as that Greek Revival house is now known (MEH-8, Resource 17) is located on the northwest corner of North Main and Factory Streets. Later in the same decade, he bought inlot number 88 for \$375 and built a two-story, three-bay-wide brick house with Greek Revival elements.

In 1857, Daniel Curry, a local grocer and state legislator, bought a portion of outlot number six. According to local history, Curry either built the house or finished constructing a dwelling that local builder Monroe Pulliam had begun. Regardless, the Pulliam-Curry House at 414 North Main Street (MEH-145, Resource 34) is a handsome example of a pre-Civil War board-and-batten Carpenter's Gothic dwelling. In the 1860 census, Curry is recorded as having real estate valued at \$5,000 and personal estate of \$9,400.

At the northeast edge of the district, in the third block of North Main, Sutfield sold a section of outlot three or four to John L. Tumey and his wife in 1850. The two-story brick house appears to have begun as three-bay side-passage house, with a three bay wide section added on the south gable end at some point. Tumey sold the house and lot in 1854 for \$1,200.

Between the lots and houses that Richard Sutfield owned, the east side of the third block of North Main Street was dominated by the Pearson family, who occupied eight inlots including 139, 137, 138, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144. The Pearson family would eventually build a house at the corner of North Main and Factory Streets, on inlot 139. Susan Pearson, age 57, was living in the North Main Street district in 1860.<sup>23</sup>

As was the case in many towns in the Bluegrass Region, Harrodsburg enjoyed a golden decade of growth and prosperity from 1850 to 1860. Transportation improvements further linked Harrodsburg to the rest of the state and beyond, with turnpike charters and construction taking place across the county in that decade before the Civil War. The North Main Street District grew slowly during this period, with the most desirable parcels appearing to be those at the intersection of two streets. After the Civil War, J.D. Marimon operated a woolen mill at the northeast corner of North Main and Lexington Streets (site of U.S. Post Office, MEH-84, NRHP 1989, Resource 2) while a blacksmith shop was located on the opposite corner.

The remainder of the first block of North Main Street was comprised of dwellings and small operations such as blacksmiths. At the corner of North Main and Broadway (at the time known as Water Street), William and Catherine Rothchild purchased "a certain house and lot" for \$1,000.<sup>24</sup> The two-story frame house (130-132

<sup>22</sup> Chinn, 90.

<sup>23</sup> 1860 Census.

<sup>24</sup> Mercer County Deed Book 29, page 509



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North Main, MEH-239, Resource 6) appears to have functioned as a residence, office and shop for Rothchild, an attorney, and his family.<sup>25</sup>

### *The Coming of the Railroad*

Like much of the Bluegrass, Mercer County struggled to attract and build a rail line. As early as 1850, interest in a rail line ran high in the county. The Lexington and Danville Railroad Company, organized in 1850, specified its goals as running branch lines "to or near the towns of Harrodsburg and Nicholasville and to such points on the Kentucky River as may be deemed useful to facilitate the transportation of products from and to the Kentucky River."<sup>26</sup>

John A. Roebling was hired to design and construct a bridge for the rail line across the Kentucky River. Construction proceeded only as far as two stone towers to hold the cables for the bridge. The financial panic of 1857 intervened, and with only a portion of the line from Lexington to Nicholasville completed, the project was abandoned.<sup>27</sup>

During the decade before the Civil War, Harrodsburg's population increased from 1,481 residents to 1,668. The total population of the county in 1850 was 14,067, a loss of some four thousand residents since 1842, when Boyle County was carved out of Mercer and Lincoln counties. New commercial ventures in the decade numbered 18, among them "three hatters, several carriage and livery stables, a confectionary and even a jewelry store."<sup>28</sup> Not only was Harrodsburg an "agricultural market for the surrounding countryside, but it was also a social and educational center."<sup>29</sup>

The major disruption of the Civil War, besides the men from the county enlisted on both sides, and the trauma ensuing from the division, was the Battle of Perryville, fought in adjacent Boyle County. The largest military engagement to take place in Kentucky, it involved some 16,000 Confederate troops and 58,000 Union troops on a farm outside the small village of Perryville, along the Chaplin River. Although the battle was a tactical victory for the Confederacy, it was the end of their Kentucky campaign.<sup>30</sup>

Harrodsburg provided hospitalization for approximately 1,700 wounded Confederates. The town was taken two days after the battle, and Union General Buell established his headquarters there.<sup>31</sup> After the Civil War, the loss of southern markets severely impacted the agricultural economy of Mercer County and the Commonwealth. The number of acres in farms, as well as the average farm size, dropped considerably in the decade between 1860 and 1870. There were 881 farms in the county in 1850; 777 farms in 1860 and an increase to 868 farms in 1870.<sup>32</sup> The county population dropped as well, to 13,144 residents, down from 13,700 in 1860.

<sup>25</sup> Although deeds state that Rothchild was an attorney engaged in dealings with Louisville merchants wanting to set up shop in Harrodsburg, the 1860 census records him as a merchant, with \$3,700 in real estate and personal estate valued at \$2,500.

<sup>26</sup> Chinn, 106.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> Chinn, 107.

<sup>29</sup> John Kleber, ed. "Harrodsburg," in *The Kentucky Encyclopedia*. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1992) 414.

<sup>30</sup> Kenneth A. Hafendorfer. "Battle of Perryville," in *The Kentucky Encyclopedia*, ed. John Kleber (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1992), 718.

<sup>31</sup> Chinn, 119-120.

<sup>32</sup> Historical Census Browser 2009).



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Cash values of land as well as livestock also dropped. Like many other Bluegrass counties, however, the end of the nineteenth century brought a rebound in agricultural production and value.<sup>33</sup> Harrodsburg began to rebuild. The main business district had been leveled by a fire in the mid-1860s and Kentucky University had moved to Lexington. By 1870, though, the city appeared to be on the mend. A "three-story city hall, stores and a Masonic Hall crowded Main Street, a hemp factory went into operation, and Harrodsburg was in active consideration for the Odd Fellow's proposed Widow's and Orphan's Home and University."<sup>34</sup>

Hope for the railroad also returned after the War. In 1869, the residents of Mercer County voted to allocate \$400,000 to the Louisville, Harrodsburg and Virginia Railroad Company. This line, which would connect Louisville and the east coast, would pass through the county, but the deal fell apart. The Cincinnati Southern Railroad became the next player in Mercer County's hopes for rail access. The company planned a line connecting Cincinnati to New Orleans and purchased the rights to the old Lexington-Danville Railroad. This resulted in a railway "across the Kentucky River at the unfinished bridge near Shaker Landing"...but the line went south to Danville from that point, bypassing Harrodsburg by four miles.<sup>35</sup>

Despite this, the city continued to negotiate with Cincinnati Southern, hoping for a line that would connect with the "Cincinnati Southern and extend southwest to junction with the L&N or the C&O. Instead, four miles of track were laid from Harrodsburg to a point on the Cincinnati Southern route, one mile south of the intersection of Cane Run Pike and the Lexington-Danville Road. This point became known as Harrodsburg Junction."<sup>36</sup> The four-mile line known as the Southwestern Railway began operations on November 12, 1877.

A decade later, the connection to Louisville was finally achieved. Louisville Southern commenced operations in Mercer County in 1888. The rail line crossed the country line "less than one-half mile west of the old Frankfort Turnpike and followed the course the Salt River, entering Harrodsburg along Factory Street, down East Street and intercepting the Great Southwestern on what is now Marimon Avenue."<sup>37</sup> The railroad crossed the North Main Street district very close to Town Creek. A new depot on Marimon Avenue south of Office Street, replaced the old depot at the corner of Office and Greenville Streets.

Less than two years later, the freight business out of Harrodsburg burgeoned. Twenty-six miles of railroad crossed the county, and in 1890, "700 carload of coal, 350 carloads of livestock and 50 carloads of blooded horses" were shipped via rail from the county.<sup>38</sup> An interurban line was incorporated that same year. The Hungry Knoll Street Railway Company was authorized "to build street railroad lines to any point within two miles beyond the limits of Harrodsburg." It does not appear, however, that any streetcar lines were ever constructed within the county.

The railroad spurred residential development within Harrodsburg. There were three platted subdivisions within Harrodsburg between 1887 and 1900. These subdivisions were located on the outskirts of town and ranged in size from 79 lots to only a dozen lots.

<sup>33</sup>Christine Amos. *The Bluegrass Cultural Landscape: A Regional Historic Overview*. (Frankfort, Kentucky: Kentucky Heritage Council, 1988). 133-34; Powell, 86.

<sup>34</sup> Chinn, 127.

<sup>35</sup> Chinn, 129.

<sup>36</sup> Ibid.

<sup>37</sup> Chinn, 141.

<sup>38</sup> Ibid.

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The first recorded plat in Mercer County dates to 1887. Highland Addition was platted by Dr. M. Tabler, a prominent businessman in Harrodsburg. Tabler was involved in the railroad and co-owned the Mercer Grain and Coal Company with Jesse Cogar, who was also a partner in this development. Highland Addition was just south of the railroad tracks, to the southeast of the North Main Street District. The lots, arranged in a gridiron pattern, range from 40 feet to 50 feet wide and most were 120 feet deep.

The Kentucky Real Estate and Improvement Association in 1888 platted the development of the old Graham Springs property, dividing in up into 79 lots of varying sizes, with curving streets and green space. Though seven streets were planned, only two were "completed as planned...and two more were constructed only a fraction of their proposed extension."

In 1889, B.F. Spillman subdivided a parcel of land at the end of the North Main Street Historic District. Spillman's Addition was recorded in March 1889, and was "situated just east of the Frankfort Turnpike and included the extensions of Main and Greenville Streets north of Cornishville Street."<sup>39</sup> Spillman's Addition included only 12 lots, and extended two main streets within the town, Main and Greenville Street.

The Harrodsburg Graded School had been established by the legislature in January 1889, and the development north of town, with its new, affordable homes attracting young families, proved a logical location for the construction of the new school. The new school brought more traffic to the district and encouraged the division of larger lots for new infill construction. Several houses in the district were built in the following two decades, likely because of the closeness of the school.

The North Main Street District grew steadily during the post-Civil War period. Isaac Pearson constructed a two-story brick T-plan with Italianate details at 331 North Main Street (MEH-5, Resource 22). Pearson, at times listed as a grocer, but also a factory owner and widower, had a personal estate valued at \$8,000 in the 1870 census, and it appears that Susan Pearson, mentioned previously, purchased a portion of this property in 1874.

### *Turn of the Twentieth Century*

The turn of the century meant stabilization in the often-unsteady population of Mercer County. There were 14,063 residents in 1910, a number that would only increase and decrease by a few hundred over the next two decades.<sup>40</sup>

The twentieth century ushered in an expansion of the industrial base in Mercer County, a move away from the historically agrarian lifestyle. At the same time that new industries and technology were reshaping Kentucky's oldest town, an emerging interest in early American history captivated the public. The Harrodsburg Historical Society was founded in 1908 and members began to collect archival materials and write about local history. Around that same time, the Pioneer Memorial Society was formed to "commemorate the courage of Mercer County Pioneers" and to reconstruct Fort Harrod.<sup>41</sup>

<sup>39</sup> Ibid.

<sup>40</sup> University of Virginia Historical Census Browser.

<sup>41</sup> Powell, 176.

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No trace remained of the original Fort Harrod, destroyed by the construction of a quarry in the 1890s, as well as the extension of Lexington Street west of College Street. Undaunted, the society began working with the Kentucky State Parks Commission and the Louisville architectural firm of Nevins, Wexchmeyer and Morgan to design the plan for the reconstruction.

P. Nolen Wilson, builder of the reconstructed Fort Harrod and one of the county courthouses, lived in the Pulliam-Curry House at 414 North Main Street (MEH-146, Resource 34) from 1920 until 1937. Completed in 1927, the Fort received federal funding in 1934 for a memorial to the pioneers. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and his wife, Eleanor, traveled to Harrodsburg to donate the monument.

The North Main Street Historic District's mixed-use character continued to grow and evolve during the twentieth century. Prior to the advent of large grocery chains, nearly every neighborhood had its own local grocery, typically situated on the corner to take advantage of the cross-street traffic. Resource 6, the former Rothchild House (130-132 North Main Street, MEH-239, Resource 6), served as grocery from 1914 until 1939, then operating as a furniture store from 1941 until the 1960s. The trend of adapting buildings to serve a multitude of uses began to change in the twentieth century with the construction of structures solely intended for commercial use. The current C&T Market at 123 North Main Street (MEH-240, Resource 4) was constructed between 1914 and 1929. The one-story structure has housed a number of businesses over the years, including a dry goods store called Claunch and Hatchell, a cream station run by Albert Hatchell, and several groceries.

At the same time the history of Harrodsburg was being celebrated, a large portion of the third block of North Main Street was being subdivided. James T. Ingram purchased the lot at 350 North Main Street for \$900 from Arthur Harbinson. A stipulation in the deed required that the dwelling erected should not cost less than \$2,000. Meanwhile, the heirs of the Litsey family, who bought Courtview in the late-nineteenth century, platted three lots off of the side yard (the north side) of the house. In the first two decades of the twentieth century, the area between Courtview and the Pulliam-Curry House (MEH-146, Resource 34) functioned as a nursery business. M. B. Singer, a local florist, had glass-roofed greenhouses on the site.<sup>42</sup>

McGuffin and Ella Claunch bought the lot at 368 North Main Street and in 1917 built a one-and-one-half story bungalow. Claunch ran the store at 123 North Main Street (MEH-240, Resource 4). Other newcomers to the North Main Street District included J.A. Levan, a superintendent at a buggy factory, who purchased the south side of the large lot associated with the Pulliam-Curry House at 414 North Main Street (MEH-146, Resource 3). Levan built a bungalow at what became 406 North Main Street (MEH-236, Resource 33).

In 1923, construction began on the Dix Dam, which would go across the Dix River three miles upstream from where it met the Kentucky River. The dam created a reservoir, which provided the water and energy to operate a hydroelectric generating station. The dam, funded by the private sector, created over 2,000 jobs for Mercer County residents and other Kentuckians.

The completion of the Dix River Dam in 1925 and the start of generation in 1927 enabled businesses to take advantage of commercial electric power. House wares, glass, clothing and electrical products began to be manufactured in the county.<sup>43</sup> Transportation networks improved dramatically. The Federal Aid Road Act allowed the Kentucky General Assembly to create the Department of State Roads and Highways. The existing

<sup>42</sup> 1908 and 1914 Sanborn maps of Harrodsburg, Kentucky.

<sup>43</sup> Kleber, 414.



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inter-county roadways were declared primary state highways, and their construction and improvements were supported by state and federal funds.

The improved road network was a boon to the emerging tourism industry in Mercer County. In addition to Old Fort Harrod, visitors flocked to Shakertown at Pleasant Hill. The National Historic Landmark opened to the public in 1968.<sup>44</sup> All of these tourists needed a place to stay – and the North Main Street District, just two blocks from the fort, became a tourist mecca. It appears that the houses along the first block of North Main Street, in addition to the commercial/residential functions already discussed, also operated as boarding houses. With the opening of Old Fort Harrod, just two blocks to the west, the boarding house operation evolved into the “Old Fort Inn” which operated on both sides of the block, including in 114 North Main Street (MEH-237, Resource 3).

The industrial boom that followed World War II helped reshape many communities in Kentucky. Between 1946 and 1953, some 2,500 new industrial companies located their headquarters in the Ohio Valley. These steel, aluminum, chemical and steam-electric industries constructed plants alongside the Ohio River to take “advantage of low-cost waterways transportation and reliable water supply; and their location in the Ohio Valley had a ‘rippling’ effect, attracting secondary industry to the region to use the primary products and power produced at riverside.”<sup>45</sup>

Harrodsburg, located between Louisville and Lexington, the primary metropolitan areas of the eastern half of the state, proved an ideal setting for a new Corning Glass (now Corning Incorporated) plant in 1952. Located just south of the Lexington and Cane Run District, on East Office Street, the Corning plant was built within 50 feet of the railroad. The Corning plant now employs over 420 people. In the 1980s, Hitachi Automotive Systems moved to Harrodsburg, and in 1990, Wausau Paper followed suit. Both companies employ hundreds of workers.

### **An Architectural Evolution: Popular National Styles and Their Regional Interpretation in Mercer County, 1820-1940**

The North Main Street District is a small-scale example of how both residential and commercial buildings in rural Kentucky borrowed from popular national styles to create a singular, yet instantly recognizable, built environment. Within that context, the district offers the opportunity to observe local design decisions over time. This small area shows well how one area accommodated subdivision and new development on its lots without yielding an overall high degree of design quality. Additionally, since this district is located entirely within the original plat of Harrodsburg, it demonstrates how a mixed-use neighborhood has evolved over the period of significance, shaped at first in the nineteenth century by the Trustees of Harrodsburg and the restrictions placed on owners of inlots and outlots, and then in the twentieth century as a non-platted, un-zoned, organic entity.

Other areas in Harrodsburg have been listed in the National Register as districts containing significant architecture; these areas typically exhibit a greater consistency from parcel to parcel as single-use (residential only) districts. Additionally, these districts demonstrate a more consistent pattern in terms of road frontage, level of architectural style, amount of setback, and other characteristics than is found in the North Main Street

<sup>44</sup> The 27 buildings historically associated with the Shaker tenure were placed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1972.

<sup>45</sup> Johnson, 233.



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Historic District. Other areas of town that developed after 1900 achieved their desired aesthetic effects through consistencies mandated by planning and zoning provisions or subdivision regulations, or both.

The College Street Historic District is another National Register district located very close to the North Main Street Historic District.<sup>46</sup> It was listed in 1978 and is composed of 27 residences and one commercial building located on College Street, just one block west of North Main Street. The residences in this district were constructed primarily in the nineteenth century, behind ample lawns along a tree lined street. Though the College Street Historic District is a significant area of settlement in Harrodsburg, the North Main Street Historic District is a more easily-comprehended collection of mixed-use properties in a small town. The structures on North Main are also more consistent among one another in material, scale, and architectural form and massing.

The architecture of the North Main Street Historic District could serve as a timeline for historic architecture in Mercer County. Although the predominant survivors of the early-nineteenth century are domestic buildings, the parade of styles displayed in the North Main Street Historic District illustrates how popular national trends were applied to commercial, institutional and residential buildings alike. The architectural history, both stylistically and in form and plan of the county, is essentially encapsulated within the three blocks of the District.

Although timber-frame construction was common along the Low Dutch settlers in rural Mercer County,<sup>47</sup> log construction dominated the built landscape in Mercer County during the settlement period. The first dwellings constructed tended to be small, single pens, either rectangular or square in form. Larger dwellings might be built in a saddlebag plan, dogtrot or a two-room double pen, often with a loft for sleeping space. One such example is the core of the dwelling at ME-4, located on Clay Lick Road in northern Mercer County. The single pen log dwelling, with the shouldered stone and brick chimney stack, has lateral frame additions. Cardwellton (MEH-8, Resource 9) has a log core surrounded by later frame additions, but the house appears today to be a two-story frame I-house with Federal detailing and a later massive Greek Revival portico.

Both log and frame construction were fiscally conservative building decisions. Frame was cheaper than brick or stone, though you see all four types of construction at the same time during the settlement period. Most of the surviving historic dwellings from the early-nineteenth century are either brick or stone, as these materials were more enduring and also frankly conveyed the wealth and means of the owner. Frame houses survive in fewer numbers, and Clay Lancaster notes that they flourished in Kentucky during the latter part of the eighteenth century and into the nineteenth, and "in this period of rapid expansion, frame construction fit the tempo of the times." The ready availability of timber made frame a logical choice, and was the more finished alternative over log construction. But timber frame houses "gradually diminished with the coming of the revival styles."<sup>48</sup>

A review of the Kentucky Heritage Council Survey files reveals that a few prosperous settlers, including the McAfee family, built in stone and brick, such as ME-178 and ME-180. These dwellings usually had a hall-

<sup>46</sup> Daniel Kidd. "College Street Historic District." *Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places*. On file at the Kentucky Heritage Council. Listed 1979.

<sup>47</sup> The author of this nomination has first-hand knowledge of timber frame construction in Mercer County; see Janie-Rice Brother, *The Agricultural and Domestic Outbuildings of Mercer County*, 2009, on file at the Kentucky Heritage Council. For additional information about timber-frame construction in Mercer County, see Howard Keith Gregory's unpublished 1992 manuscript, also on file at the Kentucky Heritage Council, *Historical Timber-Frame Construction in Harrodsburg-Mercer County, Kentucky*.

<sup>48</sup> Clay Lancaster, *Antebellum Architecture of Kentucky*. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1991), 29.

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parlor plan. As the area became more settled, these houses began to incorporate stylish details like Flemish bond brickwork (usually just on the primary façade) and detailed interior woodwork. Courtview (MEH-3, Resource 28) is one of the finer examples of Federal-era architecture in Mercer County. The Federal style, academically classified as ranging from 1780 to 1820 nationally, is the earliest period style most commonly encountered in Kentucky.<sup>49</sup> Characterized by restraint, elegant, thin and straight lines on moldings and woodwork, and typically symmetrical, Federal-style buildings in the Commonwealth are typically rectangular or square in plan. Floor plans employed include hall-parlor, side-passage and central passage. Many Federal-style dwellings are brick, laid in Flemish bond, with a side-gable roof. Windows typically boasted double-hung sash in six-over-six, nine-over-nine and twelve-over-twelve configurations. Muntins are typically thin, and lintels and sills are plain and restrained.

The one-and-one-half-story brick dwelling, with a Flemish bond façade, has an entryway with an elliptical fanlight outlined with rope molding. Like Cardwellton, rosettes detail the corner blocks of the window casings. The interior woodwork at Courtview is attributed to Matthew Lowery, a well-known woodworker in Harrodsburg in the first few decades of the nineteenth century. Courtview has a central-passage plan, which dominates construction in the North Main Street District until after the Civil War and the introduction of asymmetrical, picturesque styles.

The North Main Street District also contains an example of a side-passage plan, at the Tumey-Armstrong House at 367 North Main Street (MEH-4, Resource 29), though the house now functions (with a three-bay-wide lateral addition) as a central passage.

In addition to the architectural styles on display in the North Main Street Historic District, the range of types and floor plans also provides a sense of the changing use of dwellings and the social and economic forces that influenced their builders and owners. Passages allowed for an evolution in the treatment of space within dwellings. Spaces “are powerful entities to the people who build and occupy them, and for that reason changes in spaces are sensitive indicators of changes in their occupants’ attitudes.”<sup>50</sup> The central passage affected accessibility, visibility and rearranged the domestic spatial hierarchy. Richard Sutfield, a slave owner, likely appreciated the social division that passages provided in a dwelling, and the homes that he built were sold to other slave owners of his socio-economic class.

The side-passage plan, as it evolved in the Bluegrass, is primarily an urban type, dictated by the constraints of narrow urban lots and the combination of businesses with living space. The Philadelphia house, found both in its namesake city, and in urban centers across the mid-Atlantic, could serve as a model for the urban side-passage plan in Kentucky. Many side passage plans had a business on the ground floor and the living space and family quarters on the second floor. The side passage still allowed the occupants to control the passage of visitors. The ease of this plan adapting to both commercial and residential use would explain its popularity within town centers.

At the eve of the Civil War, the vocabulary of plain design in Mercer County centered on the ubiquitous I-house, which became the symbol of economic attainment for local farmers. Two-stories high and usually one-

<sup>49</sup> Cyril M. Harris. *American Architecture An Illustrated Encyclopedia* (New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 1998), 123.

<sup>50</sup> Dell Upton. “The Origins of Chesapeake Architecture,” in *Three Centuries of Maryland Architecture: A Selection of Presentations Made at the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Maryland Historic Trust* (1982), 50.

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room deep with a central passage, the I-house was constructed with Federal or Greek Revival details. Examples outside of the North Main Street District include ME-3, ME-139 (Federal/early Greek Revival), ME-143 and ME-170 (Greek Revival).

The central-passage house, whether with Federal, Greek Revival or later stylistic details, proved adept at serving as both residence and business. Though archival material from the antebellum period is scant, it is clear that by the post-bellum period, the first and second blocks of the North Main Street District housed buildings that lent themselves easily to mixed-use. In addition to the Rothchild House at 130-132 North Main Street (MEH-239, Resource 6), the Sanborn maps from the last quarter of the nineteenth century show a landscape with frame and brick dwellings with a grocery in a portion of the dwelling. Other mixed-use alternatives include boarding houses, and storefronts for woodworking and blacksmith shops, with the residential quarters spreading out behind the storefront. During the 1890s, the brick house at 114 North Main Street (MEH-237, Resource 3) served as both residence and harness shop.

During the 1830s, the Greek Revival style began to edge out the Federal in popularity, though across Central Kentucky, a common trend is that of the Transitional Federal/Greek Revival dwelling. This melding of styles resulted in a dwelling with a Federal-style façade, with either a one-story portico or porch, simple lines, and very little ornament. The interior, however, contains woodwork with Greek Revival proportions and (often) detailing; but occasionally, the woodwork might equal that of the Greek Revival style in scale, but will combine Federal-era motifs with Greek orders.

Chronologically, the Greek Revival style typically follows the Federal style, though many local builders combined details of both in their dwellings. The Greek Revival style is commonly thought to span the years from 1820 to 1860, but local builders continued to employ the style in the last three decades of the nineteenth century. The main elements of the Greek Revival style in Kentucky include heavy and bold moldings and motifs; use of the Greek orders (often in porticos or porches with large columns), windows accented with entablature lintels and larger panes of glass than Federal style windows. The Passmore Hotel (MEH-39, Resource 8) Alexandria (MEH-6, Resource 17) and the Darland House (MEH-7, Resource 14), all utilize the Greek Revival style.

The Gothic Revival style, like the Italianate style, which became popular around the same time, spread easily because of balloon frame technology. The logic behind picturesque houses romanticizes the bucolic nature of the country and the building is supposed to fit harmoniously within nature. The first “fully-developed domestic example in America was designed by Alexander Jackson Davis in 1832.”<sup>51</sup> Davis and Andrew Jackson Downing popularized the style, which was promoted as a rural style.

The Gothic Revival style house coincides with the Second Great Awakening religious movement. The buildings had steeply pitched roofs, lancet arched windows, detailed verge boards, all which hearken back to the architecture of Gothic churches. Additionally, small details such as pendants, finials, and the asymmetrical nature of the building also appeal to the picturesque aesthetic of the style.

Many Gothic Revival houses in Kentucky do no more to echo the style with steeply-peaked cross gables on the façade. The plan of the house can be very basic, “one to two stories tall, a single room deep, and two or more

<sup>51</sup> Virginia and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1998), 200.



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rooms wide with one, two or three steeply-peaked cross gables or dormers. More often than not, the main part of the house is augmented with shed or ell appendages stretching behind them. Minus the front gables they have the same basic forms as many of the non-Gothic contemporary examples nearby, whatever their style might be.<sup>52</sup> There are several examples of the Gothic Revival style in Mercer County, including ME-19 (circa 1850), MEH-23 and MEH-301 (circa 1860), as well as later, post-Civil War examples, including ME-474, ME-5 and ME-484. The Pulliam-Curry House (MEH-145, Resource 34) is a relatively early (circa 1857), and high-style example of the Gothic Revival style in Mercer County. Most examples just utilize one or two elements of the style, such decorative bargeboard or cross gables. This central passage house, however, uses board-and-batten (uncommon on dwellings, or at least on extant examples) as well as a steeply-pitched gable roof, cross gables, bargeboard and a Gothic arched window on the façade.

The railroad also helped disseminate new architectural styles and materials throughout Mercer County. The late-nineteenth century saw an increase in frame construction, largely due to the introduction of balloon framing. The ease and affordability of this construction method allowed standard rectangular and square forms to be modified. T-plans and cross-plan houses became common, as did the addition of porches and decorative elements on a common house forms. The T-plan is a variation on the I-house – one of the rooms located along the central hall was moved forward, resulting in an irregular facade. This allowed the rooms in the ell to be accessed by the central passage. Examples of T-plans in Harrodsburg outside of the North Main Street Historic District include MEH-17, MEH-254 and MEH-257.

From the late-1850s through the last quarter of the nineteenth century, the “builders have been divided in their following between of the handsome brick houses of the Isaac Pearson [Italianate T-plan, MEH-5, North Main Street Historic District] and Thomas Marimon [MEH-262, Lexington and Cane Run Historic District] kind, and the frame cottage ones that so brighten and beautify Lexington and Danville end of Main Street.”<sup>53</sup> This insight from the 1880s about architecture in Harrodsburg is telling, because both houses illustrate a regional interpretation of a popular national style.

The Isaac Pearson House at 331 North Main Street (MEH-5, Resource 22), shown on the 1876 *Beers Atlas of Mercer and Boyle Counties*, is a two-story brick T-plan with Italianate elements such a low-pitched roof and brackets at the cornice. Pearson had an ownership in one of the hat factories located along Factory Street, less than half a block from his dwelling.

The Italianate style, along with the Gothic Revival style, first appeared in the United States in the 1830s and the 1840s. These two architectural styles fit within a general growth within European and American fine arts termed “Romanticism.” The designers of Italianate style took their inspiration from the rural and rambling country estate houses of Italy. The buildings are generally cubic or rectangular and have a shallow hipped roof. Characteristics of the style include brackets at the cornice line or on porches, long, narrow windows with molding and ornamental lintels or hood molds, and an overall emphasis on verticality. The pattern books of Andrew Jackson Downing greatly popularized this style in the 1840s and 1850s.<sup>54</sup>

<sup>52</sup> William Macintire, *A Survey of Historic Sites in Rural Marion and Washington Counties, Kentucky*. (Frankfort: The Kentucky Heritage Council, 2009), 57.

<sup>53</sup> Maria T. Daviess. *History of Mercer and Boyle Counties*. (Harrodsburg, Kentucky: The Harrodsburg Herald, 1924), 114.

<sup>54</sup> Virginia and Lee Virginia and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1998), 211.



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Farm journals and pattern books disseminated the style, the advent of balloon framing helped popularize it, and the growth of rail lines also helped spread it after the Civil War. The technique of balloon framing made the construction of houses with asymmetrical forms much more feasible than had the rigidity inherent in heavy timber frame construction. Local builders utilized national pattern books, tailoring a house to the owner's specific tastes and pocketbook, and ornamenting traditional house forms with machine-produced architectural elements, like brackets and spindles.

By the 1860s and 1870s, the Italianate style was firmly entrenched in America, and would continue to influence architecture in Kentucky until the turn of the century. At least one architectural style book divides Italianate buildings into six subtypes defined by a prominent feature of the building's massing: the hipped roof, the centered gable, asymmetrical, towered, and front-gabled and town houses.<sup>55</sup> The Italianate style found favor in Harrodsburg, and is a mainstay in most of the residential neighborhoods, and across the county is found on the most simple of buildings.

The influence of Italianate and other Victorian-era styles started late and lingered for over 40 years in Mercer County, which seems to be the case in other Bluegrass counties as well. William Macintire observed that in Kentucky, "the tall and narrow window proportion becomes particularly pervasive, showing up even on extremely modest dwellings of the early twentieth century."<sup>56</sup> The Darland House (MEH-7, Resource 14), built by Richard Sutfield in 1848, received a pentagonal two-story bay on its north gable end sometime during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. This addition was perhaps in response to the two-story canted bay located on the Bottom House at 343 North Main Street (MEH-225, Resource 24). This two-story frame T-plan has murky origins, as previous owner's purport that it dates to 1849 and 1812. Its Italianate leanings, however, are quite straightforward, from its exuberant bay window to the pedimented and inscribed hood molds over the windows.

The Italianate influence could be quite mild and often manifests in the form of bay window. Later stylistic updates might remove the attributes of an earlier era; such is the case with the dwelling/commercial building at 124-128 North Main Street (MEH-238, Resource 5). It has the truncated form of a T-plan, with two projecting gables facing on North Main Street. The large window on the façade has replaced an earlier polygonal bay window that is seen on the Sanborn maps from 1886 until 1942.

Several dwellings in the district embrace the Queen Anne style, one of the later style subsets of the Victorian period. It ranged in popularity nationally from 1880 to 1910. Its emphasis on shape and decorative detailing, often with machine-made stylistic elements such as brackets, window hoods, spindlework, and textured shingles, all of which were applied to plain exteriors, made it particularly appealing to the expanding middle class. The Queen Anne style was popularized through pattern books, but especially by the expanding railroad network, "making pre-cut architectural details conveniently available through much of the nation."<sup>57</sup>

Though the style might have changed to reflect the trend of the day, the form remained the same. The T-plan dwelling at 320 North Main Street (MEH-229, Resource 20) has the delicate brackets, open rail porch balustrade and turned and chamfered supports that are key elements of the Queen Anne style. Its neighbors to the north, both 330 North Main (MEH-230, Resource 21) and 342 North Main Street (MEH-231, Resource 23) also incorporate stylistic notes of the Queen Anne period.

<sup>55</sup> Ibid.

<sup>56</sup> Macintire, 74.

<sup>57</sup> McAlester, 211, 268.

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The Victorian period began to wane with the rise of the Revival styles and the Arts and Crafts movement around the turn of the twentieth century. These two styles appeared in the North Main Street District around the same time. The departure from the perceived excesses of the Victorian era and the growing middle class helped spread the Arts and Crafts influence in Kentucky.

The American Foursquare is a twentieth-century house form that arose from the Arts and Crafts movement, and took many of its design cues from the Progressive era as well. The form of a Foursquare is that of a two-story cube, usually with a hipped or pyramidal roof. The name derives from the arrangement of most examples of having four principal rooms on each floor. Like the Bungalow, a front porch is almost always present. Foursquares were built in a variety of materials, including frame and brick and stone veneer, usually on a continuous foundation. Many Foursquare houses feature elements of the Craftsman style, such as exposed rafter tails, overhanging eaves, dormers on the attic story and Craftsman-style double-hung windows.

The Ingram/Rankin House at 357 North Main Street (MEH-227, Resource 27) has the form of an American Foursquare, but instead of the elements of the Craftsman style, it incorporates more of a classical feel. A central cross gable interrupts the roofline of the façade and highlights the segmentally-arched attic multi-light window, which has a jackarch detailed with stone accents. Heavy stone lintels and sills frame the façade windows, while a very classically-styled entryway features sidelights with diamond-shaped panes.

The Craftsman style really found favor in the North Main Street Historic District. The division of the large parcel at Courtview offered up the opportunity to build a small affordable house within downtown Harrodsburg. Bungalows which combined “moderate price with attractive design” appealed to Americans seeking an end to renting and a comfortable place to raise their families. The low lines of the bungalow gave the building a solidity which offered comfort and security.<sup>58</sup> The open wide front porch also was a feature particular to the Bungalow. The porch created a harmonious nature between the outside world and the home, with its rusticated piers and airy nature. The front porch also allowed owners to chat with passersby who walk on the sidewalks, invoking a neighborly feeling.

The inside of a Bungalow is as simple and efficient as its exterior. It has an open floor plan, which has no delineation between public and private space. The bungalow was an unpretentious design which helped increase the appearance of an average size lot through its horizontal lines and low height.<sup>59</sup> This style also became popularized through the use of plan books and illustrations in such magazines as *Ladies Home Journal*.<sup>60</sup> Bungalows can be found across Mercer County, including the dwellings at ME-456, ME-458, ME-461 and ME-481 that all draw inspiration from the bungalow.

While the Ingram/Rankin House espoused classic styles in its architecture, the Rankin House next door at 351 North Main Street (MEH-226, Resource 26) kicked off a decade off bungalow building in the district. The affordability and ease of construction associated with the bungalow proved a perfect fit for the lots being opened up in the third block of the North Main Street Historic District, although at the time bungalow were decried by

<sup>58</sup> Clifford Edward Clark. *The American Family Home, 1800-1960*. (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1986), 173.

<sup>59</sup> Kenneth T. Jackson. *Crabgrass Frontier: The Suburbanization of the United States*. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1985), 186.

<sup>60</sup> Clarke, 179.

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older members of community as “so unattractive but convenient.”<sup>61</sup> The two-and-one-half story brick and frame bungalow has many similarities with its neighbor, as both were constructed between 1908 and 1914. This example is one of the largest bungalows in the district and retains just a hint of an earlier period in the bay window on its north elevation.

Between 1917 and 1920, four bungalows – 368, 374, 380 and 406 North Main Street (Resources 30-33) were built on the opposite side of the street, on the front and back yard of Courtview. Though research has not revealed a common builder, the time frame and similarities in massing and form between the four make such a proposal likely. The frame and brick front gable bungalow at 368 North Main Street (MEH-233, Resource 30) has the two projecting gables typical of the style, both clad in fishscale shingles. Built for McGuffin Claunch, a drygoods merchant, the dwelling has Craftsman-style windows with vertical lights in the upper sash over a single-light lower sash. Paired three-over-one double-hung sash windows are located in the front gable and light the upper story. A decorative vent is located in the gable of the porch, which has two brick piers and a closed brick balustrade with a concrete cap.

The one-and-one-half-story brick bungalow at 374 North Main Street (MEH-234, Resource 31) was built for Charles H. Smith, who was recorded as a laborer at a produce house in the 1920 census. Built on a stone foundation, the dwelling has a full-length, shed roof porch with brick piers and a closed brick balustrade runs the length of the façade. Exposed rafter tails detail the overhanging eaves of the asphalt-shingle clad hipped roof. A shouldered and corbelled brick chimney is located on the south elevation.

The one-and-one-half-story frame bungalow at 380 North Main Street (MEH-235, Resource 32) was built in 1919 for Gore Moberly, a salesman. Moberly purchased the lot for \$1,000 from Mildred Harbison. Built on a stone foundation, the three bay wide dwelling has a Craftsman-style multi-light door flanked by single pane sidelights. An integral front porch with four square posts with inset panels and an open rail balustrade runs the length of the façade. Triangular brackets detail the overhanging eaves on the dormer and south and north gable ends.

The final bungalow on the west side of the block is the one-and-one-half story frame bungalow at 406 North Main Street (MEH-236, Resource 33). It appears to have been built by 1918, and the first owner was J.A. Levan, a superintendent at a buggy factory. Built on a stone foundation, the weatherboard clad dwelling is three bays wide, with six-over-one double-hung sash windows on the first story flanking a multi-light (15 lights) Craftsman-style central entry door. A full-length integral porch with four square supports with inset panels and a closed wood balustrade stretches across the façade. Brackets detail the overhanging eaves on the gable ends and the front-gable dormer.

The frame southern bungalow at 223 North Main Street (MEH-245, Resource 13) is not as high-style as its contemporaries in the third block of North Main Street, but is an important link in the regional interpretation of such a popular form. The simple front-gable form, with a recessed entryway under the porch, is a common version of the bungalow found all across Kentucky.

The appeal of the Craftsman style in the North Main Street Historic District was not limited to just dwellings. The first filling station in Harrodsburg, known as Consumer Service Station and later as People's Oil Company

<sup>61</sup> Goddard, 2.



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(MEH-53, Resource 7), at the corner of North Main and East Broadway, was built in the Commercial Craftsman style. Though changes have been made to the structure over the years to accommodate shifting uses, its form and massing remain unchanged, particularly the hipped roof canopy (originally detailed with exposed rafter tails) that stitches out to rest on broad brick piers.

The current C&T Market at 123 North Main Street (MEH-240, Resource 4), also built in the Commercial Craftsman style, was constructed between 1914 and 1929. It has housed a number of businesses over the years, including a dry goods store called Claunch and Hatchell, a cream station run by Albert Hatchell, and several groceries. The one-story brick structure has a distinctive stepped parapet wall with a row of six rectangular panels on the façade, concrete blocks in each corner.

The Arts and Crafts-inspired filling station at 230 North Main Street (MEH-246, Resource 15) further highlights the influence of the style within the district. It is not clear whether this structure is the result of a corporate design that sought to meld the national Craftsman style into its filling stations, or was a regional interpretation of the style.

The twentieth-century phase of development in the North Main Street Historic District also saw the construction of one of Harrodsburg's most important public buildings, the U.S. Post Office (105 North Main Street, MEH-84, Resource 2). This high-style Colonial Revival structure was built on a corner that had for almost 100 years housed industrial and commercial concerns. The post office's design was "adapted from The Wick, at Richmond Hill, Surrey, England, which was built in the latter half of the eighteenth century."<sup>62</sup> The English bond brickwork, fanlights over the windows and doors, keystones and the heavy block modillion cornice below the parapet wall are elements of the style.

According to McAlester, the period of influence for Colonial Revival is 1880 to 1950, and the style's rise was fueled by an interest in the dwellings associated with the colonial period, particularly English and Dutch houses on the Atlantic seaboard. The first proponents of this style, which was seen as simplified and classically motivated response to the Victorian era, were professional architects. Richard Morris Hunt's house, Sunnyside, in Newport, Rhode Island, dating from 1870, has been identified by architectural historian Vincent Scully as the "first built evidence of colonial revivalism to exist anywhere."<sup>63</sup>

As the name implies, the style draws on colonial styles, including Georgian and Adam, for inspiration in detailing entrances, cornices and windows. Most windows are double hung, typically with six, eight, nine or twelve lights in both sashes. Elaborate door surrounds, with broken pediments, dentils and pilasters, are common. The style became simplified nationally during the 1940s and 1950s, and was adopted wide-scale in the suburbs. The Colonial Revival style was slower to catch on the south, especially in rural areas of Kentucky, where late Victorian style persisted into the second decade of the twentieth century.

### **Evaluation of the Historic Significance of the North Main Street Historic District within its Context**

The North Main Street Historic District provides a glimpse at how its residents lived during the POS, and what types of dwellings and style of architecture they favored for their houses. Further, it significantly displays an

<sup>62</sup> *Main Street Harrodsburg, Kentucky: An Oral and Pictorial History*. (Harrodsburg: Harrodsburg First, 1991), 85.

<sup>63</sup> Cynthia Johnson. "Weehawken." *Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places*. Copy on file at the Kentucky Heritage Council. Listed 2007.



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important historic condition: that Kentucky's mixed-use neighborhoods were the norm; that commercial and residential interests could co-mingle comfortably in a small downtown neighborhood.

The building decisions made in the North Main Street Historic District did not occur in a vacuum, but rather responded to three factors: location, transportation and prevailing regional interpretations of nationally popular architectural styles.

Location includes not only the placement of the district at the foot of the hill of the South Main Street commercial core, but also its location on Town Creek and in close proximity to two major stage-coach and turnpike routes. The waterway not only influenced settlement decisions, but also early commercial, manufacturing and industrial growth patterns.

The local road network impacted the residents of the district on a local and regional level. The first road laid out by James Harrod in 1774 was Water Street, later renamed Broadway. Locally, living on North Main Street in the late settlement period proved convenient to Fort Harrod. Later, as the road network developed, Main Street led to the Frankfort Turnpike and to the Warwick Landing and the Kentucky River.

Factory Street, which crosses through the district at the railroad, became home in the nineteenth century to distilleries, carriage factories, hemp factories and hat factories - all enterprises took advantage of Town Creek and the road network and thrived. Both the workers and the owners of these factories lived in close proximity, many of them in the North Main Street Historic District. In the twentieth century, the carriage industry persisted, yet eventually gave way to the automobile industry. The ice plant and a poultry house located on Factory Street in the twentieth century, and workers took advantage of the division of large parcels in the district to build affordable bungalows in the latest fashion.

The introduction of the railroad to Harrodsburg did not directly impact the established pattern of growth and linear development of the District, but its influence manifested in other ways. The access to goods from outside Harrodsburg provided new opportunities for retailers in the North Main Street Historic District and the resulting growth of the commercial and industrial core of the county allowed residents to remodel existing homes or construct new homes, drawing on styles and mass-produced architectural elements delivered by rail.

The building decisions exercised in the early-nineteenth century continued to influence the density and use of structures in the District throughout the POS. The presence of service industries such as livery stables, blacksmith shops and manufacturing resulted in rebuilding as technology and transportation methods shifted.

The density observed in the Harrodsburg Commercial District was never achieved in the first two blocks of the North Main Street Historic District specifically because of the dispersed method of development during the nineteenth century. Large parcels, especially on the east side of those two blocks, housed a number of impermanent ancillary structures. Thus, at the dawn of the automobile age, entrepreneurial souls in Harrodsburg were able to construct, not one, but three service and filling stations in the district to cater to the needs of the vehicle and its owners. One of the first auto-dealerships in the county was also located in the district.

The North Main Street Historic District developed during its POS completely outside of local planning and zoning regulations, which were not enacted in Harrodsburg until 1972. Even today, as some of the story of the district is only partially visible to the casual passer-by, the official zoning of the district reflects its long mixed-

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use history. The first block of the District, from Lexington to Broadway, is zoned B-3, as part of the central business district, despite the fact that the block has a long history as residential use, as well as business use. The second block is zoned both for light industry and light residential and then the third block is split between a central business zone and low density residential.

That tradition of mixed-use has made the District something of a survivor today, particularly when one reflects upon the desertion of the traditional commercial core that has become so common in the state's small towns. During the 1970s, national grocery chains, able to purchase goods in larger quantities and thus sell at a lower price, gained a foothold in the market. Most small neighborhood grocers were unable to compete, and were forced to close. Groceries had existed in the district since the day of the Market House, yet only one remains in the district today, the C&T Market at 123 North Main Street (MEH-240, Resource 4).

The significance of a pedestrian-focused mixed-use development may not be readily apparent to a layperson, especially as the buildings and their uses continue to change. William Rothchild's house at 130-132 North Main Street has been altered with siding, but still contains both a residence and a commercial enterprise, while its neighbors to the south now function as both multi-family (124-128 North Main Street, MEH-238, Resource 5) and single-family (114 North Main Street, MEH-237, Resource 3). The latter resource, which at one time housed the Old Fort Inn, boasts a series of sprawling, historic additions that only hint at its long and complicated mixed-use history.

The Passmore Hotel (MEH-39, Resource 8) housed a grocery and warehouse in the first few decades of the twentieth century, and has now for many years been the home of the local weekly newspaper, the Harrodsburg Herald. The filling stations that heralded the beginning of the automobile age have remained in commercial use, though their role as gas stations ended many decades ago.

The story of the architectural decisions in the North Main Street Historic District is perhaps the most visible component of the significance of the district today. Unlike other districts in Harrodsburg, the timeline of style present on North Main Street covers the development of the town from the settlement period through the beginning of World War II. The College Street Historic District contains one of the most imposing collections of Greek Revival houses in Harrodsburg; the Greek Revival is the "most visually prominent style" in the district.<sup>64</sup> While an architecturally impressive collection of dwellings stand along College Street and Beaumont Avenue, it is the way that builder-designers employed traditional forms—commercial, institutional and residential—and embellished them with their interpretation of national styles, making each new project cohere with the existing group, that makes the North Main Street Historic District significant on the local level.

Cardwellton (MEH-8, Resource 9) evolved from a log structure erected a short distance from the safety of the Fort, into a permanent dwelling that kept pace with the changing trends, from Federal to Greek Revival. The circa 1823 Courtview, though no longer isolated on its hill above Town Creek, is still able to convey that first building boom of Harrodsburg, and the influence of the Federal style.

The developing economy of Harrodsburg in the post-Civil War decades, spurred by the arrival of the railroad, resulted in the proliferation of Victorian styles, including Queen Anne and Italianate. While other dwellings

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<sup>64</sup> Kidd, Section 8, I.

North Main Street Historic District  
Name of Property

Mercer County, Kentucky  
County and State

throughout Harrodsburg might possess more highly detailed stylistic accents, the frame and brick T-plans in the third block of North Main Street illustrate how most people sought to keep with the times and incorporate fashionable details to their homes. The homage might consist only of a bay window with some brackets – elements visible on historic photographs and Sanborn maps show a trend of remodeling in the Italianate and Queen Anne styles among the older commercial/residential resources in the first block of North Main Street.

Likewise, the inevitable division of large parcels in the district made it possible for the emerging middle class to settle in the district, and embrace the affordable new bungalows that espoused the Craftsman style. Business owners in the district, eager to promote their ventures and be considered on the cutting edge of the latest fashions, incorporated elements of the Craftsman style into their commercial buildings. No other district in Harrodsburg retains three filling stations from that first rush into the automobile age.

The North Main Street Historic District presents the story of a mixed-use neighborhood in a small town, and informs us on both a physical and visual level, with a collection of intact architectural styles representing all important stylistic trends observed regionally, and also historically, as one neighborhood is shaped by Harrodsburg's early settlement and development trends. It is neither better than other listed districts within the town nor less significant for its history of mixed use, which to some observers may result in a disjointed built environment. It is simply its own neighborhood, and an important chapter in the history of Harrodsburg.

### **Evaluation of the Integrity of the North Main Street Historic District's Significance**

The North Main Street District's significance is conceived according to Criterion C, with a focus on the way that mixed uses and mixed styles all blended together into a harmonious design. A district in Mercer County evaluated to be a good example of a particular style or of continued architectural development will be eligible for the National Register if it retains integrity of setting, design, materials, workmanship, and feeling. The North Main Street District as a single entity retains integrity as a historic downtown mixed-use neighborhood in all of these aspects. All 7 integrity factors of the North Main Street Historic District are discussed here.

#### Design

The resources in the North Main Street District have a very high level of integrity of design. Overall, the historic massing and floor plans of the resources remain intact. The resources within the district retain stylistic details, including window and door surrounds, cornices, porches, fenestration patterns, roof forms and other accoutrements that convey the historic architectural style and design of each building.

#### Materials and workmanship

The integrity of materials and workmanship within the district is high. The majority of resources retain their original finishes. Non-historic siding is present, but it mimics the original in size and silhouette. Historic finishes including solid masonry (brick) and brick and stone veneer are intact as well. Window replacement for the most part includes the substitution of the sash only, and the proportions and placement of openings has not been changed.

#### Location and Setting

The location and setting is as a downtown mixed-use district is very important. The North Main Street Historic District retains a high level of integrity of location. The resources within the district have not been relocated



North Main Street Historic District  
Name of Property

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and they retain their general relationship with both North Main and Broadway Streets. Throughout the period of significance, the location of the downtown district was highly desirable.

The district retains a medium level of integrity of setting, as some infill construction has resulted in a surface parking lot, a vacant lot, and some non-historic resources in the district. These changes do not, however, completely intrude upon the sense of the North Main Street Historic District as a single unified entity nor do they fully change the experience of walking up North Main, past commercial enterprises and houses, side-by-side.

#### Feeling and Association

The North Main Street Historic District retains a high level of integrity of feeling and association. The integrity of design, materials and workmanship, as discussed above, provide the feeling of a mixed-use downtown neighborhood in a county seat town. It provides a strong view of residential life throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in Harrodsburg.

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#### **9. Major Bibliographical References**

Amos, Christine. *The Bluegrass Cultural Landscape: A Regional Historic Overview*. Frankfort, Kentucky: Kentucky Heritage Council, 1988.

Charleston, Max. *The Oldest Town in Kentucky*. N.p, Harrodsburg, Kentucky: 1929

Chinn, George. *The History of Harrodsburg and the Great Settlement Area of Kentucky 1794-1900*. Harrodsburg, Kentucky: Self-published, 1985.

Chinn, George and Rebecca Wilson Conover. *Through Two Hundred Years: Pictorial Highlights of Harrodsburg and Mercer County, Kentucky*. Harrodsburg, Kentucky: Mercer County Humane Society, 1974.

Clark, Clifford Edward. *The American Family Home, 1800-1960*. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1986.

Daviess, Maria T. *History of Mercer and Boyle Counties*. Harrodsburg, Kentucky: The Harrodsburg Herald, 1924.

Feller, Daniel. *The Jacksonian Promise: America 1815-1840*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1995.

Jackson, Kenneth T. *Crabgrass Frontier: The Suburbanization of the United States*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1985.

Jillson, Willard Rouse. *Pioneer Kentucky*. Frankfort, Kentucky: The State Journal Company, 1934.

Johnson Cynthia. "Weehawken." National Register nomination. Copy on file at the Kentucky Heritage Council, Frankfort. 2007.

Kleber, John E., ed. *The Kentucky Encyclopedia*. Lexington, Kentucky: University Press of Kentucky, 1992.



North Main Street Historic District

Name of Property

Mercer County, Kentucky

County and State

Lancaster, Clay. *Antebellum Architecture of Kentucky*. Lexington, Kentucky: University Press of Kentucky, 1991.

Lanier, Gabrielle M. and Bernard L. Herman. *Everyday Architecture of the Mid-Atlantic: Looking at Buildings and Landscapes*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997.

Lewis, John. *Lexington, Harrodsburg and Perryville Turnpike Rural Historic District*. Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Listed 2003.

Macintire, William. *A Survey of Historic Sites in Rural Marion and Washington Counties, Kentucky*. Frankfort: The Kentucky Heritage Council, 2009.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1998.

Powell, Helen, ed. *Historic Sites of Harrodsburg and Mercer County, Kentucky*. Harrodsburg, Kentucky: Mercer County Landmark Association and Kentucky Heritage Council, 1988.

The University of Virginia, Geospatial and Statistical Data Center Historical Census Browser. Electronic document, <http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/stats/histcensus/index.html/>, accessed 2010.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office  
☐ Other State agency  
☐ Federal agency  
☐ Local government  
☐ University  
☐ Other  
Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** 14 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

### UTM References

Harrodsburg Quad

All Coordinates calculated via GIS (KYGeonet)

All Coordinates expressed according to NAD 27

1 16 690 036 4181 998  
Zone Easting Northing

3 16 689 935 4181 642  
Zone Easting Northing

2 16 690 036 4181 639  
Zone Easting Northing

4 16 689 951 4181 997  
Zone Easting Northing

North Main Street Historic District  
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**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The North Main Street District begins at North Main Street at Lexington Street and moves north on North Main Street, including all of the parcels fronting on North Main Street, as well as two properties fronting on Broadway. The district crosses Broadway, Town Creek, the Norfolk Southern Railroad, and Factory Street. The district ends on the northeast side at Pearson Street and on the northwest side at the parcel associated with 414 North Main, where North Main Street meets Price Avenue. Please refer to the District map.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

These boundaries were based on the traditional corridor of North Main Street, as well as on the character of the resources both within and outside of the nominated area. The property proposed for inclusion on the National Register by the current nomination includes all of the parcels in the North Main Street corridor. This nominated property retains the historic resources constructed during the Period of Significance and integral to understanding the history of this mixed-use neighborhood. The proposed boundaries provide an appropriate setting for understanding the significance of the North Main Street Historic District.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Janie-Rice Brother, Sr. Architectural Historian, with contributions by Annie Doyan

organization Kentucky Archaeological Survey

date

street & number 1020A Export Street

telephone 859-257-1944

city or town Lexington

state KY

zip code 40506

e-mail janie-rice.brother@uky.edu

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

PHOTOGRAPHY LOG

North Main Street Historic District  
Name of Property

Mercer County, Kentucky  
County and State

**North Main Street Historic District  
Mercer County, KY**

**All photos:**

**Janie-Rice Brother, Photographer  
2011**

**CD at Kentucky Heritage Council (SHPO)**

1. North elevation and façade (west elevation) of the U.S. Post Office (listed in the NRHP in 1989) at 105 North Main Street (MEH-84, Resource 2).
2. Streetscape, west and east sides of North Main Street, facing north, with 114 North Main Street (Resource 3, MEH-237) and 124-128 North Main Street (Resource 5, MEH-238) visible on the left and the C&T Market at 123 North Main Street (MEH-240, Resource 4) visible on the right.
3. Streetscape, west side of North Main Street, facing northwest, and showing three dwellings with a history of combined commercial and residential use. Visible from left to right is: 114 North Main Street (Resource 3, MEH-237); 124-128 North Main Street (Resource 5, MEH-238); 130-132 North Main Street (MEH-239, Resource 6) and the Passmore Hotel at 101 West Broadway (MEH-39, Resource 8, listed in the NRHP in 1989).
4. Façade and south elevation of the Craftsman Commercial inspired C&T Market at 123 North Main Street (MEH-240, Resource 4), facing northeast.
5. South and east elevations of the Greek Revival Passmore Hotel at 101 West Broadway (MEH-39, Resource 8, listed in the NRHP in 1989), facing northwest.
6. Façade and east elevation of Cardwellton (MEH-8, Resource 9), a log and timber frame dwelling located at 163 East Broadway. Cardwellton was listed in the NRHP as part of a Multiple Resource Listing in 1989.
7. Streetscape, showing the west side of North Main Street, facing southwest, and showing from right to left, the current Security Station at 230 North Main Street (MEH-246, Resource 15), a former filling station; the former Ford showroom at 220 North Main Street (MEH-244, Resource 12) and the rear elevations and modern addition to the Passmore Hotel at 101 West Broadway (MEH-39, Resource 8, listed in the NRHP in 1989).
8. Streetscape, showing the east side of North Main Street, facing southeast, and showing from left to right, the Greek Revival with later Italianate bay addition Darland House at 229 North Main Street (MEH-7, Resource 14) and the southern bungalow at 223 North Main Street (MEH-245, Resource 13).
9. Streetscape, looking north at the third block of North Main Street, showing the west and east sides of the street. The Head House at 320 North Main Street (MEH-229, Resource 20) is visible on the left, while on the right is the non-contributing structure at 315 North Main Street (MEH-223, Resource 19) and the Pearson House at 331 North Main Street (MEH-5, Resource 22).
10. Streetscape, west side of North Main Street, facing southwest, and showing from right to left, the Head House at 320 North Main Street (MEH-229, Resource 20) and Alexandria at 304 North Main Street (MEH-6, Resource 17) which was listed in the NRHP as part of a Multiple Resource Listing in 1989.
11. Façade of the Isaac Pearson House at 331 North Main Street (MEH-5, Resource 22).



North Main Street Historic District

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2. Streetscape, east side of North Main Street, facing northeast, showing from right to left: the façade and south elevation of the Bottom House at 343 North Main Street (MEH-225, Resource 24) and the south elevation of the C.E. Rankin House at 351 North Main Street (MEH-226, Resource 26).
13. Streetscape, west side of North Main Street, facing southwest, showing from right to left: the north elevation and façade of the James T. Ingram House at 350 North Main Street (MEH-232, Resource 25) and the north elevation and partial façade of the Maggie Curry House at 342 North Main Street (MEH-231, Resource 23).
14. Façade and east elevation of Courtview (MEH-3, Resource 28) located at 362 North Main Street and listed individually in the NRHP in 1977.
15. Streetscape, west side of North Main Street, facing northwest, and showing, from left to right two of the bungalows built during the division of the Courtview parcel: the McGuffin Claunch House at 368 North Main Street (MEH-233, Resource 30) and the Charles H. Smith House at 374 North Main Street (MEH-234, Resource 31).
16. Streetscape, west side of North Main Street, facing northwest, and showing from left to right: two more bungalows from the division of the Courtview parcel, the Gore Moberly House at 380 North Main Street (MEH-235, Resource 32) and the J.A. Levan House at 406 North Main Street (MEH-236, Resource 33). The Pulliam-Curry House at 414 North Main Street (MEH-146, Resource 34) is pictured at far right; the Gothic Revival dwelling was listed in the NRHP as part of a Multiple Resource Listing in 1989.
17. Streetscape, east side of North Main Street, facing northeast and showing, from right to left: the façade and south elevation of the C.E. Rankin House at 351 North Main Street (MEH-226, Resource 26) and façade and south elevation of the Ingram-Rankin House at 357 North Main Street (MEH-227, Resource 27).
18. Façade of the side-passage, now central passage John Tumey House at 367 North Main Street (MEH-4, Resource 29).

**Property Owner:**

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

name \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

North Main Street Historic District  
Name of Property

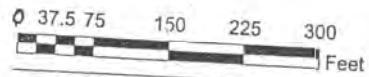
Mercer County, Kentucky  
County and State

Continuation Sheet 1




# North Main Street District

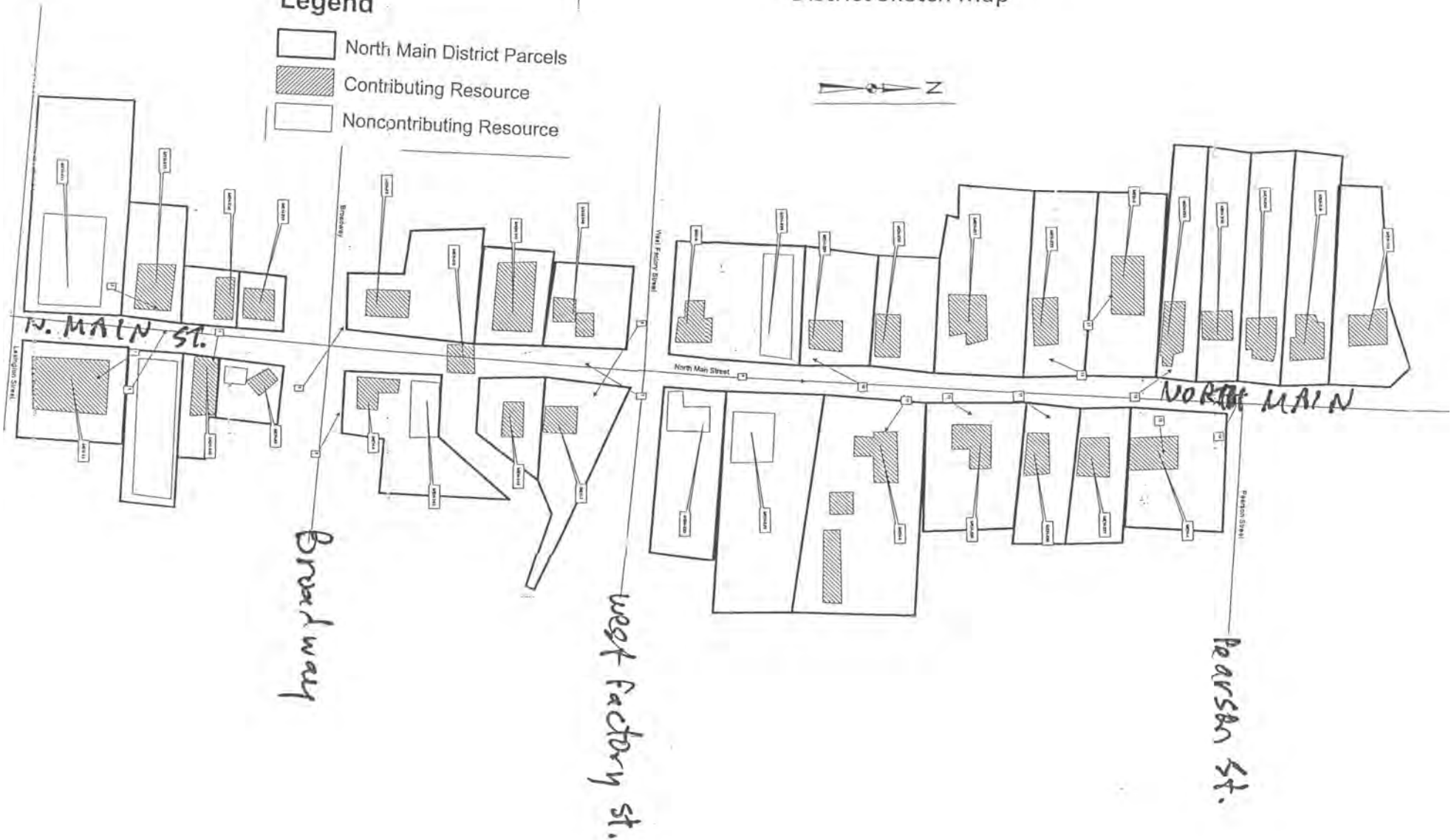
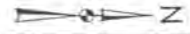
Mercer County, Kentucky

## District Sketch Map



### Legend

-  North Main District Parcels
-  Contributing Resource
-  Noncontributing Resource





North Main Street Historic District

Mercer County,  
Kentucky  
County and State

Name of Property

Continuation Sheet 1

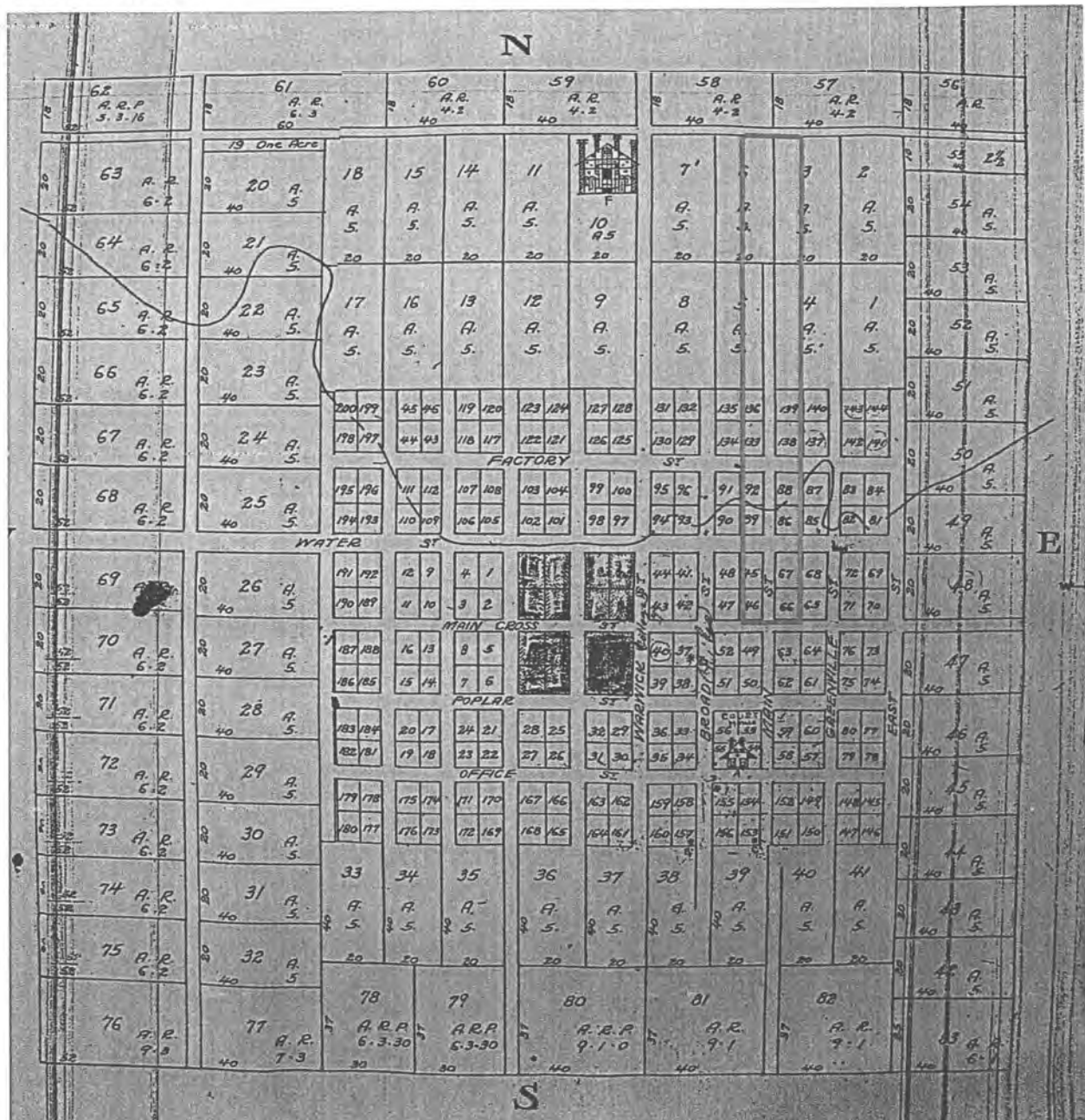


Figure 1. 1818 Plat of Harrodsburg, showing the North Main Street Historic District

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: North Main Street Historic District

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Mercer

DATE RECEIVED: 9/30/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/26/11  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/10/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/15/11  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000796

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: ☒ PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

12/19/2011 ☒ ACCEPT

☒ RETURN

☐ REJECT

11/15/2011 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Hold for FPO notification

Notification made.

Accept

12/19/2011

RECOM./CRITERIA

REVIEWER

DISCIPLINE

TELEPHONE

DATE

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N ☒ see attached SLR Y/N ☒

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



UNITED STATES  
POST OFFICE

WHITE  
ONLY





































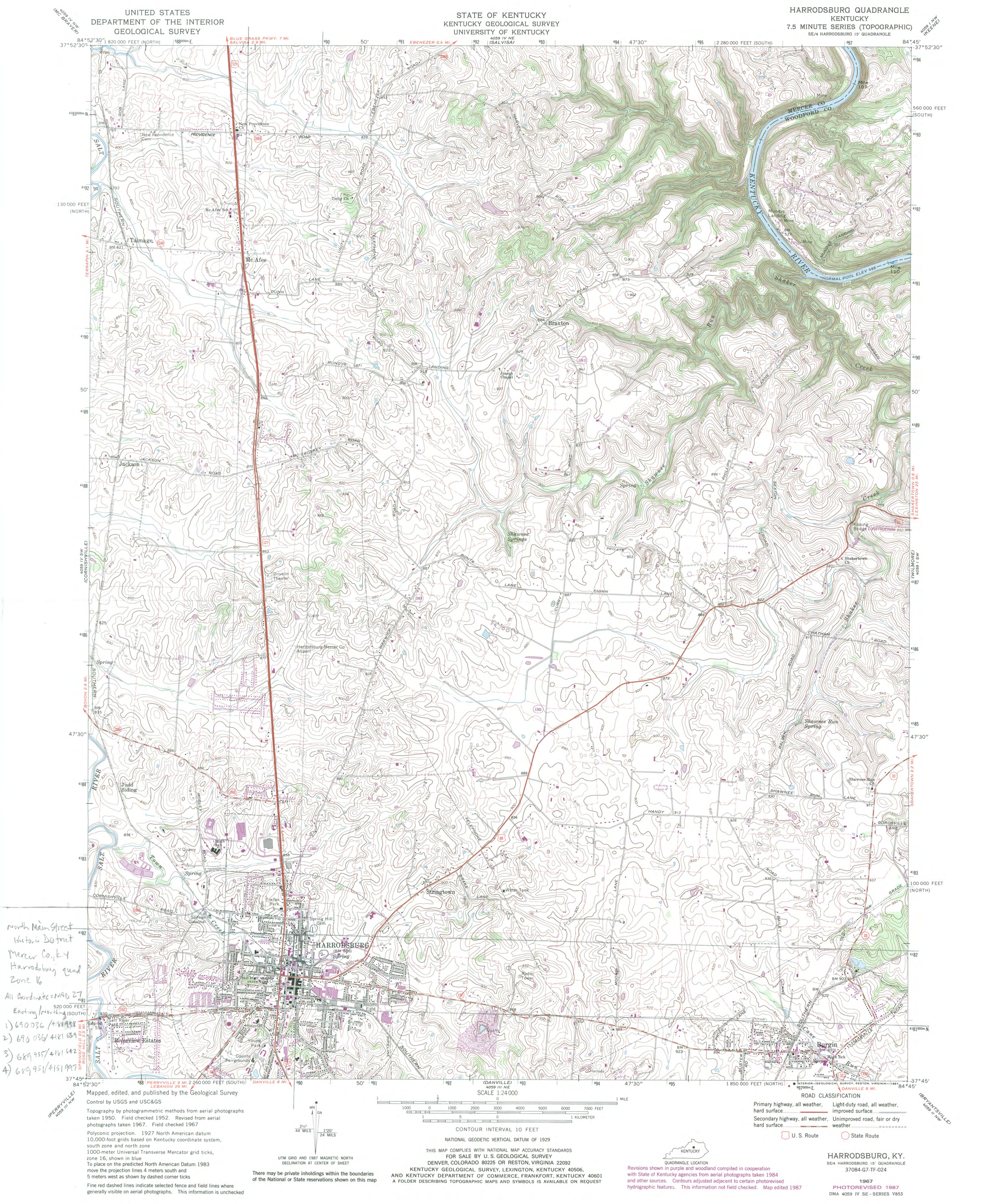








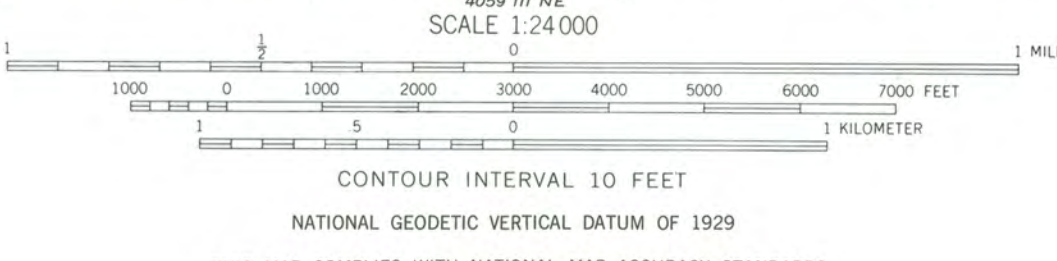




North Main Street  
Historic District  
Mercer Co. KY  
Harrodsburg quad  
Zone 16  
All Coordinates = NAD 27  
Easting / Northing  
1) 690 036 / 4181 938  
2) 696 036 / 4181 654  
3) 689 935 / 4181 642  
4) 689 951 / 4181 997

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and USC&GS  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1950. Field checked 1952. Revised from aerial  
photographs taken 1967. Field checked 1967  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grids based on Kentucky coordinate system,  
south zone and north zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 16, shown in blue  
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983  
move the projection lines 4 meters south and  
5 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries  
of the National or State reservations shown on this map



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

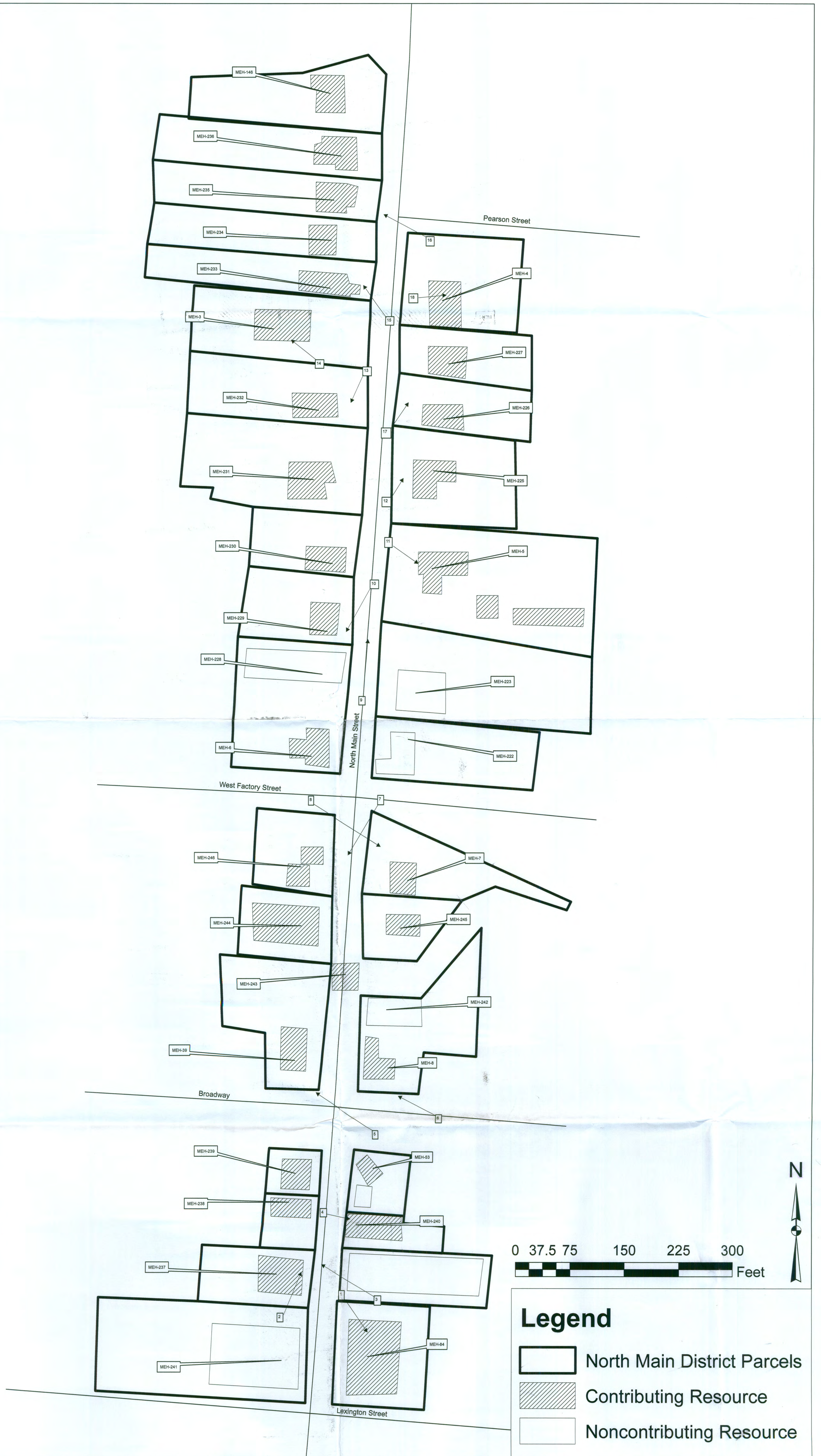
Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather

U.S. Route      State Route

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation  
with State of Kentucky agencies from aerial photographs taken 1984  
and other sources. Contours adjusted adjacent to certain photo-revised  
hydrographic features. This information not field checked. Map edited 1987

HARRODSBURG, KY.  
SE/4 HARRODSBURG 15' QUADRANGLE  
37084-G7-TF-024  
1967  
PHOTOREVISED 1987  
DMA 4059 IV SE-SERIES 7553









STEVEN L. BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

**TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET  
KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL**

MARCHETA SPARROW  
SECRETARY

**THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE**

300 WASHINGTON STREET  
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601  
PHONE (502) 564-7005  
FAX (502) 564-5820  
www.heritage.ky.gov

LINDY CASEBIER  
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

July 20, 2011 *sent*  
*11/15/2011*  
*dlj*

Mr. Dallan C. Wordekemper, CCIM  
Federal Preservation Officer  
Real Estate Specialist  
United States Postal Service  
475 l'Enfant Plaza, SW  
Suite 6670  
Washington, DC 20260-1862

**Re: US Post Office  
105 North Main Street, Harrodsburg, Kentucky.  
within the North Main Street District  
Harrodsburg, Mercer County, Kentucky**

**US Post Office  
202 East Main Street, Springfield, Kentucky  
within the Springfield Main Street District  
Springfield, Washington County, Kentucky**

Dear Mr. Wordekemper:

In the 2 districts named above are the two Post Offices, also named. These districts were considered by the Kentucky Historic Preservation Review Board for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The Review Board meeting was held on Tuesday, September 6, 2011, at 10:00, at the Mercer County Public Library, 109 West Lexington Street, Harrodsburg, Kentucky. Public meetings about these districts were held in the respective communities prior to the Review Board meeting. Marty Perry, the Kentucky Heritage Council's National Register Coordinator, conducted the meetings, and addressed questions about what potential National Register listing means to property owners and to the city.

Regulations governing this process require the Kentucky State Historic Preservation Office to notify owners and invite them to comment on whether their property should be nominated to the National Register. This office sent notification letters to the local Post Office instead of to the Postal Service's Federal Preservation Office. If you wish to object to the nomination, you must submit a notarized letter to this office. Address all response letters to Marty Perry, Kentucky Heritage Council, 300 Washington Street, Frankfort KY 40601.

The Register will allow comments for 30 days after the letter has been sent. If you wish to comment, please send your comments to this office. A copy of the nomination is on file in the State Historic Preservation Office and will be made available upon request according to 36 CFR 60.6. If you have any questions, please visit our website at: <http://www.heritage.ky.gov/>, or contact Mr. Perry at 502-564-7005 extension 132.

Sincerely,

Lindy Casebier  
Acting Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer

LC/mp/jvb  
Enclosure



STEVEN L. BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET  
KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL

MARCHETA SPARROW  
SECRETARY

THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

300 WASHINGTON STREET  
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601  
PHONE (502) 564-7005  
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[www.heritage.ky.gov](http://www.heritage.ky.gov)

LINDY CASEBIER  
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

July 22, 2011

United States Postal Service  
105 N Main St  
Harrodsburg KY 40330

Re: North Main Street District  
Harrodsburg, Mercer County, Kentucky

Dear Property Owner:

The district named above, which includes your property at 105 N Main St (see enclosed map), will be considered by the Kentucky Historic Preservation Review Board for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. You are invited to attend the Review Board meeting which will be held on Tuesday, September 6, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. EST, at the Mercer County Public Library, 109 West Lexington Street, Harrodsburg, Kentucky. Enclosed is an information sheet describing the effects of National Register listing.

To learn more about the National Register process you are invited to attend a public information meeting at 6:30 p.m. EST on Tuesday, August 23 at Morgan Row, 220 South Chiles Street, Harrodsburg, KY. Marty Perry, the Kentucky Heritage Council's National Register Coordinator, will be on hand to explain and address questions about what potential National Register listing means to property owners and to the city.

Regulations governing this process require the Kentucky State Historic Preservation Office to invite you to comment in writing on whether your property should be nominated to the National Register. If you wish to object to the nomination, you must submit a notarized letter to this office stating that you object to the nomination and that you are the owner of the property identified in this notice (please restate the address as it appears above). Address all response letters to Marty Perry, Kentucky Heritage Council, 300 Washington Street, Frankfort KY 40601.

Comments must be received before the State Review Board considers this nomination on September 6, 2011. A copy of the nomination and the criteria under which properties are evaluated are on file in the State Historic Preservation Office and will be made available upon request according to 36 CFR 60.6. If you have any questions, please visit our website at: <http://www.heritage.ky.gov/>, or contact Mr. Perry at 502-564-7005 extension 132.

Sincerely,

Lindy Casebier  
Acting Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer

LC/mp/jvb  
Enclosure



STEVEN L. BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

**TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET  
KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL**

MARCHETA SPARROW  
SECRETARY



THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
300 WASHINGTON STREET  
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601  
PHONE (502) 564-7005  
FAX (502) 564-5820  
www.heritage.ky.gov

MARK DENNEN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

September 23, 2011

Ms. Carol Shull, Keeper  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service 2280  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed are nominations approved at the September 6, 2011 Review Board meeting. We are submitting them for listing in the National Register:

**Murray Woman's Club Clubhouse**, Calloway County, Kentucky  
**LaSalette Academy**, Kenton County, Kentucky  
**London Downtown Historic District**, Laurel County, Kentucky  
**Livingston County Courthouse**, Livingston County, Kentucky  
**North Main Street Historic District**, Mercer County, Kentucky  
**Lexington and Cane Run Historic District**, Mercer County, Kentucky  
**Baldwin's Tourist Court**, Nelson County, Kentucky  
**Kurtz Restaurant/Bardstown-Parkview Motel-Office**, Nelson County, Kentucky  
**Old Kentucky Home Motel**, Nelson County, Kentucky  
**Wilson Motel**, Nelson County, Kentucky  
**Guthrie Historic District**, Todd County, Kentucky  
**Hardcastle Store**, Warren County, Kentucky  
**Springfield Main Street District**, Washington County, Kentucky

We appreciate your consideration of these nominations.

Sincerely,

Lindy Casebier, SHPO and  
Executive Director  
Kentucky Heritage Council



STEVEN L. BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

**TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET  
KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL**

MARCHETA SPARROW  
SECRETARY



THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
300 WASHINGTON STREET  
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601  
PHONE (502) 564-7005  
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MARK DENNEN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

September 23, 2011

Ms. Carol Shull, Keeper  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service 2280  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed are nominations approved at the September 6, 2011 Review Board meeting. We are submitting them for listing in the National Register:

**Murray Woman's Club Clubhouse**, Calloway County, Kentucky  
**LaSalette Academy**, Kenton County, Kentucky  
**London Downtown Historic District**, Laurel County, Kentucky  
**Livingston County Courthouse**, Livingston County, Kentucky  
**North Main Street Historic District**, Mercer County, Kentucky  
**Lexington and Cane Run Historic District**, Mercer County, Kentucky  
**Baldwin's Tourist Court**, Nelson County, Kentucky  
**Kurtz Restaurant/Bardstown-Parkview Motel-Office**, Nelson County, Kentucky  
**Old Kentucky Home Motel**, Nelson County, Kentucky  
**Wilson Motel**, Nelson County, Kentucky  
**Guthrie Historic District**, Todd County, Kentucky  
**Hardcastle Store**, Warren County, Kentucky  
✓ **Springfield Main Street District**, Washington County, Kentucky

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