

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAR 26 1980
DATE ENTERED	MAY 29 1980

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Mutter Gottes Historic District

AND/OR COMMON
Mother of God Historic District

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER *Roughly bounded by Madison Ave, 4th, 5th and 6th Sts.*

See Continuation Sheet

CITY, TOWN
Covington

STATE
Kentucky

VICINITY OF
6

COUNTY
Kenton

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
6

CODE
021

CODE
117

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Multiple--See Continuation Sheet

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Kenton County Municipal Building

STREET & NUMBER
Court Street

CITY, TOWN
Covington

STATE
Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Mutter Gottes Historic District is located in downtown Covington, Kentucky just west of the commercial section of the city. With a population of 52,535, Covington lies in the northernmost region of the state just across the Ohio River from the larger metropolis of Cincinnati. Surrounded by hills to the south, Covington has often been likened to a city on the Rhine, a feeling that is emphasized by the numerous church spires "that taper up from among compact business and factory buildings and the plain brick structures put up by German immigrants of the mid-century."¹

Containing 153 buildings, the district includes all of Covington and Kentucky Avenues, the east side of Johnson from Fourth to Fifth Street, Craig Street from Fifth to Sixth Street, the north and south sides of the 200 block of Sixth Street as well as 120-130 Sixth Street, all properties fronting on the north side of Fifth Street from Johnson to Madison Street and those on the south side from Craig to Montgomery Street, the west side of Montgomery and 526 Montgomery, the properties on the south side of Fourth Street from Johnson to Russell Street, and those properties fronting the 400 and 500 blocks of Russell Street. The boundaries have been determined on the basis of the obvious concentration of notable mid-nineteenth century residential architecture. On the whole, the district reflects a densely built neighborhood with the majority of structures being two-story townhouses dating from the 1850s and 1860s. Houses were built close to the street on narrow lots, and many retain graceful wrought iron fences along the sidewalk providing a sense of domestic space in the otherwise urban environment. The area to the east along Madison Street has been excluded because the buildings are commercial in character and thus not in keeping with the historically residential nature of the district.² To the north and west are numerous modern commercial and industrial structures incompatible with the residential neighborhood, while the area to the south of the district disintegrates into open spaces interspersed with commercial buildings. Intrusions consist of gas stations at the southwest corner of Fourth and Russell and the northeast corner of Johnson and Fifth, a modern, one-story shopping complex at the northeast corner of Fifth and Russell, an automobile lot on the northwest corner of Sixth and Russell, and vacant and/or parking lots at 513 and 526 Russell, 205 and 224 Sixth, and 416 and 420 Johnson Street.

The south side of the 200 block of Sixth Street contains a row of duplexes which appear to be among the older structures in the district, being simple two-story buildings with gabled roofs and straight-headed windows lacking any ornamentation except stone sills and lintels. On the north side of the block is a later two-story brick duplex displaying pedimented hood molds and a cornice pierced by rectangular attic windows and revealing brackets and dentils. A similar building is Schwaller's Market on the northeast corner of Sixth and Craig, a two-story, three-bay structure with a two-bay unit attached on the east. On the southwest corner of Sixth and Russell is a 3½-story brick structure highlighted by a mansard roof and a slender corner tower. Paired windows with plain stone lintels pierce the facade which is divided by stone belt courses at the second and third floor levels. The northeast corner of Sixth and Russell is anchored by the

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
----------------	-------------------

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Scattered among the visually rich and varied streetscapes that constitute the urban fabric of downtown Covington, Kentucky are numerous nineteenth century residential enclaves, many of which are clustered about a central neighborhood church. The Mutter Gottes Historic District is one such area, deriving its name from the Mother of God Church (Mutter Gottes Kirche),¹ being the first German Catholic parish in a city noted for its strong German heritage which is reflected so strikingly in the abundance of nineteenth century church spires that distinguish its skyline. Consisting of approx. 15 acres, the Mutter Gottes Historic District is characterized by an almost unbroken concentration of noteworthy mid-to-late nineteenth century domestic architecture. Erected primarily by middle-class German immigrants who settled in Covington beginning in the 1840s, structures range from the modest brick and frame two-story dwellings on the secondary streets of Craig and Kentucky, to the more substantial brick houses along the 200 block of Sixth Street, to the grander brick and stone residences that line Fifth Street. The Mother of God Church is the area's landmark building, and the few commercial enterprises along Sixth Street--corner groceries, bars, and a drug-store--complete the atmosphere of neighborhood unity. This sense of community spirit has been strengthened in the last five years by the restoration and renovation of many of the buildings in the area. Efforts began along Covington Avenue and have since touched every street within the district boundaries with the result being that a majority of the buildings are no longer neglected tenements but well-maintained residences and apartments contributing to a highly viable neighborhood.

Covington grew westward from the area known as "The Point" where the Licking River flows into the Ohio across from Cincinnati. In 1801, Thomas Kennedy purchased 150 acres comprising "The Point" on which he erected a log house and began operating a ferry across the Ohio to Losantville (present day Cincinnati). Kennedy subsequently sold his interests to Richard M. Gano, John S. Gano, and Thomas D. Carneal who organized a land company in 1815 and named the newly established town after General Leonard Covington, a native of Maryland. Covington had distinguished himself militarily while training under General Anthony Wayne in Cincinnati in 1793 and later died in the Battle of Chrysler's Field (Canada) in the War of 1812. The original city was bounded by the Ohio River on the north, the Licking River on the east, Sixth Street on the south, and Washington Street on the west.² An early indication of Covington's close ties to Cincinnati can be seen in the planning of the north-south streets which were laid out as if continuations of Cincinnati's streets.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Brungs, Sister Mary Carmelite. The Church of the Mother of God: A Centennial Chronical. Covington: Jameson-Rolfes, 1941.

Collins, Lewis and Richard H. History of Kentucky. 2 vols. Reprint ed., Berea, Kentucky: Kentucke Imprints, 1976.

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 15 acres.

QUADRANGLE NAME Covington, Ky.-Ohio

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A | 1,6 | 7,1,5 | 2,8,0 | 4,3 | 2,9 | 0,8,0 |

B | 1,6 | 7,1,5 | 3,0,0 | 4,3 | 2,9 | 0,4,0 |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | 1,6 | 7,1,5 | 2,0,0 | 4,3 | 2,8 | 9,3,0 |

D | 1,6 | 7,1,5 | 2,4,0 | 4,3 | 2,8 | 8,6,0 |

E | 1,6 | 7,1,5 | 0,8,0 | 4,3 | 2,8 | 8,0,0 |

F | 1,6 | 7,1,4 | 9,9,0 | 4,3 | 2,8 | 7,9,0 |

G | 1,6 | 7,1,4 | 9,2,0 | 4,3 | 2,8 | 8,4,0 |

H | 1,6 | 7,1,4 | 8,8,0 | 4,3 | 2,8 | 9,2,0 |

(Cont.)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION see corrected (BC) on comparison sheet rec'd 5/23/80

Beginning at the northeast corner of First Christian Church property, south to West Fifth Street, ^{west} east along the north side of West Fifth to Montgomery, south along the west side of Montgomery, east to include the property at 520-524

(cont.)

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Charlotte Schneider, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

March 1980

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

502/564-3741

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Donna C. Hopkins

TITLE

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

March 19, 1980

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

John Ray Price
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

5/29/80

ATTEST: *Kristin J. O'Connell*
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

5/28/80

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substantial three-story Morwessel Drugstore erected in 1881. The original cast iron storefront has been retained while the plain facade above is relieved by simple hood molds and an attractive bracketed cornice. Just east of Morwessel's is a row of two-story townhouses each displaying round arch hood molds with consoles and elaborate cornices with brackets and modillions. Simple wrought iron fences provide a sense of privacy from the street.

The grander, more pretentious houses are concentrated along Fifth Street particularly in the block between Madison and Russell Streets. Among the more notable is the J. D. Shutt house. Shutt served as president of the city council in 1865, was subsequently a member of the state legislature, and in 1882 was elected to the board of directors of the First National Bank of Covington. His prominence in the community is reflected in the elegant two-story townhouse at 28 Fifth Street. The stone-faced facade is highlighted by the round arch entrance displaying fluted pilasters, cherubs, and an arched pediment. Round arch windows pierce the first floor while the second floor openings are segmental with corresponding hood molds. The cornice contains brackets and arched attic windows. The delicate wrought iron fence has been well preserved. The Hellebuck house at 103 Fifth and the J. Henry Specker house at 109 Fifth are equally impressive stone residences. Set on a slight rise above the street, the Hellebuck house is approached by broad sweeping steps while the Specker house rests behind a wrought iron fence set above a stone retaining wall. 46 Fifth Street, the Henry Kassen house, presents a rich facade highlighted by stone quoins, elegant stone hood molds, a pedimented entrance, and a cornice displaying brackets and various moldings. The James F. Lowe house at 40 Fifth Street displays a gabled facade accented by an elaborate pediment and brick quoins. 118 Fifth Street is the James Spilman house, a two-story, brick structure characterized by stone quoins, round arch hood molds, a simple cornice with modillions, and an attractive entrance sheltered by a cornice strip supported by consoles. The building on the southeast corner of Fifth and Russell, originally two bays wide and later increased to three, is distinguished by its irregular roofline displaying a gabled tripartite dormer and a single shed-roofed dormer; diamond-patterned moldings, dentils, and brackets accent the projecting cornice. The First Christian Church at 14 Fifth Street is an 1894 Victorian Gothic structure designed by the Covington firm of Dittoe and Wisenall. Founded ca. 1827 by James G. Arnold, a religious leader, teacher, businessman, city official, and philanthropist, the parish has occupied this site since 1864. The building presents a gabled facade pierced by groupings of round arch windows with stone labels. A central Tudor arch treatment is the focal point of the facade and entrances are located at the east and west sides.

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511 Montgomery Street was formerly a two-story, five-bay structure dating from the early settlement of the district; however, only half of the original building remains. Laid in Flemish bond, the house rests on a high ashlar foundation. Six-over-six windows are capped by stone lintels and a simple cornice completes the facade. A later one-story porch shelters the entrance.

Covington Avenue, a short one-block street extending from Russell to Johnson Street, contains an admirable collection of two-story brick residences. Generally two bays in width, the buildings display combinations of straight-headed, segmental, and round arch openings and cornices revealing molded friezes, dentils, and brackets. The duplex at 207 Covington is among the finer examples exhibiting round arch windows with stone hood molds on the first floor and segmental arch openings with similar treatments at the second floor level. Massive brackets project from the cornice and recessed panels with foliated carving highlight the frieze.

Houses on the secondary streets such as Craig and Kentucky range from one-story frame shotguns to the more substantial two-story brick structures fashioned after the imposing residences that line the main thoroughfares. The south side of the 200 block of Kentucky contains some of the more modest buildings which are interspersed with structures such as that on the southeast corner of Craig and Kentucky which displays incised stone lintels and a bracketed cornice.

On the northwest corner of Covington and Russell facing Russell is the Robert Knox Summerwell house, a simple two-story, three-bay brick structure notable for its abundance of wrought iron work. The intricate iron porch sheltering the first floor facade and the equally elaborate iron fence distinguish this house from others in the district. Summerwell was an early resident of the neighborhood, serving on the city council in the early 1860s. The southwest corner of Fifth and Russell is anchored by a three-story brick structure displaying a mansard roof broken by gabled dormers, an elaborate cornice, and stone hood molds with saw-tooth trim. By far the most outstanding building in the district is the Albert B. Koett house at 515 Russell Street. Albert Koett partnered with John Robert Kelley in 1903 in founding the Kelley-Koett Company which pioneered in the development of X-ray equipment. Operating under the trade name Keleket, the firm's greatest expansion came during World War I when most of the plant's production was directed to serving the government's war effort, and the firm's name has continued to be well known in the field of X-ray equipment. The tall, two-story residence is composed of molded brick highlighted by varying rows of brick corbelling that resemble a cornice. A curved, central section projecting from the facade and extending the full height of the building is accented by brightly colored tiles and punctuated by round arch windows containing leaded glass panes.

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The south side of the 200 block of Fourth Street contains a row of six houses which appear to date from the 1880s, making them some of the latest structures in the district. Similar in their assymetrical facades, each building reflects its individuality in the imaginative use of stonework, patterned brick, and wood trim. The variety of picturesque porches add to the visual richness of the streetscape. Fourth Street is a heavily travelled thoroughfare; thus, this block acts as a buffer against the commercial and industrial development along the northern edge of the district.

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¹Federal Writers Project of Works Progress Administration, comp.
Kentucky: A Guide to the Bluegrass State (reprint ed., New York: Harcourt,
Brace, and Company, 1973), p. 147.

²The boundaries of the historic commercial district have been designated
for a future National Register nomination.

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Growth was negligible during the next fifteen years due to several factors. The War of 1812 temporarily hindered westward migration and settlement, and Covington experienced a flood in 1815 which contributed to the slow sale of town lots. These events were followed by the national depression of 1819-20. The land company was finally dissolved in 1824 with many of the lots yet unsold. Thus, it was not until 1830 that Covington showed any signs of potential development. The first industry was the Covington Cotton Factory established in 1828 near the waterfront just west of "The Point."

By 1830, Covington could only boast a population of 715 served by a log church, several inns, a schoolhouse which doubled as a general meeting place, a fire brigade, and a steam ferry.³ However, settlement began to increase rapidly after 1830 as Cincinnati was experiencing a steady increase in population which was transmitted to her Kentucky neighbor. Incorporated in 1834, Covington became a trade center for livestock, grain, and other farm products, and by 1840 the city had 2,026 inhabitants.

The greatest period of growth came between 1840 and 1860 when the initial trans-Appalachian settlers were succeeded by a major influx of German immigrants. Unrest in the numerous German states culminating in revolution in 1848 was the major cause for the heavy German migration. Advertisements in railroad stations in small towns throughout Germany encouraged emigration to Kentucky by making favorable comparisons between the topography of the Ohio River Valley and that of the Rhine. In 1840, an estimated 200 Germans per day were arriving in the Covington-Cincinnati area, and in the twenty years between 1840 and 1860, Covington's population jumped from 2,026 to 16,471.⁴ Both Protestants and Catholics left Germany in large numbers throughout the mid-nineteenth century and accounted for a more than doubling of the population of Covington between 1860 and 1890.

The tremendous surge in numbers was reflected throughout the remainder of the nineteenth century in the physical, social, and economic expansion of Covington. By 1847, two leading educational institutions had been established--the Western Baptist Theological Seminary⁵ and Dr. Orr's Female Seminary. During the 1850s, the Kentucky Central Railroad was begun from Covington to Lexington, a high school was opened, the Roman Catholic bishopric was established in Covington, and gas was first introduced for lighting. The city's first hospital, St. Elizabeth, was founded by 1860, while at the same time, the city could claim such industries as the production of furniture, farm implements, rope, cloth, beer and meat packing in addition to the ever present river commerce.⁶

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From the early days of Thomas Kennedy's ferry, Covington has been more closely tied, both socially and economically, to Cincinnati and the North than to the rest of Kentucky. Even the elimination of road tolls and the macadamization of roads to the inner Bluegrass did not succeed in drawing Covington and central Kentucky closer together. Plans for a bridge across the Ohio connecting Covington and Cincinnati were authorized as early as 1846; however, construction of the Covington-Cincinnati Suspension Bridge (National Historic Landmark) was not completed until 1866. Although the Civil War was a major factor in delaying the completion of the bridge, it also emphasized the obvious need for a physical link between the two cities. While no battles were fought in the immediate Covington-Cincinnati area, the threat of attack from the south caused the construction of a semi-circular ring of trenches around Covington and the building of a pontoon bridge between the two cities.

In 1870 with a population of 24,508, Covington was continuing to experience new growth and development. The taxable value of the city's property had increased 700% from 1840 and suburbs were rapidly developing. Covington recovered quickly from the panic of 1873, and the end of that decade saw the completion of the Federal Building and the Maysville and Big Sandy Railroad line from Ashland to Covington. Industry in the period from 1873 to 1890 was characterized by the "one-man" shop which was gradually replaced during the '90s by small but substantial industrial concerns, one of the more successful examples being the Kelley-Koett X-ray firm.⁷

Among the first areas to be developed as a result of Covington's rapid growth was that encompassed by the proposed Mutter Gottes Historic District, situated southwest of the original city limits. Most of this area was dense forest owned by Thomas D. Carneal, one of the original trustees of the former land company. Realizing the potential value of the land, Carneal retained his holdings until 1832 when he sold the property to Samuel and Frances Ann Russell of Middletown, Connecticut. The following year, the Russells purchased adjacent acreage from William S. Johnston of Cincinnati. One of the first land sales came in 1833 when the Russells sold a lot on the southeast corner of what is now Fifth and Montgomery to a group who in 1834 established St. Mary's church, the first Roman Catholic parish in the city. Montgomery Street takes its name from the Reverend Stephen H. Montgomery, St. Mary's first priest.

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In partnership with Johnston, the Russells formed the Johnston and Russell subdivision in 1848, and the sale of lots and subsequent construction began shortly thereafter. By 1877, the present neighborhood scheme was well established as is evidenced by the city atlas of that year which shows that almost all of the lots had been built upon with the exception of the south side of Fourth Street and the east side of Russell between Fifth and Sixth. The city directories and census records from the last half of the nineteenth century reveal that residents of the area were of predominantly German ancestry and occupied the full range of middle class professions, including teachers, dressmakers, steam boat captains, clergymen, bookkeepers, carpenters, barbers, blacksmiths, clerks, bankers, and merchants to name only a few. The focal point of the area, the Mother of God Church, traces its origins to 1841 when the decision was made to organize a German Catholic parish separate from St. Mary's. The present church structure on Sixth Street was erected in 1871 and has served as the mother parish for six subsequent Roman Catholic churches in Covington. Until 1974, the Mother of God parish school, a 1910 structure designed by noted Cincinnati architect Samuel Hannaford, stood directly across from the church.

Inevitably, with the increased growth and urbanization came a decline in the use of the German language and in many of the outward expressions of German culture. Much of this can be attributed to the assimilation of the second generation into a more heterogeneous society. In addition, strong anti-German sentiment during World War I caused many of Covington's German-American residents to anglicize their names. German gradually came to be replaced by English in the church services as well. Prohibition was another factor resulting in both the demise of the German breweries and the loss of the local beer gardens which served an important social and cultural function in the German neighborhoods.

Despite these social and cultural changes, Covington has fortunately retained much of its rich nineteenth century ambience which is visible in the profusion of quality domestic architecture remaining in the Mutter Gottes Historic District. The area has successfully maintained an atmosphere of neighborhood unity reminiscent of its mid-century origins, and because of a recent renewal of interest in downtown Covington, its continued preservation appears to be secure.

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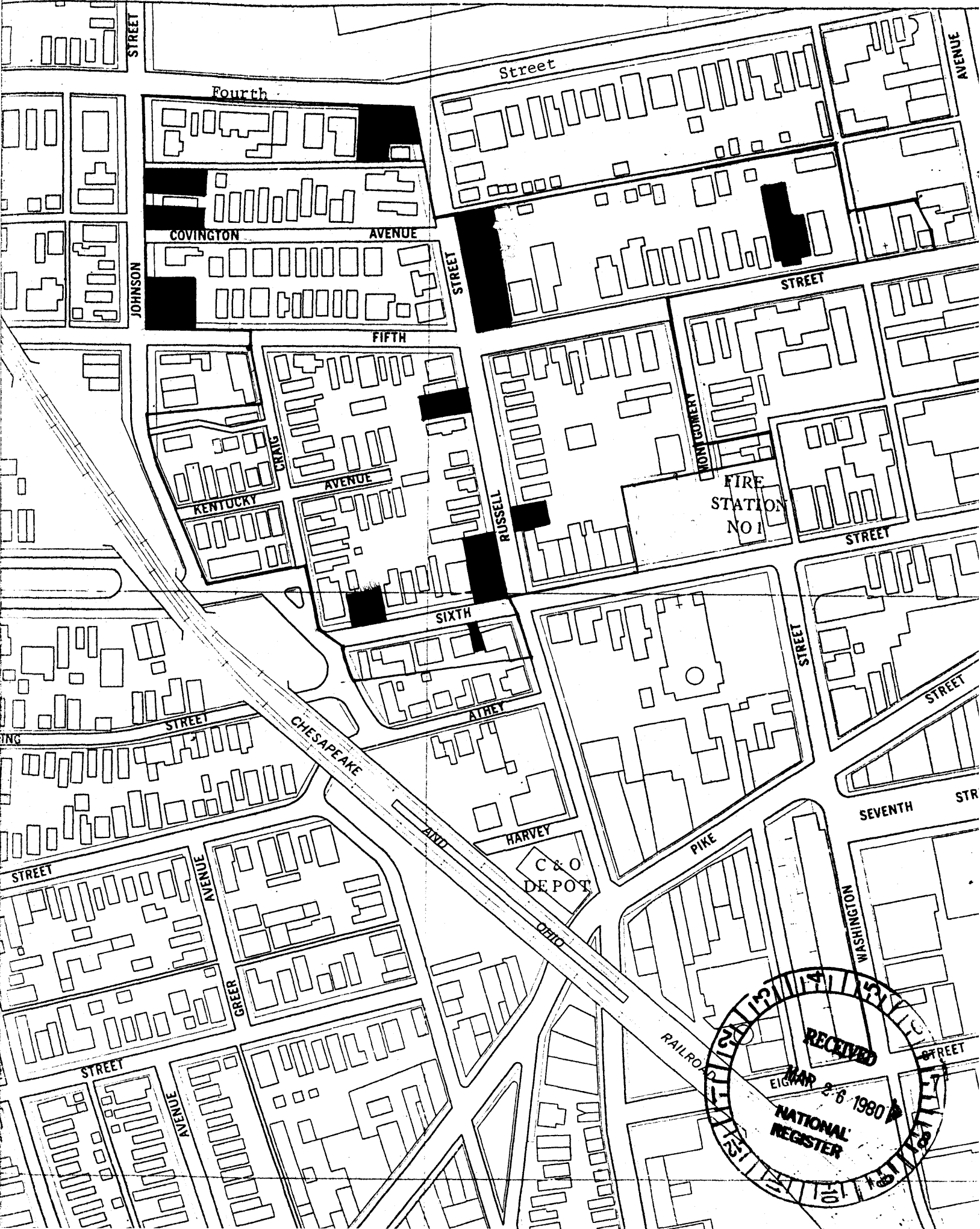
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- ¹Listed in the National Register of Historic Places 24 July 1973.
- ²See National Register forms for Riverside Drive Historic District, listed 23 November 1971 and Licking Riverside Historic District, listed 30 July 1975.
- ³Federal Writers Project of Works Progress Administration, comp., Kentucky: A Guide to the Bluegrass State (reprint ed., New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1973), p. 148.
- ⁴Lewis and Richard H. Collins, History of Kentucky (1874, reprint ed., Berea, Kentucky: Kentucke Imprints, 1976), Vol.II, p. 419.
- ⁵See Seminary Square Historic District, form pending 11 March 1980.
- ⁶Federal Writers Project, Kentucky: A Guide to the Bluegrass State, p. 149.
- ⁷H. A. Moore, "The Kelley-Koett Manufacturing Company, Inc.," 5 May 1938, Kelley-Koett X-Ray Equipment, Covington, Kentucky.



RECEIVED
 MAR 28 1980
 NATIONAL REGISTER
 WASHINGTON, D.C.

Mutter Gottes Historic District
Covington, Kenton County, Kentucky
Site Location Map
Northern Ky. Area Planning Comm.
Kenton & Campbell counties, Ky.
Planning map, 1963 Map 2

Scale: 1" = 200'
Green--post 1930 structures
Blue--intrusions

MAY 29 1980