

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



1. Name of Property

historic name Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

other names/site number Harrodsburg Commercial District

Related Multiple Property _____

2. Location

street & number Various addresses, 109-225 East Poplar, 115 & 125 W. Poplar, 320

NA

not for publication

South Chiles-104 South Chiles, 122, 112, 108 W. Lexington

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

Applicable National Register Criteria:

 A B XC D

Signature of certifying official/Title /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): Additional Documentation Accepted

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

12/12/2017

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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	
27	3	buildings
	1	sites
		structures
		objects
27	4	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

Mercer County MRA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

1 district (57 contributing buildings) and 4 individual buildings

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-19TH CENTURY/Greek Revival

MID-19TH CENTURY/Gothic Revival

LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate and Queen Anne

LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Colonial Revival

LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH C.

AMERICAN/Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE/limestone

BRICK; WOOD/Weatherboard;

walls: STONE/limestone SYNTHETICS/vinyl

roof: METAL; ASPHALT

other:

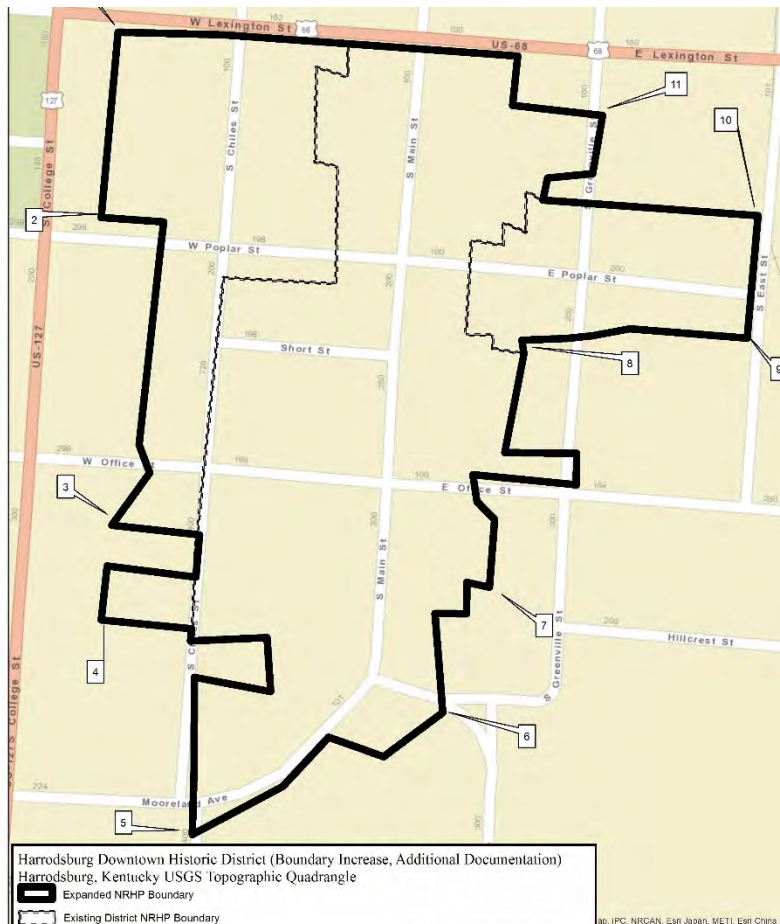
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Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

This nomination for the Harrodsburg Downtown District proposes an expansion of boundaries of the original Harrodsburg Commercial District, listed in 1980 (NRIS: 80001657). The expanded district is a mixed-use district located in the county seat town of Harrodsburg, in Mercer County. This expansion encompasses several resources previously listed in the NRHP both individually and as part of a 1989 Multiple Resource Area nomination. This nomination seeks to unite several previously-listed resources within their common context, as well as better reflect the core of the downtown district with more appropriate boundaries. The area currently listed includes a district of 14.5 acres with 57 contributing buildings at the time of listing, as well as 4 individually listed properties. The area proposed for listing as a larger district completely encompasses the Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District and the 4 previously listed properties, and will increase the district's area by another 9.7 acres (24.2 acres total), and will add 35 new resources: 31 contributing buildings (four of which are previously listed), 3 non-contributing buildings, and 1 non-contributing site.



Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District. Original boundary: thin line; Expansion boundary: heavy line

Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District, original district boundary and expansion area

In revisiting the original district, an attempt was made to recognize which status, contributing or non-contributing, was assigned to each property in 1980. This effort could only be an estimate, because properties in the downtown have been reconfigured since 1980, and no inventory was made for the 1980 district

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nomination. The sketch map accompanying the 1980 nomination did not identify properties in a clear manner. This nomination's author attempted to count the properties from 1980 by using the property configurations in 2016, which at least allowed a more consistent comparison between the two points in time. The findings of that counting appear in the table starting on page 8. This author could verify that the original district had 53 contributing properties and 8 which did not contribute; that compares with 51 contributing properties in 2016 verses 10 non-contributing properties today—not a severe loss of historic integrity in 36 years.

The original nomination, like many written during that time period, does not have a clearly stated Period of Significance, but does include contributing buildings constructed in 1930. This nomination will assume a POS of 1800-1945, which does not result in a change to the perceived intent of the original nomination, and includes the relevant buildings discussed on the following pages. The name of the expanded district will be changed to the "Harrodsburg Downtown District" to not only better indicate the mixed-use nature of the original nomination and boundary, but also the additional parcels proposed for inclusion.

The original nomination consists of three blocks of South Main Street, the south side of the 100 block of West Poplar Street, and the north side of Short Street. This area, the nomination states, "comprises a noteworthy concentration of well-preserved late nineteenth century commercial architecture," though it also includes residential and ecclesiastical architecture. There is no resource inventory, but the text states that the district includes "58 buildings with 7 intrusions, two of which were determined to be contributing. Contributing contemporary structures include the Harrodsburg Baptist Church and No. 118 West Poplar Street." Neither of these two buildings met the 50-year threshold at the time of listing. The building at 118 West Poplar (MEH-89) was built in the 1940s; the Harrodsburg Baptist Church (MEH-116) was built in 1961.

The buildings previously-listed individually, in this proposed district expansion area, include:

- George Passmore House (Resource 16, MEH-71, NRHP 1989)
- Tomlinson-Price House (Resource 17, MEH-35, NRHP 1989)
- Jailer's Residence (Resource 19, MEH-42, NRHP 1989)
- Morgan Row (Resource 23, MEH-43, NRHP 1972).



George Passmore House

Tomlinson-Price House

Mercer County Jailer's House

Morgan Row

Development and Physical Character of the District

Mercer County, the sixth county formed in Kentucky, is located in the Bluegrass Region of the state, and covers some 250 square miles. Harrodsburg, the county seat, has the distinction of being the first permanent English settlement west of the Allegheny Mountains.

South Main Street runs south up an incline, from the south side of Lexington Avenue (the Lexington, Harrodsburg and Perryville Turnpike). It terminates at the intersection with Mooreland and Beaumont Avenues at the south end of the district. South Chiles Street runs parallel to South Main Street to its west, at a lower

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elevation. Poplar Street runs east-west through the district, crossing both Main and South Chiles Streets. The district streets were originally platted without alleys, and all are currently paved with concrete curbs and sidewalks. On-street parking occurs on all of the streets in the district.

The setback varies depending upon the period and type of construction. The first block of East Poplar has staggered setbacks, with small yards in front of the dwellings at 121 and 127 East Poplar (MEH-318 and MEH-319). The same is true on the opposite side, as the Thompson-Daviess House at 122 East Poplar (MEH-34) is located on a larger sloped lot with a small front yard, and expansive side and back yard. The third block of East Poplar, developed during the last quarter of the 19th century and first part of the 20th century (with the exception of the George Passmore House) maintains slightly larger lots than the first block. The two dwellings on West Poplar Street again demonstrate the difference a few decades makes – the Italianate Tomlinson-Price House at 115 West Poplar Street (MEH-35) has a small front yard, while the William McBride House at 125 West Poplar Street (MEH-36) has a five-foot setback. South Chiles Street also has very little setback for its properties.

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. Exterior materials also give a consistency to the district, as only two primary materials are utilized within the proposed district – brick and horizontal 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.

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, non-wood siding, or brick veneer. Additional contributing outbuildings include small sheds.

The contributing resources of the district, built over a period of 150 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.

Character of the Proposed Additions to the District

The area proposed for inclusion in an expanded district exhibits the same character as the resources within the current boundaries: a mixture of domestic, commercial and ecclesiastical architecture that depicts the growth and development of downtown Harrodsburg, Kentucky. The buildings within the expanded area range in age from the first quarter of the 19th century to shortly before World War II, and in material, mirror the existing district with a mixture of frame and brick.

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Alterations

The two most common changes in the district are the subdivision of large parcels of land during the Period of Significance and 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 disturb the integrity between the district's associations and our view of the district's design values. 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 Harrodsburg Downtown District from conveying its significance in the development of Harrodsburg and Mercer County. As a whole, the district's excellent integrity of setting, location, design, materials, workmanship and feeling, means that the district conveys its significance.

Resource Inventory

The Resource Inventory which follows describes the properties found within the Harrodsburg Downtown 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. 1800-1950 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 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 (KHC), the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

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.

"S" or 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
FV: Folk Victorian	CV: Commercial Victorian
GoRe: Gothic Revival	CRFT: Craftsman
CR: Colonial Revival	MT: Minimal Traditional
CRFT C: Craftsman Commercial	

The "PT" 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:

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CP: Central Passage TP: T-plan
C/R: Commercial/residential U: Unknown
4S: American Foursquare CH: Church or church-associated resource
SP: Side-passage D: Duplex
CM: Commercial building FG: Front gable orientation
APT: Apartment building RH: Rowhouse

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 “CH” or 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 “ST” 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.

Properties Proposed for addition to the Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District

NR #	KHC #	Address	Name	Date	S	PT	HT	MT	ST	CH
1	MEH-315	109-111 E. Poplar	Beauty salon	1875-1899	IT	C/R	2	B	C	RW
2	MEH-316	113 E. Poplar	Harold D. Lanham, CPA office	1900-1924	CR	4S	2.5	B	C	RW
3	MEH-317	117 E. Poplar		1875-1899	IT	SG	1	B	C	RW
4	MEH-318	121 E. Poplar		1875-1899	IT	D	2	B/FR	C	RW/S
5	MEH-319	127 E. Poplar		1875-1899	IT	D	2	B/FR	C	RW/S
6	MEH-34	122 E. Poplar	Thompson-Daviess House	1850-1874	QA/IT	TP	2	FR	C	NSA
7	MEH-320	112 E. Poplar	Young's Professional Services	1925-1949	N/A	CM	2	CB	NC	N/A
8	MEH-321	203 E. Poplar		1875-1899	FV	TP	2	FR	C	RW/S
9	MEH-322	209 E. Poplar		1875-1899	IT	TP	2	FR	C	RW/S

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NR #	KHC #	Address	Name	Date	S	PT	HT	MT	ST	CH
10	MEH-323	213 E. Poplar		1875-1899	N/A	SG	1	FR	C	RW/S
11	MEH-324	225 E. Poplar		1875-1899	FV	TP	1	FR	C	RW/S
12	MEH-325	224 E. Poplar		1925-1949	N/A	APT	2	FR	C	RW/S
13	MEH-326	220 E. Poplar		1900-1924	FC	FG	1.5	FR	C	NSA
14	MEH-327	216 E. Poplar		1900-1924	FC	FG	1.5	FR	C	RW/S
15	MEH-328	208 E. Poplar		1850-1874	N/A	U	1.5	B/FR/ ST	C	RW/S
16	MEH-71	204 E. Poplar	George Passmore House	1800-1824	FD	SP/CP	2	B	C/NR	RW
17	MEH-35	115 W. Poplar	Tomlinson-Price House	1875-1899	IT	TP	2	B	C/NR	NSA
18	MEH-36	125 W. Poplar	William McBride House	1800-1824	FD	CP	2	B	C	RW
19	MEH-147	320 S. Chiles	Jailer's House	1825-1849	FD/GR	CP	2	B	C/NR	RW
20	MEH-42	320 S. Chiles	Old Jail	1875-1879	IT	U	2	B	C	NSA
21	MEH-329	306 S. Chiles		1950-1974	MT	U	1.5	FR	NC	N/A
22	MEH-330	300 S. Chiles	Freedman & Dedman	1950-1974	N/A	CM	1	BV	NC	N/A
23	MEH-43	220, 232, 230 S. Chiles	Morgan Row	1800-1824	FD	RH	2	B	C/NR	NSA
24	MEH-331	216 S. Chiles	Curled Up & Dyed Salon	1900-1924	N/A	CM	1	FR	C	RW/S
25	MEH-332	214 S. Chiles		1875-1899	IT	APT	2	B	C	RW
26	MEH-45	206 S. Chiles	Levi Herndon House	1850-1874	GR	SP	1.5	FR	C	RW/S
27	MEH-46	202 S. Chiles	Henry Farnsworth House	1850-1874	GR/IT	SP	2	B	C	NSA
28	MEH-47	120 S. Chiles	United Methodist Church	1925-1949	GoRe	CH	1	B	C	S
29	MEH-48	120 S. Chiles	Methodist Church Parsonage	1840	GR	SP	2	B	C	RW/S
30	MEH-49	104 S. Chiles	White Hall	1825-1849	GR	CP	2	B	C	AD/R W
31	MEH-333	123 S. Chiles	Automotive Parts	1925-1949	CRFT C	CM	1	B	C	NSA
32	MEH-334	122 W. Lexington	Ingram Buick Company	1900-1924 (1920)	CRFT C	CM	1	B	C	NSA
32.1	MEH-334	122. W Lexington	Ingram Buick Parking lot	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	NC site	N/A
33	MEH-335	112 W. Lexington	Bluegrass Artworks	1875-1899	CV	CM	2	B	C	RW
34	MEH-336	108 W. Lexington	Pat's Place Haircuts	1875-1899	N/A	CM	1	FR	C	RW

Properties Currently in the Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District, with Updated Status

NR #	KHC #	Address	Name	Date	STATUS 1980	STATUS 2016
35	MEH-89	118 W. Poplar	Dr. Condit Vanarsdall Office		C	C
36	MEH-90	111-113 Short	Hardin Building		C	C
37	MEH-91	115-119 Short	W.W. Stephenson Building		C	C
38	MEH-92	121 Short	Hardin Law Office	1875-1899	NC	C
39	MEH-93	123-125 Short	Old Fire House	1875-1899	C	C
40	MEH-94	127 Short	Phil Thompson's Law Office	1875-1899	C	C
41	MEH-44	131 Short	St. Phillips's Episcopal Church	1860-61	C	C

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NR #	KHC #	Address	Name	Date	STATUS 1980	STATUS 2016
42	MEH-96	104-106 W Poplar	Curry & Tucker Building	1875-1899	C	C
43	MEH-97	108 W. Poplar	Nat L. Curry Building	1875-1899	C	C
44	MEH-98	110 W. Poplar	Wiley & Powell Building	1891	C	C
45	MEH-99	116 W. Poplar	Dr. T.O. Humphries Building	1900	C	C
46	MEH-100	102 S. Main	Dedman Block	1888	C	C
47	MEH-101	104-106 S. Main	J.O. Dedman Building	1875-1899	C	C
48	MEH-102	108 S. Main	Poteet House	1875-1899	C	C
49	MEH-103	110 S. Main	Old Harrodsburg Herald Bldg	1875-1899	C	C
50	MEH-104	112 S. Main	Reed & Payne Drugstore	1875-1899	C	C
51	MEH-105	114 S. Main		1875-1899	C	C
52	MEH-106	116 S. Main	Quaker Maid Store Bldg	1875-1899	C	C
53	MEH-107	120 S. Main	The Democrat Office	1875-1899	C	C
54	MEH-108	122 S. Main	Old Blue Ribbon Restaurant	1875-1899	C	C
55	MEH-109	124 S. Main	D.L. Moore Building	1875-1899	C	C
56	MEH-110	128 S. Main	Curry & Morgan Drugstore	1875-1899	C	C
57	MEH-111	134 S. Main	Mercer National Bank	1875-1899	NC	NC
58	MEH-112	200 S. Main	C.D. Tucker Building	1875-1899	C	C
59	MEH-113	202-204 S. Main		1875-1899	NC	NC
60	MEH-114	208 S. Main	Mercer Federal Savings & Loan/City Hall	1875-1899	NC	C
61	MEH-115	224 S. Main	Mercer County Courthouse	N/A	C	NC (no longer extant)
62	MEH-116	312 S. Main	Harrodsburg Baptist Church	1961	C	C
62.1	MEH-116	S. Chiles	Harrodsburg Baptist Church Parking Garage	N/A	NC	NC
62.2	MEH-116	S. Main	Harrodsburg Baptist Church Parking Lot	N/A	NC	NC
63	MEH-117	326 S. Main	United Presbyterian Church	1850s, 1913	C	C
64	MEH-118	101 S. Main	Burford Trapnall Building	1875-1899	C	C
65	MEH-119	103-105 S. Main	John Litsey Building	1875-1899	C	C
66	MEH-120	107 S. Main	Ferguson & Wilson Building	1875-1899	C	C
67	MEH-121	109-111 S. Main	Old Theatre	1875-1899	C	C
68	MEH-122	115-117 S. Main	Coleman's Stable	N/A	C	NC (no longer extant)
69	MEH-123	119 S. Main	Owen Campbell's Pool Hall	1875-1899	C	C
70	MEH-124	121 S. Main	Ben F. Patterson Building	1875-1899	C	C
71	MEH-125	123 S. Main	Marion Daviess Furniture	1875-1899	C	NC
72	MEH-126	125-127 S. Main	Green Parrot/Hardware Store	N/A	C	NC (no longer extant)
73	MEH-127	129 S. Main	Old Eagle Confectionary	N/A	C	NC (no longer extant)
74	MEH-128	131 S. Main	Fig & Threlkeld Building	N/A	C	NC (no longer extant)

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NR #	KHC #	Address	Name	Date	STATUS 1980	STATUS 2016
75	MEH-129	201-203 S. Main	Blue Front Building	1875-1899	C	C
76	MEH-130	205 S. Main	Bohon's Saloon	1875-1899	C	C
77	MEH-131	207-211 S. Main	Ballard's Dry Goods	1879-1899	NC	C
78	MEH-132	215-219 S. Main	Hansford Building	1875-1899	C	C
79	MEH-133	221 S. Main	Wilson & Powell Building	1875-1899	C	C
80	MEH-134	223 S. Main	Lafon & Riker Store	1875-1899	C	C
81	MEH-135	225 S. Main	W.T. Curry's Drugstore	1875-1899	C	C
82	MEH-136	227 S. Main		1875-1899	C	C
83	MEH-137	229 S. Main		1875-1899	C	C
84	MEH-138	231-33 S. Main	James' Flats/Jones Building	1860s	C	C
85	MEH-139	305 S. Main	Harrodsburg Christian Church	1928	C	C
86	MEH-140	319 S. Main	Dr. C.S. Abel House	1887-1888	C	C
87	MEH-141	323 S. Main	Albert G. Vivion House	1887-1888	C	C
88	MEH-142	327 S. Main	Dr. J. Tom Price House	1930	C	C
89	MEH-143	329-331 S. Main	Bruner & Sons Funeral Home	1915	C	C
90	MEH-144	Moreland & Main Street	Opera House/Odd Fellows Lodge	1905	C	C
91	MEH-37	101 Moreland Ave	The Academy	1847	C	C
92	MEH-337	109 Short	Harrodsburg Planning and Zoning	1875-1899	NC	C
93	MEH-338	100 S. Main		1875-1899	C	C

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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

1800-1945

Significant Dates

1900

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Period of Significance (justification)

The Period of Significance is 1800 to 1945, a 15-year expansion of the original POS, to end of the period of growth and development in the district.

Criteria Considerations: NA

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Statement of Significance

Summary Paragraph

The expanded Harrodsburg Downtown District meets the fourth term of National Register Criterion C—it is “a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.” The district is significant in the Area of Architecture, for its display of architectural style in the form of commercial, community, and residential buildings. This group of buildings is significant on a local level as the core of the business district and the first residential dwellings built alongside the commercial buildings. The resources in the existing district and in the proposed expansion area are evaluated within the historic context “**An Architectural Evolution: Popular National Styles and Their Regional Interpretation in Mercer County, 1800-1950.**”

This expanded boundary looks at this core area of downtown Harrodsburg as a business center *and* residential area, and looks at the architectural merit of rebuilding patterns within the district.

Many of the buildings within the district’s expanded area pre-date the commercial buildings included in the original nomination, and help present a cohesive view of life in the downtown throughout the POS. It was a pedestrian way of life, with an urban feel limited to these few blocks – setbacks and larger lots confined to the areas around the proposed district. Businesses, taverns, dwellings, government buildings, and houses of worship all create a landscape that is instantly recognizable as a small county seat town in Kentucky.

The original nomination states that the district “comprises a noteworthy concentration of well-preserved late-19th century commercial architecture.” That 1980 effort also includes as contributing resources both dwellings and several churches. The current nomination proposes to expand the district boundary to include resources that are consistent with the original nomination which were omitted from the 1980 boundary.

Most Kentucky towns include commercial areas with later infill that eventually becomes recognized as historic and significant. The perceptions of what constitutes architectural significance have expanded in the 36 years since this original district was listed. The earlier view prioritized the purity of architectural expression, seeing change as a reduction in design significance. This nomination widens our sense of design value, seeing the presence of architectural significance when the building’s form and materials help tell the story of a county seat town’s development. Part of that development, of course, is told through the choice of style—erecting a new building with a style that fits national patterns of design choices at a particular point in time. And as time passes, new owners bring new needs to each historic building. In commercial areas, where the refrain “new is better” began to circulate in the early 20th century, owners chose to update their design to heighten the building’s appeal to the patron or client of the business within. These changes to historic buildings within the Period of Significance testify to the owners’ affirmation that the building continues being adaptable to the current situation. That general willingness to retain and update historic buildings had eroded quite thoroughly by the 1960s; demolishing historic buildings came to be seen as a powerful way to implement the “new is better” concept. Thus, this version of the district nomination observes within the district those instances during the Period of Significance—where existing buildings were retained, redesigned, and put to new uses—as a positive architectural choice, at least through the middle-1960s.

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

Other areas in Harrodsburg have been listed in the National Register as districts, and they contain significant architecture. These other districts typically exhibit a greater architectural consistency from parcel to parcel as

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single-use (residential) 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 Harrodsburg Downtown 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 (listed 1979, NRIS: 79001023) is another National Register district located very close to the Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District. 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.

The Beaumont Avenue Residential District, (listed 1988; NRIS: 88003359) lies outside of the original town plat of Harrodsburg, two blocks southeast of the Harrodsburg Downtown District. A solely residential district, it comprises just 14 dwellings built along the Harrodsburg and Danville Turnpike in the late-19th and early 20th centuries.

The North Main Street Historic District (listed 2011, NRIS 1100796), located to the north of the Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District, is a small, mixed-use neighborhood, but should not be mistaken as the core of the downtown area. While the corner of North Main Street and Broadway (also known as Water Street) historically hosted businesses and taverns, it was removed from what became the central core of town (albeit only by one block).

The Lexington and Cane Run Historic District (listed 2011: NRIS: 11000795) is primarily a residential district associated with the residential development of Harrodsburg outside of the original plat of the town. The district illustrates the growth of Harrodsburg from the town plat out to the first “suburbs”, and the relationship between the residents in the district and the commercial and industrial growth of the county. It spans the time period between 1814-1951.

The architecture of the Harrodsburg Downtown 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 collection of styles displayed in the Harrodsburg Downtown 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 District.

The Federal style, academically classified as ranging from 1780 to 1820 nationally, is the earliest period style most commonly encountered in Kentucky.¹ 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, or twelve-over-twelve configurations. Muntins are typically thin, and lintels and sills are plain and restrained.

¹ Cyril M. Harris. *American Architecture An Illustrated Encyclopedia* (New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 1998), 123.

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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.

The earliest building in the expanded area is the brick rowhouse known as Morgan Row (MEH-43) on South Chiles Street. The Federal style building was built by Joseph Morgan between 1807 and 1830. Morgan sold the commercial buildings in 1836 to his son-in-law, John G. Chiles. Composed of four sections with firewalls extending above the roof line, the rowhouse was “the social and business center of Harrodsburg during the first half of the 19th century.”²

The George Passmore House (Resource 3; MEH-71), a two-story brick house, dates from 1821. The west side of the dwelling appears to have begun as a two-story three-bay-wide house with gable end chimneys. A great deal of modification has happened with the openings on the façade, so the original plan of the house is not known, but it can be surmised from both the original fenestration and patterns of building at the time that the dwelling began as a side-passage plan.

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. There are four side-passage plans within the expanded area: MEH-71, MEH-45, MEH-46, and MEH-48 (and an additional two examples within the existing district, see Photo 16).

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.



Photo 16



Photo 10

² Powell, 35.

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The east two-bay-wide section of the George Passmore House (NR #16, Photo 10) dates to around 1830. The façade of both sections is laid in Flemish bond. There is some speculation that this dwelling operated both as a dwelling and as a public house in the antebellum period, consistent with the pattern of multiple uses for individual buildings in the district expansion area. After it was expanded, the house transitioned from a popular urban plan (the side-passage) to what would become the building block of architectural expression for people with means – the five-bay-wide central passage plan.

Around the same time that the George Passmore House underwent its expansion, William McBride was (in 1821) building a two-story five-bay-wide Federal-style central passage house (NR #18, MEH-36) on West Poplar Street. McBride had purchased in-lot 51 from the Trustees of Harrodsburg in October 1821. The façade is laid in Flemish bond and the central entryway has a fluted surround with carved corner blocks. The two-story five-bay-wide house (Photo 3) would become the foundation for a new architectural vocabulary in Mercer County (and the rest of Kentucky) until the wide acceptance of the Revival and Craftsman styles shortly before World War I. McBride sold the house in August 1822.

Shortly after the construction of the Passmore and McBride houses, construction began on a new residence for the county jailer on South Chiles Street. The Mercer County Jailer's Residence (Photo 12) at 320 South Chiles Street (NR #19, MEH-42) has some of the transitional Federal /Greek Revival elements found in many dwellings of its time period. Built between 1827 and 1833, the brick five-bay-wide central passage house has a façade laid in Flemish bond, a pattern popular in the Federal style. The stark stone lintels and sills recall the Greek Revival influence.



McBride House (photo 3)

Mercer County Jailer (Photo 12)

Herndon & Farnsworth Hs. (Photo 4)

Chronologically, the Greek Revival style typically follows the Federal style, though many non-academic builders combined details of both in their dwellings. The Greek Revival style is commonly thought to span the years from 1820 to 1860, but the style continued to appeal to local builders into 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.

Both the Levi Herndon House (NR #45, MEH-45) and the Henry Farnsworth House (NR #27, MEH-46) interpret the Greek Revival style in a minimal fashion – these side-passage dwellings have little setbacks and narrow, deep lots, so the architectural expression is limited to window and door treatments (Photo 4).

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

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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, exterior accents of ornamental lintels or hood molds on windows, and an overall emphasis on verticality. The pattern books of Andrew Jackson Downing greatly popularized this style in the 1840s and 1850s.³

As is typical in Kentucky, many dwellings blended elements of the Greek Revival with components of the Italianate style. The Henry Farnsworth House has elongated windows characteristic of the influence of the Italianate style, and while its restrained façade and classic jackarches don't fall into the more assertive school of Greek Revival (one dominated by porticos and columns), the dwelling is a good example of how that architectural style was interpreted in a county-seat setting. And many dwellings from this period of the 1850s present a more muted façade while extolling attributes of the style – high, heavy baseboard and Greek ear moldings – on the interior.

Rebuilding and Filling In in the Post-Civil War Period

As is typical in most Kentucky county seat towns, larger parcels began to be subdivided after the Civil War, and infill on these new smaller lots reflected the shift – or at least, the variety – in vernacular architecture of the time. Subdivision of larger parcels and the constant reality of destruction by fire meant that the built landscape in the Harrodsburg Downtown District changed and shifted with the passage of each decade.

The railroad 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.

In the early 1870s, William Tomlinson, a physician, had a new house built on West Poplar Street after the original dwelling on the parcel was destroyed by fire (Photo 3). Tomlinson, a wealthy man with an estate valued at \$7,500 in the 1870 census, had a large brick T-plan dwelling (NR #17, MEH-35) constructed, with plenty of Italianate flourishes. This example is fairly high-style, and most of the other dwellings with Italianate influence are more understated than the Tomlinson-Price House. Interestingly, Tomlinson sold the house in 1876 to another doctor – A.D. Price, who would both live and practice in the building.



Tomlinson House (photo 3)



George Passmore House (Photo 10)



203/209 East Poplar St. (Photo 7)

³ Virginia and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1998), 211.

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The fire of 1890, as well as the increase in population and rising land values – Mercer County’s 1890 population figures stood at 15,043 residents – fueled an interest in additional rebuilding and land division that would fill out the remainder of the expanded area in the district. Estimates of the values of town lots in the last decade of the 19th century were calculated to be 50% more than the decade before, and it seemed that Harrodsburg had “begun a new lease on life.”⁴

Most of this period of rebuilding occurred along East Poplar Street in the late 19th century into the early 20th. On the 1876 Atlas, the block between South Greenville and East Street was still fairly open, containing only three dwellings, one of which was the George Passmore House (NR #16, MEH-71, Photo 10). Either a fire or a planned demolition removed the two dwellings on the north side of the block, for this area is marked as “in ruins” on the 1886 Sanborn map.

By 1891, two frame dwellings had been constructed on these lots: 203 East Poplar Street (NR #8, MEH-321) and 209 East Poplar Street (NR #9, MEH-322). Both of these buildings (Photo 7) incorporate the T-plan form, which was ushered in the district in the 1870s by the Tomlinson-Price House. These examples, however, are more illustrative of the typical path this form took in Central Kentucky (frame construction), with minimal Italianate styling (elongated windows and pedimented hood molds). These two-story examples of the style are mirrored by a one-story version at the end of East Poplar Street (NR #11, MEH-324, Photo 8).

One of these dwellings was the home of Dr. C.S. Abel (where NR #9, MEH-322 is today). Another professional who found it convenient to live and practice in the downtown core of Harrodsburg, Dr. Abel’s office was located one block west of his dwelling at 117 East Poplar Street (NR #3, MEH-317).

It is interesting to note that the one-story shotgun form was employed in “filling in” pattern of development in the late-19th century, almost always to serve as professional or commercial space at the front of a residential parcel. The two 19th-century examples in the expanded area include the brick building at 117 East Poplar Street (NR #3, MEH-317, Photo 6) and a frame version at 213 East Poplar Street (NR #10, MEH-323). A 20th-century version (now home to the Curled Up and Dyed Salon, NR # 24, MEH-331, Photo 2) was constructed between 1914 and 1929 between the expanse of Morgan Row (NR #23, MEH-43, Photo 2) on South Chiles Street and the house at 214 South Chiles Street (NR # 25, MEH-332).



MEH-324 (Photo 8)



117 East Poplar Street (Photo 6)



MEH-331 and Morgan Row (Photo 2)

A more elaborate version of the frame T-plan is found at 122 East Poplar Street. The Thompson-Daviess House (NR #6, MEH-34), in its current form, was constructed on the parcel at the corner of East Poplar and South

⁴ Chinn, 145.

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Greenville that had previously held an earlier dwelling. Based on map data, the dwelling appears to have been built between 1891 and 1896, and it combines both the Italianate and Queen Anne styles. Currently being restored by its owners, the dwelling features small brackets at the cornice line, a gable with both diamond and fishscale shingles, pedimented lintels, and a porch with copious amounts of spindlework.

Although the Queen Anne is not represented in this district in any singular fashion (save for porches and gable imbrication), a subset of the style – the Free Classic – makes an appearance in two frame cottages built on the south side of East Poplar Street between 1908 and 1914. Until that point, the entire side of the block was given over to the George Passmore House (NR #16, MEH-71, Photo 10) and its dependency (NR #15, MEH-328). Likely constructed as speculative houses, the two front gable houses (220 and 216 East Poplar Street, NR # 13 and 14) are identical except for modifications made to materials over the years. The former home of Mercer County poet laureate Henry Cleveland Woods (NR #13, MEH-326) is an interesting study in the blending of late Victorian influences with those of the emerging Revival styles.



George Passmore House (Photo 10)



Woods House (Photo 9)



United Presbyterian (l.) and Harrodsburg Baptist

The large window on the façade has a diamond pattern leaded-glass upper sash over a single-light lower sash. A multi-light casement window is located next to the half-glass half-panel entry door. Two square window bays are located on the east elevation – both with elongated Italianate style windows and brackets (Photo 9). These windows were not additions, but were built with the house. The second-story gable is lit by two 6-over-6 double-hung sash windows on the façade, while a single diamond shaped window is located to the east of these paired windows. A small hipped roof porch with Tuscan columns shelters the entry door.

The use of residences for physician offices in the expanded district continued into the 20th century, as Dr. Condit Vanarsdell added a wing to the east side of the Greek Revival William McBride House (NR #18, MEH-36) to serve as his medical practice.

Churches are well-represented in the existing district (Photo 15), and in the expanded area. Until the Presbyterian Church in Harrodsburg reunited in 1913, a church stood on the north side of the 100 block of East Poplar Street, where an American Foursquare is today (113 East Poplar Street, NR #2, MEH-316). This dwelling sits between a commercial/residential structure at 109-111 East Poplar Street (NR #1, MEH-315, Photo 5) and the doctor's office at 117 East Poplar. It is the only example of the form and of the Colonial Revival style within the expanded area.

The only extant church within the expanded area is the Harrodsburg United Methodist Church (Photo 4) on South Chiles Street. The Harrodsburg United Methodist Church (NR #28, MEH-47) is the third church to be

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constructed on what was originally in-lot 38 in downtown Harrodsburg. The first brick church was replaced in 1889, and a New Year's Day fire in 1940 destroyed that building. The current building mirrors the footprint and style of the late-19th century version, demonstrating that rebuilding is sometimes more about location and context than popular architectural styles. Its adjacent Greek Revival parsonage (NR #29, MEH-48) has served in that role since its construction in the 1840s.



113 East Poplar (right, Photo 5)

United Methodist Church (Photo 4)

Car dealership (Photo 1)

The role of the Harrodsburg Downtown District as the heart of residential, commercial, social, and spiritual life continued with the changes wrought by the automotive age. A large locally-owned car dealership seized the “hot corner” of West Lexington Street and South Chiles Street and in 1920 constructed a brick showroom and garage for a Buick dealership (Photos 1 and 11). The frame boarding house previously located on the corner made way for this new expression of modernity and progress in Harrodsburg, and the Craftsman style, which had been finding favor in the town's residential neighborhoods, became the face of this important new building.

Ingram Buick's (NR #32, MEH-334, photo 1 above) large footprint plays up the understated Craftsman Commercial style of the building, with a faux Mansard tile roof, stone accents, and numerous large windows to entice both pedestrians and drivers. Later, the Ingram family built a secondary (and less showy) garage at 132 South Chiles Street (NR #31, MEH-333) on the other side of the dealership's parking lot. This building too, however, embraced a restrained Craftsman Commercial style.

Evaluation of the Historic Significance of the Harrodsburg Downtown District within its Context

The Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District provides a glimpse at how its residents lived and worked during the POS, and what types of dwellings and style of architecture they favored for their houses and places of business. Further, it significantly displays an important historic condition: that the downtown core of Kentucky's county seat towns encompassed parcels and buildings with multiple uses, and that rebuilding and reuse was a common practice.

The story of the architectural decisions in the Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District is perhaps the most visible component of the significance of the district today. South Main Street's cohesive collection of mostly late-19th-century masonry commercial buildings is balanced by the varying footprints and sizes of churches, dwellings, and small offices.

The expanded district more fully presents the story of the development and changing styles and forms of a Kentucky county seat downtown. Morgan Row, the anchor of Harrodsburg's first Main Street, provides a stable foundation for the town that would develop around this social center and the courthouse immediately across the

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street. The hub of activity present in the court square is better understood flanked by the context of the offices and homes of its lawyers and officials, including the jail and the jailer's house.

The Harrodsburg Downtown District informs the viewer 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 a downtown core 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, but is in fact a more complete landscape for all of its variety.

Evaluation of the Integrity of the Harrodsburg Downtown District's Significance

The Harrodsburg Downtown 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 Harrodsburg Downtown District as a single entity retains integrity as a historic downtown mixed-use downtown neighborhood in all of these aspects. All 7 integrity factors of the District are discussed here.

Design

The resources in the Harrodsburg Downtown 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 as a downtown mixed-use district is very important. The Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District retains a high level of integrity of location. The resources within the district have not been relocated and they retain their general relationship with Poplar, South Chiles and West Lexington 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 Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District as a single unified entity.

Feeling and Association

The Harrodsburg Downtown 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 historically diverse

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downtown core of a county seat town. It provides a strong view of commercial, spiritual, social, and residential life throughout the 19th and early-20th centuries in Harrodsburg.

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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 Newly Proposed for listing	Approximately 9.7 acres
Acreage of Original listing	14.5 acres
Acreage of Total area listed	24.2 acres

UTM References: Please see sketch map with Longitude/Latitude coordinates indicated on map.

Longitude/Latitude Coordinate References

1. -84.845250 37.762448
2. -84.845393 37.761476
3. -84.845193 37.760293
4. -84.844872 37.759327
5. -84.844809 37.758579
6. -84.843475 37.758645
7. -84.842930 37.759444
8. -84.842747 37.760747

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9. -84.841235 37.760763

10. -84.841166 37.761500

11. -84.842799 37.762335

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The expanded district encompasses the areas excluded from the original nomination, starting with the northern edge of West Main Street to South Chiles Street, and including the west and east sides of South Chiles Street not included in the original boundary (portions of the east side are included in the original boundary) and two properties on the north side of West Poplar Street, then moving south to join with the existing district at the corner of South Chiles and Mooreland Avenue. The expanded area also extends east down East Poplar Street from South Main, encompassing both sides of the street to East Street.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This boundary was selected to include those areas traditionally part of the downtown core of Harrodsburg, Kentucky.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janie-Rice Brother, Sr. Architectural Historian

organization Kentucky Archaeological Survey

date _____

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state KY

zip code 40506

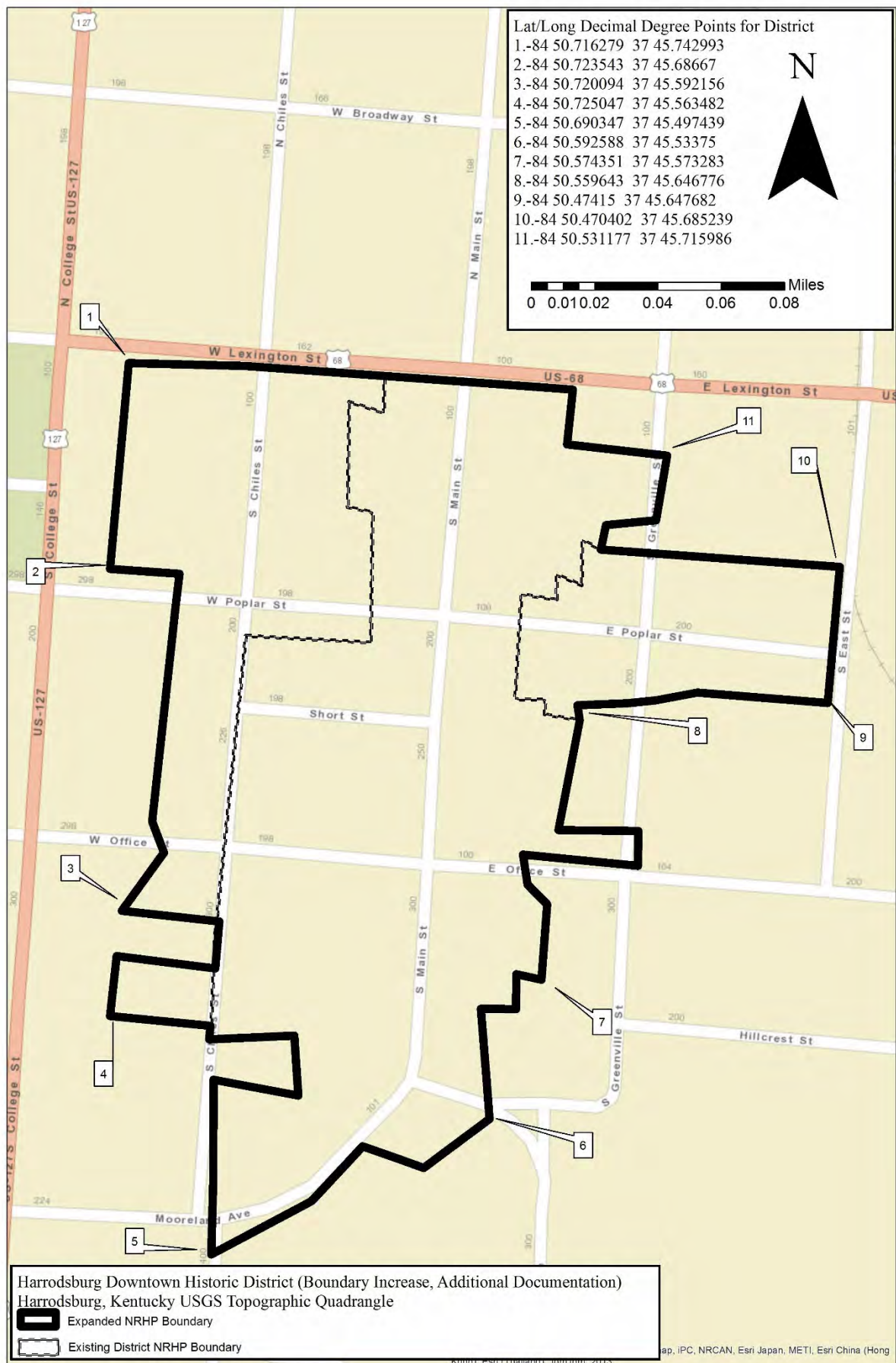
e-mail janie-rice.brother@uky.edu

Photographs:

Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

Mercer County, Kentucky
County and State

Name of Property



Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

Mercer County, Kentucky
County and State

Name of listing: Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase)
Town: Harrodsburg
County: Mercer County
State: Kentucky
Photographer: Janie-Rice Brother, Photographer
Date of Photos: 2015-2016

1. Northern edge of proposed additions to district, looking southeast along West Lexington Street. From left to right: 100 South Main Street (MEH-338, NR #93, included in existing district); 108 West Lexington (MEH-336, NR #34, within proposed expansion area); 112 West Lexington (MEH-335, NR #33, within proposed expansion area) and Ingram Buick at 122 West Lexington (MEH-334, NR#32, within proposed expansion area).
2. Western edge of proposed additions to district, looking south along South Chiles Street. From left to right: Morgan Row at 220-230-232 South Chiles (MEH-43, NR #23) and the Curled Up and Dyed Salon at 216 South Chiles (MEH-331, NR #24).
3. Looking northeast at the north side of West Poplar Street, within the proposed expansion area, showing from left to right: the William McBride House at 125 West Poplar Street (MEH-36, NR#18) and the Tomlinson-Price House at 115 West Poplar Street (MEH-35, NR#17).
4. Western edge of proposed additions to district, looking northwest along South Chiles Street. From left to right: the Levi Herndon House at 206 South Chiles (MEH-45, NR#26); the Henry Farnsworth House at 202 South Chiles (MEH-46, NR#27); the United Methodist Church at 120 South Chiles (MEH-47, NR#47), and the Methodist Parsonage (MEH-48, NR#28).
5. East Poplar Street, within the proposed expansion area, and facing north. Showing from left to right, 109-111 East Poplar Street (MEH-315, NR#1) and 113 East Poplar Street (MEH-316, NR#2).
6. East Poplar Street, within the proposed expansion area, and facing northeast. Showing from left to right: 113 East Poplar Street (MEH-316, NR#2); 117 East Poplar Street (MEH-317, NR#3); 121 East Poplar Street (MEH-318, NR#4) and 127 East Poplar Street (MEH-319, NR#5).
7. East Poplar Street within the proposed expansion area, between South Greenville and East Streets, facing northeast. Showing from left to right: 203 East Poplar Street (MEH-321, NR#8) and 209 East Poplar Street (MEH-322, NR#9).
8. Example of one-story T-plan dwelling with the proposed expansion area: 225 East Poplar Street, facing northeast (MEH-325, NR#11).
9. Detail of the Italianate bay windows on the side elevation of the Henry Cleveland Wood House (within the proposed expansion area) at 220 East Poplar Street (MEH-326, NR#13).
10. The façade of the George Passmore House within the proposed expansion area at 204 East Poplar Street (MEH-71, NR#16), facing south.
11. The façade of the Ingram Buick Company building within the proposed expansion area, facing southwest, at 122 West Lexington Street (MEH-334, NR#32).

Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

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12. Three-quarter view (facing northwest) of the Jailer's House at 320 South Chiles Street, within the proposed expansion area (MEH-147, NR#19).
13. Streetscape view of the existing district, looking southeast at the east side of South Main Street. From left to right: 103-105 South Main (MEH-119, NR#65); 107 South Main (MEH-120, NR#66) and 109-111 South Main (MEH-121, NR#67).
14. Streetscape view of the existing district, looking northwest at the west side of South Main Street. From left to right: 114 South Main (MEH-105, NR#51); 112 South Main (MEH-104, NR#50); 110 South Main (MEH-103, NR#49); 108 South Main (MEH-102, NR#48); 104-106 South Main (MEH-101, NR#47); 102 South Main (MEH-100, NR#46) and 100 South Main (MEH-338, NR#93).
15. Two of the four churches within the existing district, facing southwest on South Main Street, from left to right: United Presbyterian Church at 326 South Main (MEH-117, NR#63) and Harrodsburg Baptist Church at 312 South Main (MEH-116, NR#62).
16. Two of the side-passage dwellings within the existing district, facing northeast on South Main Street, from left to right: Dr. C.S. Abel House at 319 South Main (MEH-140, NR#86) and the Albert G. Vivion House at 323 South Main (MEH-141, NR#87).
17. Streetscape view of the existing district, looking southeast at the east side of the 200 block of South Main Street.

Property Owner:

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

Mercer County, Kentucky
County and State

Name of Property



Lat/Long Decimal Degree Points for District

- 1.-84 50.716279 37 45.742993
- 2.-84 50.723543 37 45.68667
- 3.-84 50.720094 37 45.592156
- 4.-84 50.725047 37 45.563482
- 5.-84 50.690347 37 45.497439
- 6.-84 50.592588 37 45.53375
- 7.-84 50.574351 37 45.573283
- 8.-84 50.559643 37 45.646776
- 9.-84 50.47415 37 45.647682
- 10.-84 50.470402 37 45.685239
- 11.-84 50.531177 37 45.715986

N



0 0.010.02 0.04 0.06 0.08 Miles



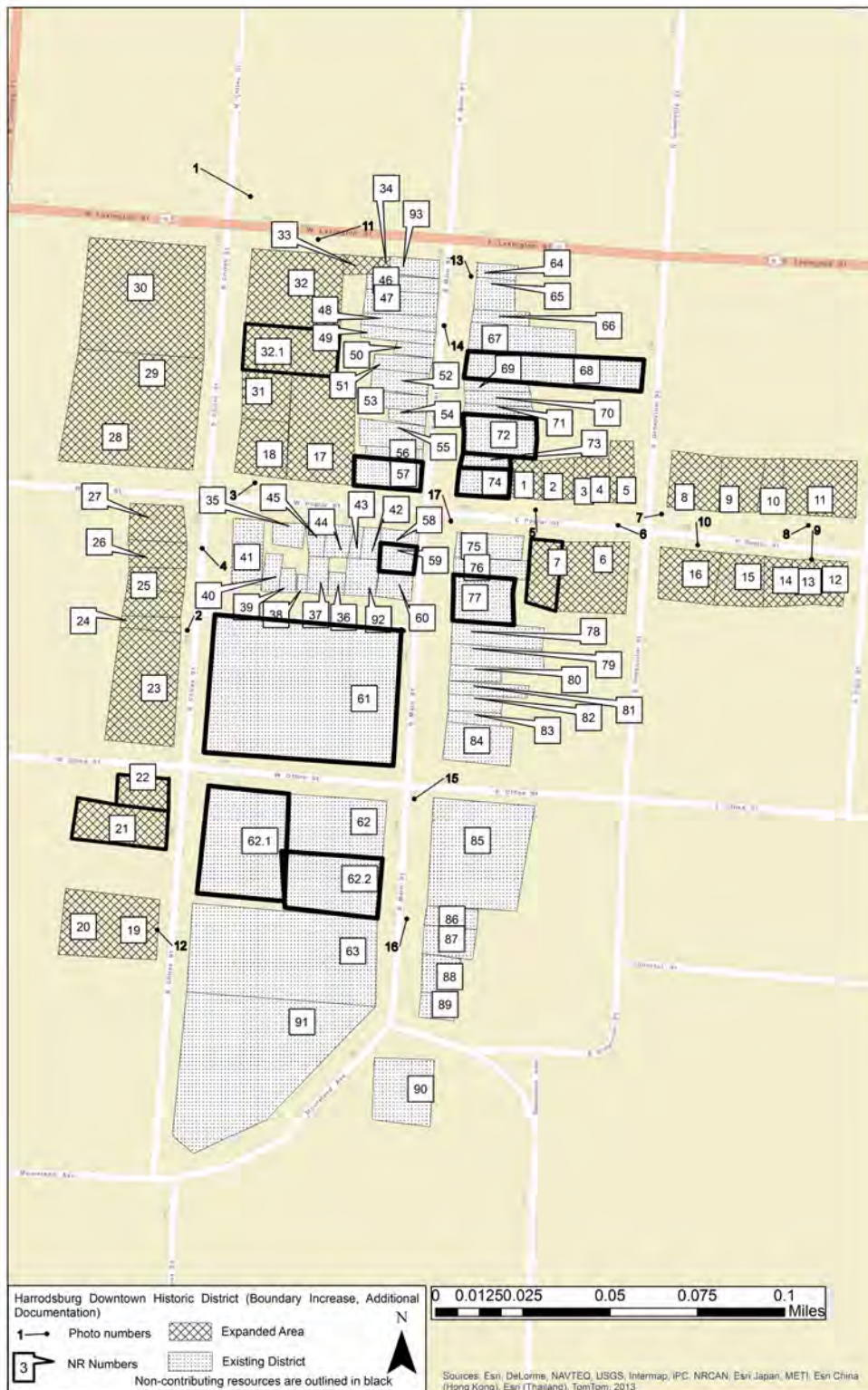
Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)
Harrodsburg, Kentucky USGS Topographic Quadrangle

- Existing District Parcels
- Expanded District Parcels

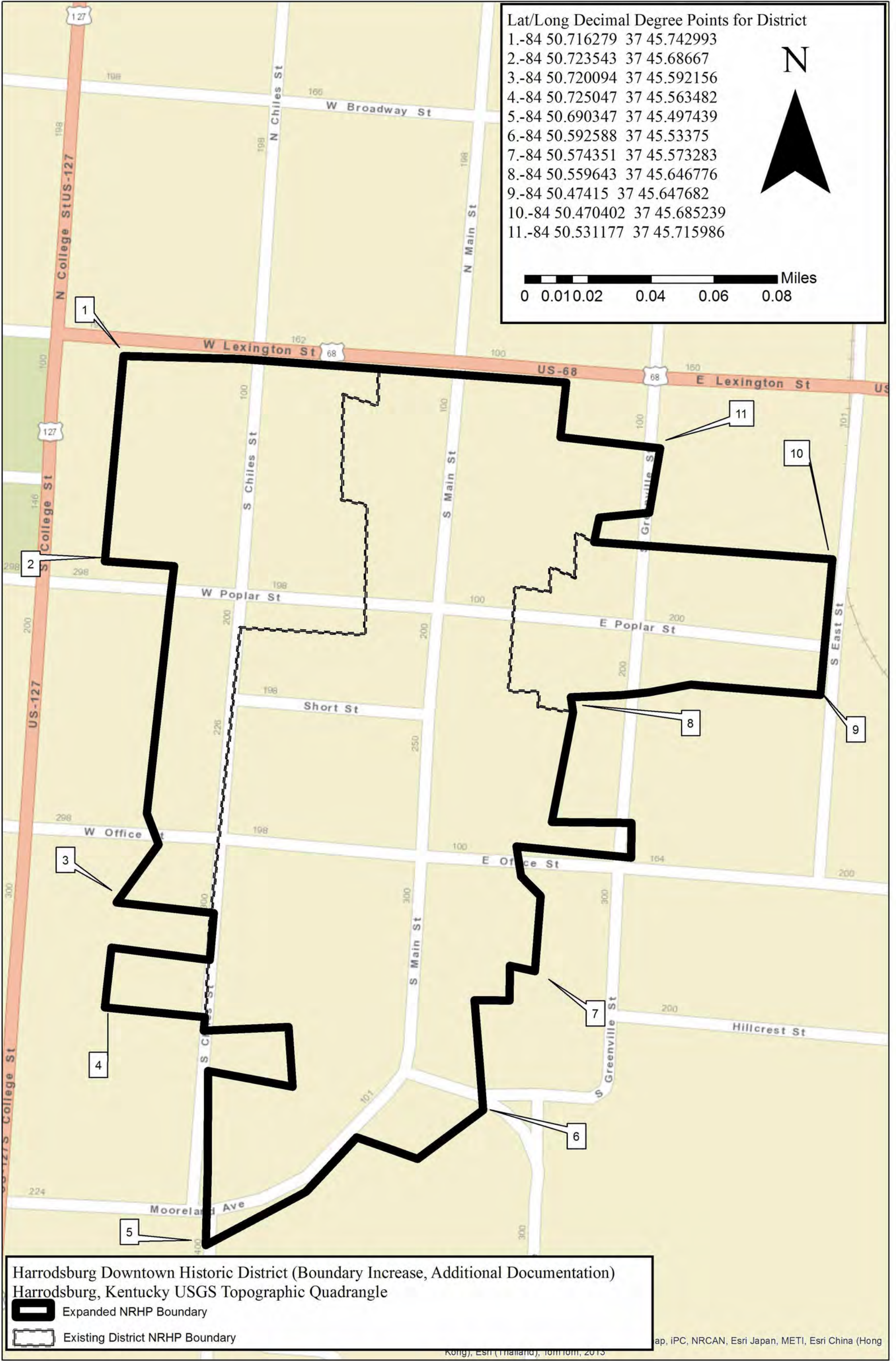
Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

Mercer County, Kentucky
County and State

Name of Property



District Sketch Map and Photo ID map





INGRAM BUICK COMPANY

EAST
68
152

WINTHROP CRAFTS & DESIGN

NAP













ABRAMS
128-744-4124



NO
PARKING
THIS
SIDE







INGRAM BUICK COMPANY





The Old Country Store
Country Collectibles and Gifts

FOR SALE
850-734-1775

Lambert's Jewelry











National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.



MATTHEW G. BEVIN
GOVERNOR

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

THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

June 16, 2017

J. Paul Loether, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
Mail Stop 7228
1849 C St, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Loether:

We enclose the following nominations, approved by the Review Board at their May 17, 2017 meeting, and asking that these Kentucky properties be listed in the National Register:

Rock Cabin Camp, Barren County
Middlesboro Jewish Cemetery, Bell County
E.O. Robinson House, Campbell County
Montgomery-Sandidge House, Green County
Kentucky Home School for Girls, Jefferson County
Devou Park, Kenton County
Kellog and Company Wholesale Grocery Warehouse, Madison County
West Second Street Historic District, Mason County
Westminster Presbyterian Church, McCracken County
Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase), Mercer County
Craig-Peak House, Scott County

We enclose a revised nomination for a returned property, which we have revised according to the return comments:

Paducah City Hall, McCracken County

We thank you for your assistance in listing these properties.

Sincerely,

Craig A. Potts
Executive Director and
State Historic Preservation Officer

BC-1427

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



1. Name of Property

historic name Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

other names/site number Harrodsburg Commercial District

Related Multiple Property _____

2. Location

street & number Various addresses, 109-225 East Poplar, 115 & 125 W. Poplar, 320

South Chiles-104 S. Chiles, 122, 112, 108 W. Lexington

city or town Harrodsburg

vicinity

state Kentucky Code KY county Mercer code 167 zip code 40330

NA

not for publication

NA

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

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B X C D

Signature of certifying official/Title /SHPO

Date 6-22-17

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:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)
Name of Property

Mercer County, Kentucky
County and State

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	
27	3	buildings
	1	sites
		structures
		objects
27	4	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

Mercer County MRA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

1 district (57 contributing buildings) and 4 individual buildings

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/variant not

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EARLY REPUBLIC/Federal

MID-19TH CENTURY/Greek Revival

MID-19TH CENTURY/Gothic Revival

LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate and Queen Anne

LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Colonial Revival

LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH C.

AMERICAN/Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE/limestone

BRICK; WOOD/Weatherboard;

walls: STONE/limestone SYNTHETICS/vinyl

roof: METAL; ASPHALT

other:

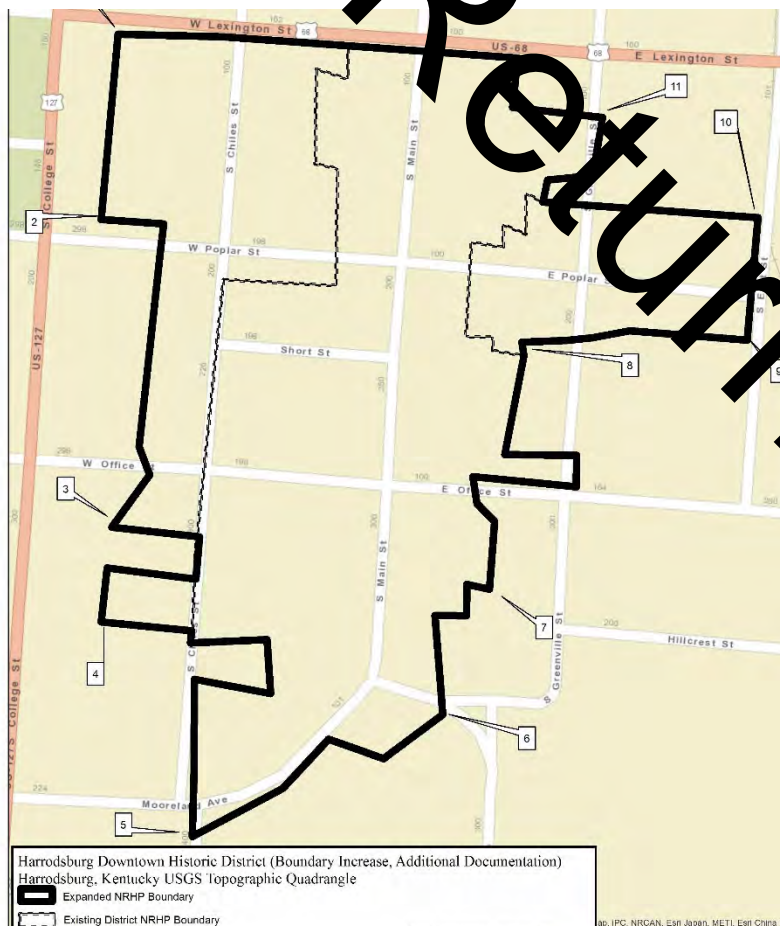
Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)
Name of Property

Mercer County, Kentucky
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Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

This nomination for the Harrodsburg Downtown District proposes an expansion of boundaries of the original Harrodsburg Commercial District, listed in 1980 (NRIS: 80001657). The expanded district is a mixed-use district located in the county seat town of Harrodsburg, in Mercer County. This expansion encompasses several resources previously listed in the NRHP both individually and as part of a 1989 Multiple Resource Area nomination. This nomination seeks to unite several previously-listed resources within their common context, as well as better reflect the core of the downtown district with more appropriate boundaries. The area currently listed includes a district of 14.5 acres with 57 contributing buildings at the time of listing, as well as 4 individually listed properties. The area proposed for listing as a larger district completely encompasses the Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District and the 4 previously listed properties, and will increase the district's area by another 9.7 acres (24.2 acres total), and will add 35 new resources: 31 contributing buildings (four of which are previously listed), 3 non-contributing buildings, and 1 non-contributing site.



Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District. Original boundary: thin line; Expansion boundary: heavy line

Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District, original district boundary and expansion area

In revisiting the original district, an attempt was made to recognize which status, contributing or non-contributing, was assigned to each property in 1980. This effort could only be an estimate, because properties in the downtown have been reconfigured since 1980, and no inventory was made for the 1980 district

Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

Mercer County, Kentucky

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nomination. The sketch map accompanying the 1980 nomination did not identify properties in a clear manner. This nomination's author attempted to count the properties from 1980 by using the property configurations in 2016, which at least allowed a more consistent comparison between the two points in time. The findings of that counting appear in the table starting on page 8. This author could verify that the original district had 53 contributing properties and 8 which did not contribute; that compares with 51 contributing properties in 2016 verses 10 non-contributing properties today—not a severe loss of historic integrity in 36 years.

The original nomination, like many written during that time period, does not have a clearly stated Period of Significance, but does include contributing buildings constructed in 1930. This nomination will assume a POS of 1800-1945, which does not result in a change to the perceived intent of the original nomination, and includes the relevant buildings discussed on the following pages. The name of the expanded district will be changed to the "Harrodsburg Downtown District" to not only better indicate the mixed-use nature of the original nomination and boundary, but also the additional parcels proposed for inclusion.

The original nomination consisted of three blocks of South Main Street, the south side of the 100 block of West Poplar Street, and the north side of Short Street. This area, the nomination states, "comprises a noteworthy concentration of well-preserved late nineteenth century commercial architecture," though it also includes residential and ecclesiastical architecture. There is no resource inventory, but the text states that the district includes "58 buildings with 7 intrusions, two of which were determined to be contributing. Contributing contemporary structures include the Harrodsburg Baptist Church and No. 118 West Poplar Street." Neither of these two buildings met the 50-year threshold at the time of listing. The building at 118 West Poplar (MEH-89) was built in the 1940s; the Harrodsburg Baptist Church (MEH-116) was built in 1961.

The buildings previously-listed individually, in this proposed district expansion area, include:

- George Passmore House (Resource 16, MEH-7, NRHP 1989)
- Tomlinson-Price House (Resource 17, MEH-35, NRHP 1989)
- Jailer's Residence (Resource 19, MEH-42, NRHP 1989)
- Morgan Row (Resource 23, MEH-43, NRHP 1972).



George Passmore House

Tomlinson-Price House

Mercer County Jailer's House

Morgan Row

Development and Physical Character of the District

Mercer County, the sixth county formed in Kentucky, is located in the Bluegrass Region of the state, and covers some 250 square miles. Harrodsburg, the county seat, has the distinction of being the first permanent English settlement west of the Allegheny Mountains.

South Main Street runs south up an incline, from the south side of Lexington Avenue (the Lexington, Harrodsburg and Perryville Turnpike). It terminates at the intersection with Mooreland and Beaumont Avenues at the south end of the district. South Chiles Street runs parallel to South Main Street to its west, at a lower

Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

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elevation. Poplar Street runs east-west through the district, crossing both Main and South Chiles Streets. The district streets were originally platted without alleys, and all are currently paved with concrete curbs and sidewalks. On-street parking occurs on all of the streets in the district.

The setback varies depending upon the period and type of construction. The first block of East Poplar has staggered setbacks, with small yards in front of the dwellings at 121 and 127 East Poplar (MEH-318 and MEH-319). The same is true on the opposite side, as the Thompson-Daviess House at 122 East Poplar (MEH-34) is located on a larger sloped lot with a small front yard, and expansive side and back yard. The third block of East Poplar, developed during the last quarter of the 19th century and first part of the 20th century (with the exception of the George Passmore House) maintains slightly larger lots than the first block. The two dwellings on West Poplar Street again demonstrate the difference a few decades makes – the Italianate Tomlinson-Price House at 115 West Poplar Street (MEH-35) has a small front yard, while the William McBride House at 125 West Poplar Street (MEH-36) has a five-foot setback. South Chiles Street also has very little setback for its properties.

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. Exterior materials also give a consistency to the district, as only two primary materials are utilized within the proposed district – brick and horizontal 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.

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, non-wood siding, or brick veneer. Additional contributing outbuildings include small sheds.

The contributing resources of the district, built over a period of 150 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.

Character of the Proposed Additions to the District

The area proposed for inclusion in an expanded district exhibits the same character as the resources within the current boundaries: a mixture of domestic, commercial and ecclesiastical architecture that depicts the growth and development of downtown Harrodsburg, Kentucky. The buildings within the expanded area range in age from the first quarter of the 19th century to shortly before World War II, and in material, mirror the existing district with a mixture of frame and brick.

Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

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Alterations

The two most common changes in the district are the subdivision of large parcels of land during the Period of Significance and 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 disturb the integrity between the district's associations and our view of the district's design values. 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 Harrodsburg Downtown District from conveying its significance in the development of Harrodsburg and Mercer County. As a whole, the district's excellent integrity of setting, location, design, materials, workmanship and feeling, means that the district conveys its significance.

Resource Inventory

The Resource Inventory which follows describes the properties found within the Harrodsburg Downtown 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. 1800-1950 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 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 (KHC), the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

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.

"S" or 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
FV: Folk Victorian	CV: Commercial Victorian
GoRe: Gothic Revival	CRFT: Craftsman
CR: Colonial Revival	MT: Minimal Traditional
CRFT C: Craftsman Commercial	

The "PT" 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:

Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

Mercer County, Kentucky

Name of Property

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CP: Central Passage
C/R: Commercial/residential
4S: American Foursquare
SP: Side-passage
CM: Commercial building
APT: Apartment building

TP: T-plan
U: Unknown
CH: Church or church-associated resource
D: Duplex
FG: Front gable orientation
RH: Rowhouse

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

The "CH" or Changes column provides 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 "ST" column refers to the status of the resource within the district. "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.

Properties Proposed for addition to the Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District

NR #	KHC #	Address	Name	Date	S	PT	HT	MT	ST	CH
1	MEH-315	109-111 E. Poplar	Beauty salon	1875-1899	IT	C/R	2	B	C	RW
2	MEH-316	113 E. Poplar	Harold D. Lanham, CPA office	1900-1924	CR	4S	2.5	B	C	RW
3	MEH-317	117 E. Poplar		1875-1899	IT	SG	1	B	C	RW
4	MEH-318	121 E. Poplar		1875-1899	IT	D	2	B/FR	C	RW/S
5	MEH-319	127 E. Poplar		1875-1899	IT	D	2	B/FR	C	RW/S
6	MEH-34	122 E. Poplar	Thompson-Daviess House	1850-1874	QA/IT	TP	2	FR	C	NSA
7	MEH-320	112 E. Poplar	Young's Professional Services	1925-1949	N/A	CM	2	CB	NC	N/A
8	MEH-321	203 E. Poplar		1875-1899	FV	TP	2	FR	C	RW/S
9	MEH-322	209 E. Poplar		1875-1899	IT	TP	2	FR	C	RW/S

Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

Mercer County, Kentucky

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NR #	KHC #	Address	Name	Date	S	PT	HT	MT	ST	CH
10	MEH-323	213 E. Poplar		1875-1899	N/A	SG	1	FR	C	RW/S
11	MEH-324	225 E. Poplar		1875-1899	FV	TP	1	FR	C	RW/S
12	MEH-325	224 E. Poplar		1925-1949	N/A	APT	2	FR	C	RW/S
13	MEH-326	220 E. Poplar		1900-1924	FC	FG	1.5	FR	C	NSA
14	MEH-327	216 E. Poplar		1900-1924	FC	FG	1.5	FR	C	RW/S
15	MEH-328	208 E. Poplar		1850-1874	N/A	U	1.5	B/FR/ ST	C	RW/S
16	MEH-71	204 E. Poplar	George Passmore House	1800-1824	FD	SP/CP	2	B	C/NR	RW
17	MEH-35	115 W. Poplar	Tomlinson-Price House	1875-1899	IT	TP	2	B	C/NR	NSA
18	MEH-36	125 W. Poplar	William McBride House	1800-1824	FD	CP	2	B	C	RW
19	MEH-147	320 S. Chiles	Jailer's House	1825-1849	FD/GR	CP	2	B	C/NR	RW
20	MEH-42	320 S. Chiles	Old Jail	1875-1879	IT	U	2	B	C	NSA
21	MEH-329	306 S. Chiles		1950-1974	MT	U	1.5	FR	NC	N/A
22	MEH-330	300 S. Chiles	Frederick & Dedman	1950-1974	N/A	CM	1	BV	NC	N/A
23	MEH-43	220, 232, 230 S. Chiles	Morgan B.	1800-1824	FD	RH	2	B	C/NR	NSA
24	MEH-331	216 S. Chiles	Curled Up & Dyed Salon	1900-1924	N/A	CM	1	FR	C	RW/S
25	MEH-332	214 S. Chiles		1875-1899	IT	APT	2	B	C	RW
26	MEH-45	206 S. Chiles	Levi Herndon House	1850-1874	GR	SP	1.5	FR	C	RW/S
27	MEH-46	202 S. Chiles	Henry Farnsworth House	1850-1874	GR/IT	SP	2	B	C	NSA
28	MEH-47	120 S. Chiles	United Methodist Church	1925-1949	GoRe	CH	1	B	C	S
29	MEH-48	120 S. Chiles	Methodist Church Parsonage	1925-1949	GR	SP	2	B	C	RW/S
30	MEH-49	104 S. Chiles	White Hall	1875-1849	GR	CP	2	B	C	AD/R W
31	MEH-333	123 S. Chiles	Automotive Parts	1925-1949	CBET	CM	1	B	C	NSA
32	MEH-334	122 W. Lexington	Ingram Buick Company	1900-1924 (1920)	CBET C	CM	1	B	C	NSA
32.1	MEH-334	122. W Lexington	Ingram Buick Parking lot	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	NC site	N/A
33	MEH-335	112 W. Lexington	Bluegrass Artworks	1875-1899	CV	CM	2	B	C	RW
34	MEH-336	108 W. Lexington	Pat's Place Haircuts	1875-1899	N/A	CM	1	FR	C	RW

Properties Currently in the Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District, with Updated Status

NR #	KHC #	Address	Name	Date	STATUS 1980	STATUS 2016
35	MEH-89	118 W. Poplar	Dr. Condit Vanarsdall Office		C	C
36	MEH-90	111-113 Short	Hardin Building		C	C
37	MEH-91	115-119 Short	W.W. Stephenson Building		C	C
38	MEH-92	121 Short	Hardin Law Office	1875-1899	NC	C
39	MEH-93	123-125 Short	Old Fire House	1875-1899	C	C
40	MEH-94	127 Short	Phil Thompson's Law Office	1875-1899	C	C
41	MEH-44	131 Short	St. Phillips's Episcopal Church	1860-61	C	C

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NR #	KHC #	Address	Name	Date	STATUS 1980	STATUS 2016
42	MEH-96	104-106 W Poplar	Curry & Tucker Building	1875-1899	C	C
43	MEH-97	108 W. Poplar	Nat L. Curry Building	1875-1899	C	C
44	MEH-98	110 W. Poplar	Wiley & Powell Building	1891	C	C
45	MEH-99	116 W. Poplar	Dr. T.O. Humphries Building	1900	C	C
46	MEH-100	102 S. Main	Dedman Block	1888	C	C
47	MEH-101	104-106 S. Main	J.O. Dedman Building	1875-1899	C	C
48	MEH-102	108 S. Main	Poteet House	1875-1899	C	C
49	MEH-103	110 S. Main	Old Harrodsburg Herald Bldg	1875-1899	C	C
50	MEH-104	112 S. Main	Reed & Payne Drugstore	1875-1899	C	C
51	MEH-105	114 S. Main		1875-1899	C	C
52	MEH-106	116 S. Main	Cracker Maid Store Bldg	1875-1899	C	C
53	MEH-107	120 S. Main	Free Democrat Office	1875-1899	C	C
54	MEH-108	122 S. Main	Old Gibson Restaurant	1875-1899	C	C
55	MEH-109	124 S. Main	Dr. Moore Building	1875-1899	C	C
56	MEH-110	128 S. Main	Curry & Moore Drugstore	1875-1899	C	C
57	MEH-111	134 S. Main	Mercer National Bank	1875-1899	NC	NC
58	MEH-112	200 S. Main	C.D. Tucker Building	1875-1899	C	C
59	MEH-113	202-204 S. Main		1875-1899	NC	NC
60	MEH-114	208 S. Main	Mercer Federal Savings & Loan/City Hall	1875-1899	NC	C
61	MEH-115	224 S. Main	Mercer County Courthouse	N/A	C	NC (no longer extant)
62	MEH-116	312 S. Main	Harrodsburg Baptist Church	1961	C	C
62.1	MEH-116	S. Chiles	Harrodsburg Baptist Church Parking Garage	N/A	NC	NC
62.2	MEH-116	S. Main	Harrodsburg Baptist Church Parking Lot	N/A	NC	NC
63	MEH-117	326 S. Main	United Presbyterian Church	1850s, 1913	C	C
64	MEH-118	101 S. Main	Burford Trapnall Building	1875-1899	C	C
65	MEH-119	103-105 S. Main	John Litsey Building	1875-1899	C	C
66	MEH-120	107 S. Main	Ferguson & Wilson Building	1875-1899	C	C
67	MEH-121	109-111 S. Main	Old Theatre	1875-1899	C	C
68	MEH-122	115-117 S. Main	Coleman's Stable	N/A	C	NC (no longer extant)
69	MEH-123	119 S. Main	Owen Campbell's Pool Hall	1875-1899	C	C
70	MEH-124	121 S. Main	Ben F. Patterson Building	1875-1899	C	C
71	MEH-125	123 S. Main	Marion Daviess Furniture	1875-1899	C	NC
72	MEH-126	125-127 S. Main	Green Parrot/Hardware Store	N/A	C	NC (no longer extant)
73	MEH-127	129 S. Main	Old Eagle Confectionary	N/A	C	NC (no longer extant)
74	MEH-128	131 S. Main	Fig & Threlkeld Building	N/A	C	NC (no longer extant)

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NR #	KHC #	Address	Name	Date	STATUS 1980	STATUS 2016
75	MEH-129	201-203 S. Main	Blue Front Building	1875-1899	C	C
76	MEH-130	205 S. Main	Bohon's Saloon	1875-1899	C	C
77	MEH-131	207-211 S. Main	Ballard's Dry Goods	1879-1899	NC	C
78	MEH-132	215-219 S. Main	Hansford Building	1875-1899	C	C
79	MEH-133	221 S. Main	Wilson & Powell Building	1875-1899	C	C
80	MEH-134	223 S. Main	Lafon & Riker Store	1875-1899	C	C
81	MEH-135	225 S. Main	W.T. Curry's Drugstore	1875-1899	C	C
82	MEH-136	227 S. Main		1875-1899	C	C
83	MEH-137	229 S. Main		1875-1899	C	C
84	MEH-138	231-33 S. Main	James' Flats/Jones Building	1860s	C	C
85	MEH-139	305 S. Main	Harrodsburg Christian Church	1928	C	C
86	MEH-140	319 S. Main	Mr. C.S. Angel House	1887-1888	C	C
87	MEH-141	323 S. Main	Alma Givion House	1887-1888	C	C
88	MEH-142	327 S. Main	Dr. J. Tom Price House	1930	C	C
89	MEH-143	329-331 S. Main	Burner & Sons General Home	1915	C	C
90	MEH-144	Moreland & Main Street	Opera House/Elm Fellows Lodge	1905	C	C
91	MEH-37	101 Moreland Ave	The Academy	1847	C	C
92	MEH-337	109 Short	Harrodsburg Planning and Zoning	1875-1899	NC	C
93	MEH-338	100 S. Main		1875-1899	C	C

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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, 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1800-1945

Significant Dates

1900

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.

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Period of Significance (justification)

The Period of Significance is 1800 to 1945, a 15-year expansion of the original POS, to end of the period of growth and development in the district.

Criteria Considerations: NA

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Summary Paragraph

The expanded Harrodsburg Downtown District meets the fourth term of National Register Criterion C—it is “a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.” The district is significant in the Area of Architecture, for its display of architectural style in the form of commercial, community, and residential buildings. This group of buildings is significant on a local level as the core of the business district and the first residential dwellings built alongside the commercial buildings. The resources in the existing district and in the proposed expansion area are evaluated within the historic context “**An Architectural Evolution: Popular National Styles and Their Regional Interpretation in Mercer County, 1800-1950.**”

This expanded boundary looks at this core area of downtown Harrodsburg as a business center *and* residential area, and looks at the architectural merit of rebuilding patterns within the district.

Many of the buildings within the district’s expanded area pre-date the commercial buildings included in the original nomination, and help present a cohesive view of life in the downtown throughout the POS. It was a pedestrian way of life, with an urban feel limited to these few blocks – setbacks and larger lots confined to the areas around the proposed district. Businesses, taverns, dwellings, government buildings, and houses of worship all create a landscape that is instantly recognizable as a small county seat town in Kentucky.

The original nomination states that the district “comprises a noteworthy concentration of well-preserved late-19th century commercial architecture.” That 1980 effort also includes as contributing resources both dwellings and several churches. The current nomination proposes to expand the district boundary to include resources that are consistent with the original nomination which were omitted from the 1980 boundary.

Most Kentucky towns include commercial areas with later infill that eventually becomes recognized as historic and significant. The perceptions of what constitutes architectural significance have expanded in the 36 years since this original district was listed. The earlier view prioritized the purity of architectural expression, seeing change as a reduction in design significance. This nomination widens our sense of design value, seeing the presence of architectural significance when the building’s form and material help tell the story of a county seat town’s development. Part of that development, of course, is told through the choice of style—erecting a new building with a style that fits national patterns of design choices at a particular point in time. And as time passes, new owners bring new needs to each historic building. In commercial areas, where the refrain “new is better” began to circulate in the early 20th century, owners chose to update their design to heighten the building’s appeal to the patron or client of the business within. These changes to historic buildings within the Period of Significance testify to the owners’ affirmation that the building continues being adaptable to the current situation. That general willingness to retain and update historic buildings had eroded quite thoroughly by the 1960s; demolishing historic buildings came to be seen as a powerful way to implement the “new is better” concept. Thus, this version of the district nomination observes within the district those instances during the Period of Significance—where existing buildings were retained, redesigned, and put to new uses—as a positive architectural choice, at least through the middle-1960s.

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

Other areas in Harrodsburg have been listed in the National Register as districts, and they contain significant architecture. These other districts typically exhibit a greater architectural consistency from parcel to parcel as

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single-use (residential) 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 Harrodsburg Downtown 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 (listed 1979, NRIS: 79001023) is another National Register district located very close to the Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District. 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.

The Beaumont Avenue Residential District, (listed 1988; NRIS: 88003359) lies outside of the original town plat of Harrodsburg, two blocks southeast of the Harrodsburg Downtown District. A solely residential district, it comprises just 14 dwellings built along the Harrodsburg and Danville Turnpike in the late-19th and early 20th centuries.

The North Main Street Historic District (listed 2011, NRIS: 1100796), located to the north of the Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District, is a small, mixed-use neighborhood, but should not be mistaken as the core of the downtown area. While the corner of North Main Street and Broadway (also known as Water Street) historically hosted businesses and taverns, it was removed from what became the central core of town (albeit only by one block).

The Lexington and Cane Run Historic District (listed 2011; NRIS: 11000795) is primarily a residential district associated with the residential development of Harrodsburg outside of the original plat of the town. The district illustrates the growth of Harrodsburg from the town plat out to the first "suburbs", and the relationship between the residents in the district and the commercial and industrial growth of the county. It spans the time period between 1814-1951.

The architecture of the Harrodsburg Downtown 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 collection of styles displayed in the Harrodsburg Downtown 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 District.

The Federal style, academically classified as ranging from 1780 to 1820 nationally, is the earliest period style most commonly encountered in Kentucky.¹ 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, or twelve-over-twelve configurations. Muntins are typically thin, and lintels and sills are plain and restrained.

¹ Cyril M. Harris. *American Architecture An Illustrated Encyclopedia* (New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 1998), 123.

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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.

The earliest building in the expanded area is the brick rowhouse known as Morgan Row (MEH-43) on South Chiles Street. The Federal style building was built by Joseph Morgan between 1807 and 1830. Morgan sold the commercial buildings in 1836 to his son-in-law, John G. Chiles. Composed of four sections with firewalls extending above the roof line, the rowhouse was “the social and business center of Harrodsburg during the first half of the 19th century.”²

The George Passmore House (Resource 3; MEH-71), a two-story brick house, dates from 1821. The west side of the dwelling appears to have begun as a two-story three-bay-wide house with gable end chimneys. A great deal of modification has happened with the openings on the façade, so the original plan of the house is not known, but it can be surmised from both the original fenestration and patterns of building at the time that the dwelling began as a side-passage plan.

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. There are four side-passage plans within the expanded area: MEH-71, MEH-45, MEH-46 and MEH-48 (and an additional two examples within the existing district, see Photo 16).

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.



Photo 16



Photo 10

² Powell, 35.

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The east two-bay-wide section of the George Passmore House (NR #16, Photo 10) dates to around 1830. The façade of both sections is laid in Flemish bond. There is some speculation that this dwelling operated both as a dwelling and as a public house in the antebellum period, consistent with the pattern of multiple uses for individual buildings in the district expansion area. After it was expanded, the house transitioned from a popular urban plan (the side-passage) to what would become the building block of architectural expression for people with means – the five-bay-wide central passage plan.

Around the same time that the George Passmore House underwent its expansion, William McBride was (in 1821) building a two-story five-bay-wide Federal-style central passage house (NR #18, MEH-36) on West Poplar Street. McBride had purchased in-lot 51 from the Trustees of Harrodsburg in October 1821. The façade is laid in Flemish bond and the central entryway has a fluted surround with carved corner blocks. The two-story five-bay-wide house (Photo 3) would become the foundation for a new architectural vocabulary in Mercer County (and the rest of Kentucky) until the wide acceptance of the Revival and Craftsman styles shortly before World War I. McBride sold the house in August 1822.

Shortly after the construction of the Passmore and McBride houses, construction began on a new residence for the county jailer on South Chiles Street. The Mercer County Jailer's Residence (Photo 12) at 320 South Chiles Street (NR #19, MEH-42) has some of the transitional Federal /Greek Revival elements found in many dwellings of its time period. Built between 1827 and 1833, the brick five-bay-wide central passage house has a façade laid in Flemish bond, a pattern popular in the Federal style. The stark stone lintels and sills recall the Greek Revival influence.



McBride House (photo 3)

Mercer County Jailer (Photo 12)

Herndon & Farnsworth Hs. (Photo 4)

Chronologically, the Greek Revival style typically follows the Federal style, though many non-academic builders combined details of both in their dwellings. The Greek Revival style is commonly thought to span the years from 1820 to 1860, but the style continued to appeal to local builders into 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.

Both the Levi Herndon House (NR #45, MEH-45) and the Henry Farnsworth House (NR #27, MEH-46) interpret the Greek Revival style in a minimal fashion – these side-passage dwellings have little setbacks and narrow, deep lots, so the architectural expression is limited to window and door treatments (Photo 4).

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

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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, exterior accents of ornamental lintels or hood molds on windows, and an overall emphasis on verticality. The pattern books of Andrew Jackson Downing greatly popularized this style in the 1840s and 1850s.³

As is typical in Kentucky, many dwellings blended elements of the Greek Revival with components of the Italianate style. The Henry Farnsworth House has elongated windows characteristic of the influence of the Italianate style, and while its restrained façade and classic jackarches don't fall into the more assertive school of Greek Revival (one dominated by porticos and columns), the dwelling is a good example of how that architectural style was interpreted in a county-seat setting. And many dwellings from this period of the 1850s present a more muted façade while extolling attributes of the style – high, heavy baseboard and Greek ear moldings – on the interior.

Rebuilding and Filling In in the Post-Civil War Period

As is typical in most Kentucky county seat towns, larger parcels began to be subdivided after the Civil War, and infill on these new smaller lots reflected the shift – or at least, the variety – in vernacular architecture of the time. Subdivision of larger parcels and the constant reality of destruction by fire meant that the built landscape in the Harrodsburg Downtown District changed and shifted with the passage of each decade.

The railroad 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 façade. This allowed the rooms in the ell to be accessed by the central passage.

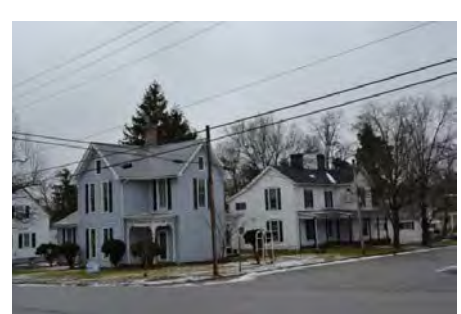
In the early 1870s, William Tomlinson, a physician, had a new house built on West Poplar Street after the original dwelling on the parcel was destroyed by fire (Photo 3). Tomlinson, a wealthy man with an estate valued at \$7,500 in the 1870 census, had a large brick T-plan dwelling (NR #1 MFL-35) constructed, with plenty of Italianate flourishes. This example is fairly high-style, and most of the other dwellings with Italianate influence are more understated than the Tomlinson-Price House. Interestingly, Tomlinson sold the house in 1876 to another doctor – A.D. Price, who would both live and practice in the building.



Tomlinson House (photo 3)



George Passmore House (Photo 10)



203/209 East Poplar St. (Photo 7)

³ Virginia and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1998), 211.

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The fire of 1890, as well as the increase in population and rising land values – Mercer County’s 1890 population figures stood at 15,043 residents – fueled an interest in additional rebuilding and land division that would fill out the remainder of the expanded area in the district. Estimates of the values of town lots in the last decade of the 19th century were calculated to be 50% more than the decade before, and it seemed that Harrodsburg had “begun a new lease on life.”⁴

Most of this period of rebuilding occurred along East Poplar Street in the late 19th century into the early 20th. On the 1876 Atlas, the block between South Greenville and East Street was still fairly open, containing only three dwellings, one of which was the George Passmore House (NR #16, MEH-71, Photo 10). Either a fire or a planned demolition removed the two dwellings on the north side of the block, for this area is marked as “in ruins” on the 1886 Sanborn map.

By 1891, two frame dwellings had been constructed on these lots: 203 East Poplar Street (NR #8, MEH-321) and 209 East Poplar Street (NR #9, MEH-322). Both of these buildings (Photo 7) incorporate the T-plan form, which was ushered in the district in the 1870s by the Tomlinson-Price House. These examples, however, are more illustrative of the typical pattern this form took in Central Kentucky (frame construction), with minimal Italianate styling (elongated windows and pedimented hood molds). These two-story examples of the style are mirrored by a one-story version at the end of East Poplar Street (NR #11, MEH-324, Photo 8).

One of these dwellings was the home of Dr. C. L. Abel (where NR #9, MEH-322 is today). Another professional who found it convenient to live and practice in the downtown core of Harrodsburg, Dr. Abel’s office was located one block west of his dwelling at 117 East Poplar Street (NR #3, MEH-317).

It is interesting to note that the one-story shotgun form was employed in “filling in” pattern of development in the late-19th century, almost always to serve as professional or commercial space at the front of a residential parcel. The two 19th-century examples in the expanded area include the brick building at 117 East Poplar Street (NR #3, MEH-317, Photo 6) and a frame version at 213 East Poplar Street (NR #10, MEH-323). A 20th-century version (now home to the Curled Up and Dyed Salon, NR # 24, MEH-331, Photo 2) was constructed between 1914 and 1929 between the expanse of Morgan Row (NR #23, MEH-43, Photo 2) on South Chiles Street and the house at 214 South Chiles Street (NR # 25, MEH-332).



MEH-324 (Photo 8)



117 East Poplar Street (Photo 6)



MEH-331 and Morgan Row (Photo 2)

A more elaborate version of the frame T-plan is found at 122 East Poplar Street. The Thompson-Daviess House (NR #6, MEH-34), in its current form, was constructed on the parcel at the corner of East Poplar and South

⁴ Chinn, 145.

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Greenville that had previously held an earlier dwelling. Based on map data, the dwelling appears to have been built between 1891 and 1896, and it combines both the Italianate and Queen Anne styles. Currently being restored by its owners, the dwelling features small brackets at the cornice line, a gable with both diamond and fishscale shingles, pedimented lintels, and a porch with copious amounts of spindlework.

Although the Queen Anne is not represented in this district in any singular fashion (save for porches and gable imbrication), a subset of the style – the Free Classic – makes an appearance in two frame cottages built on the south side of East Poplar Street between 1908 and 1914. Until that point, the entire side of the block was given over to the George Passmore House (NR #16, MEH-71, Photo 10) and its dependency (NR #15, MEH-328). Likely constructed as speculative houses, the two front gable houses (220 and 216 East Poplar Street, NR # 13 and 14) are identical except for modifications made to materials over the years. The former home of Mercer County poet laureate Henry Cleveland Woods (NR #13, MEH-326) is an interesting study in the blending of late Victorian influences with those of the emerging Revival styles.



George Passmore House (Photo 10)



Woods House (Photo 9)



United Presbyterian (l.) and Harrodsburg Baptist

The large window on the façade has a diamond pattern leaded glass upper sash over a single-light lower sash. A multi-light casement window is located next to the half-glass half-panel entry door. Two square window bays are located on the east elevation – both with elongated Italianate style windows and brackets (Photo 9). These windows were not additions, but were built with the house. The second-story gable is lit by two 6-over-6 double-hung sash windows on the façade, while a single diamond shaped window is located to the east of these paired windows. A small hipped roof porch with Tuscan columns shelters the entry door.

The use of residences for physician offices in the expanded district continued into the 20th century, as Dr. Condit Vanarsdell added a wing to the east side of the Greek Revival William McBride House (NR #18, MEH-36) to serve as his medical practice.

Churches are well-represented in the existing district (Photo 15), and in the expanded area. Until the Presbyterian Church in Harrodsburg reunited in 1913, a church stood on the north side of the 100 block of East Poplar Street, where an American Foursquare is today (113 East Poplar Street, NR #2, MEH-316). This dwelling sits between a commercial/residential structure at 109-111 East Poplar Street (NR #1, MEH-315, Photo 5) and the doctor's office at 117 East Poplar. It is the only example of the form and of the Colonial Revival style within the expanded area.

The only extant church within the expanded area is the Harrodsburg United Methodist Church (Photo 4) on South Chiles Street. The Harrodsburg United Methodist Church (NR #28, MEH-47) is the third church to be

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constructed on what was originally in-lot 38 in downtown Harrodsburg. The first brick church was replaced in 1889, and a New Year's Day fire in 1940 destroyed that building. The current building mirrors the footprint and style of the late-19th century version, demonstrating that rebuilding is sometimes more about location and context than popular architectural styles. Its adjacent Greek Revival parsonage (NR #29, MEH-48) has served in that role since its construction in the 1840s.



113 East Poplar (right, Photo 5)

United Methodist Church (Photo 4)

Car dealership (Photo 1)

The role of the Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District as the heart of residential, commercial, social, and spiritual life continued with the changes wrought by the automotive age. A large locally-owned car dealership seized the "hot corner" of West Lexington Street and South Chiles Street and in 1920 constructed a brick showroom and garage for a Buick dealership (Photos 1 and 11). The frame boarding house previously located on the corner made way for this new expression of modernity and progress in Harrodsburg, and the Craftsman style, which had been finding favor in the town's residential neighborhood, became the face of this important new building.

Ingram Buick's (NR #32, MEH-334, photo 1 above) large footprint plays up the understated Craftsman Commercial style of the building, with a faux Mansard tile roof, stone accents, and numerous large windows to entice both pedestrians and drivers. Later, the Ingram family built a secondary (and less showy) garage at 132 South Chiles Street (NR #31, MEH-333) on the other side of the dealership's parking lot. This building too, however, embraced a restrained Craftsman Commercial style.

Evaluation of the Historic Significance of the Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District within its Context

The Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District provides a glimpse at how its residents lived and worked during the POS, and what types of dwellings and style of architecture they favored for their houses and places of business. Further, it significantly displays an important historic condition: that the downtown core of Kentucky's county seat towns encompassed parcels and buildings with multiple uses, and that rebuilding and reuse was a common practice.

The story of the architectural decisions in the Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District is perhaps the most visible component of the significance of the district today. South Main Street's cohesive collection of mostly late-19th-century masonry commercial buildings is balanced by the varying footprints and sizes of churches, dwellings, and small offices.

The expanded district more fully presents the story of the development and changing styles and forms of a Kentucky county seat downtown. Morgan Row, the anchor of Harrodsburg's first Main Street, provides a stable foundation for the town that would develop around this social center and the courthouse immediately across the

Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

Mercer County, Kentucky

Name of Property

County and State

street. The hub of activity present in the court square is better understood flanked by the context of the offices and homes of its lawyers and officials, including the jail and the jailer's house.

The Harrodsburg Downtown District informs the viewer 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 a downtown core 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, but is in fact a more complete landscape for all of its variety.

Evaluation of the Integrity of the Harrodsburg Downtown District's Significance

The Harrodsburg Downtown 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 Harrodsburg Downtown District as a single entity retains integrity as a historic downtown mixed-use downtown neighborhood in all of these aspects. All 7 integrity factors of the District are discussed here.

Design

The resources in the Harrodsburg Downtown 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 as a downtown mixed-use district is very important. The Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District retains a high level of integrity of location. The resources within the district have not been relocated and they retain their general relationship with Poplar, South Chiles and West Lexington 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 Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District as a single unified entity.

Feeling and Association

The Harrodsburg Downtown 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 historically diverse

Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

Mercer County, Kentucky
County and State

Name of Property

downtown core of a county seat town. It provides a strong view of commercial, spiritual, social, and residential life throughout the 19th and early-20th centuries in Harrodsburg.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

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

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Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

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County and State

Name of Property

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

The University of Virginia, Geospatial and Statistical Data Center Historical Census Browser. Electronic document, <http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/sats/histcensus/index.html>, accessed 2011.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (30 CFR 67.6 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 Newly Proposed for listing
Acreage of Original listing
Acreage of Total area listed

Approximately 9.7 acres
14.5 acres
24.2 acres

UTM References: Please see sketch map with Longitude/Latitude coordinates indicated on map.

Longitude/Latitude Coordinate References

1. -84.845250 37.762448
2. -84.845393 37.761476
3. -84.845193 37.760293
4. -84.844872 37.759327
5. -84.844809 37.758579
6. -84.843475 37.758645
7. -84.842930 37.759444
8. -84.842747 37.760747

Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

Mercer County, Kentucky
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Name of Property

- 9. -84.841235 37.760763
- 10. -84.841166 37.761500
- 11. -84.842799 37.762335

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The expanded district encompasses the areas excluded from the original nomination, starting with the northern edge of West Main Street to South Chiles Street, and including the west and east sides of South Chiles Street not included in the original boundary (portions of the east side are included in the original boundary) and two properties on the north side of West Poplar Street, then moving south to join with the existing district at the corner of South Chiles and Mooreland Avenue. The expanded area also extends east down East Poplar Street from South Main, encompassing both sides of the street to East Street.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This boundary was selected to include those areas traditionally part of the downtown core of Harrodsburg, Kentucky.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janie-Rice Brother, Sr. Architectural Historian

organization Kentucky Archaeological Survey

date _____

street & number 1020A Export Street

telephone 859-257-1944

city or town Lexington

state KY

zip code 40506

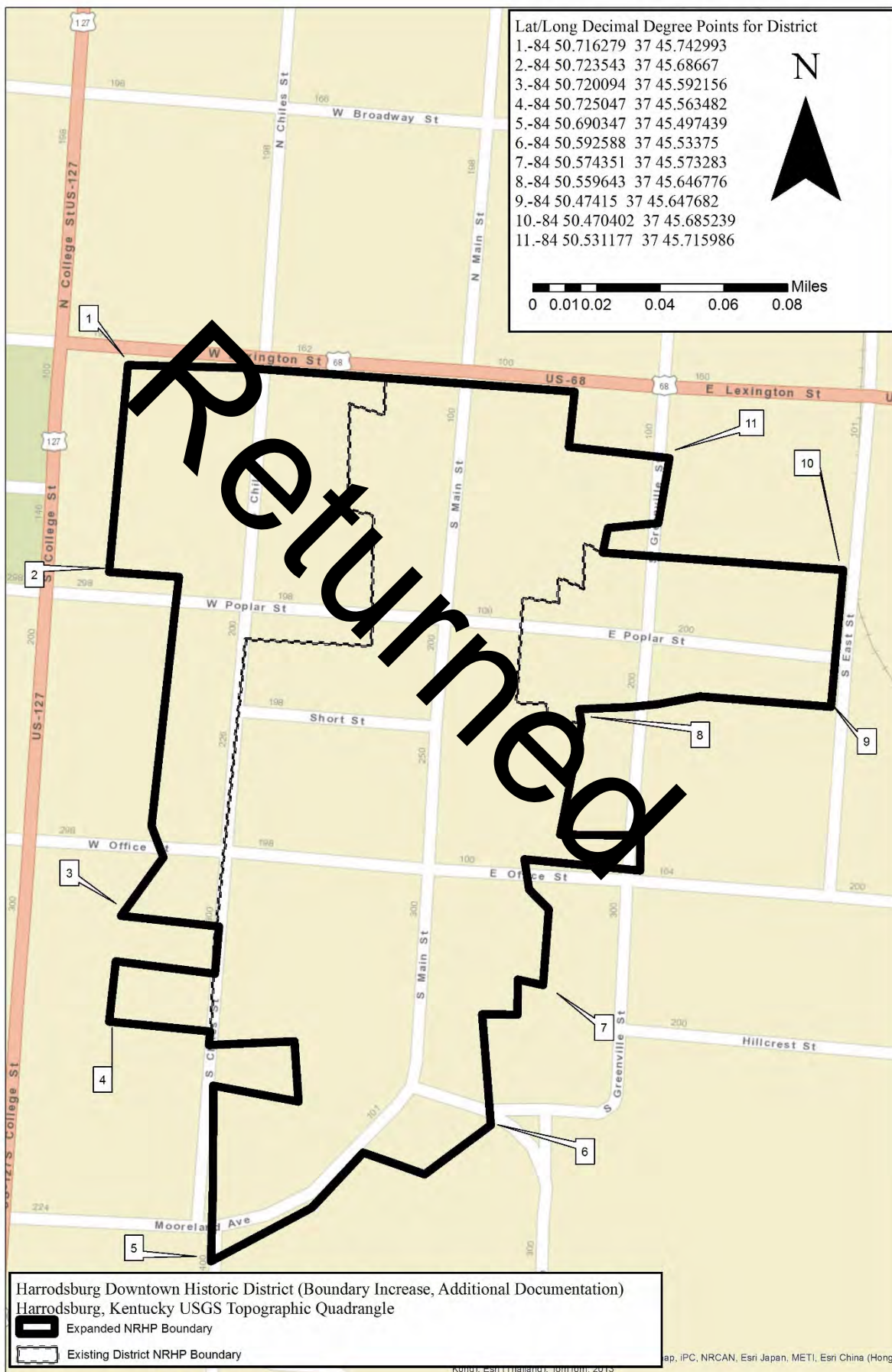
e-mail janie-rice.brother@uky.edu

Photographs:

Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

Mercer County, Kentucky
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Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

Mercer County, Kentucky
County and State

Name of Property

Name of listing: Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase)
Town: Harrodsburg
County: Mercer County
State: Kentucky
Photographer: Janie-Rice Brother, Photographer
Date of Photos: 2015-2016

1. Northern edge of proposed additions to district, looking southeast along West Lexington Street. From left to right: 100 South Main Street (MEH-338, NR #93, included in existing district); 108 West Lexington (MEH-336, NR #34, within proposed expansion area); 112 West Lexington (MEH-335, NR #33, within proposed expansion area) and Ingram Buick at 122 West Lexington (MEH-334, NR#32, within proposed expansion area).
2. Western edge of proposed additions to district, looking south along South Chiles Street. From left to right: Morgan Row at 220-230-232 South Chiles (MEH-43, NR #23) and the Curled Up and Dyed Salon at 216 South Chiles (MEH-331, NR #34).
3. Looking northeast at the north side of West Poplar Street, within the proposed expansion area, showing from left to right: the William McBride House at 115 West Poplar Street (MEH-36, NR#18) and the Tomlinson-Price House at 115 West Poplar Street (MEH-37, NR#17).
4. Western edge of proposed additions to district, looking northwest along South Chiles Street. From left to right: the Levi Herndon House at 206 South Chiles (MEH-45, NR#26); the Henry Farnsworth House at 202 South Chiles (MEH-46, NR#27); the United Methodist Church at 120 South Chiles (MEH-47, NR#47), and the Methodist Parsonage (MEH-48, NR#28).
5. East Poplar Street, within the proposed expansion area, and facing north. Showing from left to right, 109-111 East Poplar Street (MEH-315, NR#1) and 113 East Poplar Street (MEH-316, NR#2).
6. East Poplar Street, within the proposed expansion area, and facing northeast. Showing from left to right: 113 East Poplar Street (MEH-316, NR#2); 117 East Poplar Street (MEH-317, NR#3); 121 East Poplar Street (MEH-318, NR#4) and 127 East Poplar Street (MEH-319, NR#5).
7. East Poplar Street within the proposed expansion area, between South Greenville and East Streets, facing northeast. Showing from left to right: 203 East Poplar Street (MEH-321, NR#8) and 209 East Poplar Street (MEH-322, NR#9).
8. Example of one-story T-plan dwelling with the proposed expansion area: 225 East Poplar Street, facing northeast (MEH-325, NR#11).
9. Detail of the Italianate bay windows on the side elevation of the Henry Cleveland Wood House (within the proposed expansion area) at 220 East Poplar Street (MEH-326, NR#13).
10. The façade of the George Passmore House within the proposed expansion area at 204 East Poplar Street (MEH-71, NR#16), facing south.
11. The façade of the Ingram Buick Company building within the proposed expansion area, facing southwest, at 122 West Lexington Street (MEH-334, NR#32).

Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

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12. Three-quarter view (facing northwest) of the Jailer's House at 320 South Chiles Street, within the proposed expansion area (MEH-147, NR#19).
13. Streetscape view of the existing district, looking southeast at the east side of South Main Street. From left to right: 103-105 South Main (MEH-119, NR#65); 107 South Main (MEH-120, NR#66) and 109-111 South Main (MEH-121, NR#67).
14. Streetscape view of the existing district, looking northwest at the west side of South Main Street. From left to right: 114 South Main (MEH-105, NR#51); 112 South Main (MEH-104, NR#50); 110 South Main (MEH-103, NR#49); 108 South Main (MEH-102, NR#48); 104-106 South Main (MEH-101, NR#47); 102 South Main (MEH-100, NR#46) and 100 South Main (MEH-338, NR#93).
15. Two of the four churches within the existing district, facing southwest on South Main Street, from left to right: United Presbyterian Church at 226 South Main (MEH-117, NR#63) and Harrodsburg Baptist Church at 312 South Main (MEH-116, NR#62).
16. Two of the side-passage dwellings within the existing district, facing northeast on South Main Street, from left to right: Dr. C.S. Abel House at 119 South Main (MEH-140, NR#86) and the Albert G. Vivion House at 323 South Main (MEH-141, NR#87).
17. Streetscape view of the existing district, looking southeast at the east side of the 200 block of South Main Street.

Property Owner:

name _____
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

Mercer County, Kentucky
County and State

Name of Property



Lat/Long Decimal Degree Points for District

- 1.-84 50.716279 37 45.742993
- 2.-84 50.723543 37 45.68667
- 3.-84 50.720094 37 45.592156
- 4.-84 50.725047 37 45.563482
- 5.-84 50.690347 37 45.497439
- 6.-84 50.592588 37 45.53375
- 7.-84 50.574351 37 45.573283
- 8.-84 50.559643 37 45.646776
- 9.-84 50.47415 37 45.647682
- 10.-84 50.470402 37 45.685239
- 11.-84 50.531177 37 45.715986

N



0 0.010.02 0.04 0.06 0.08 Miles



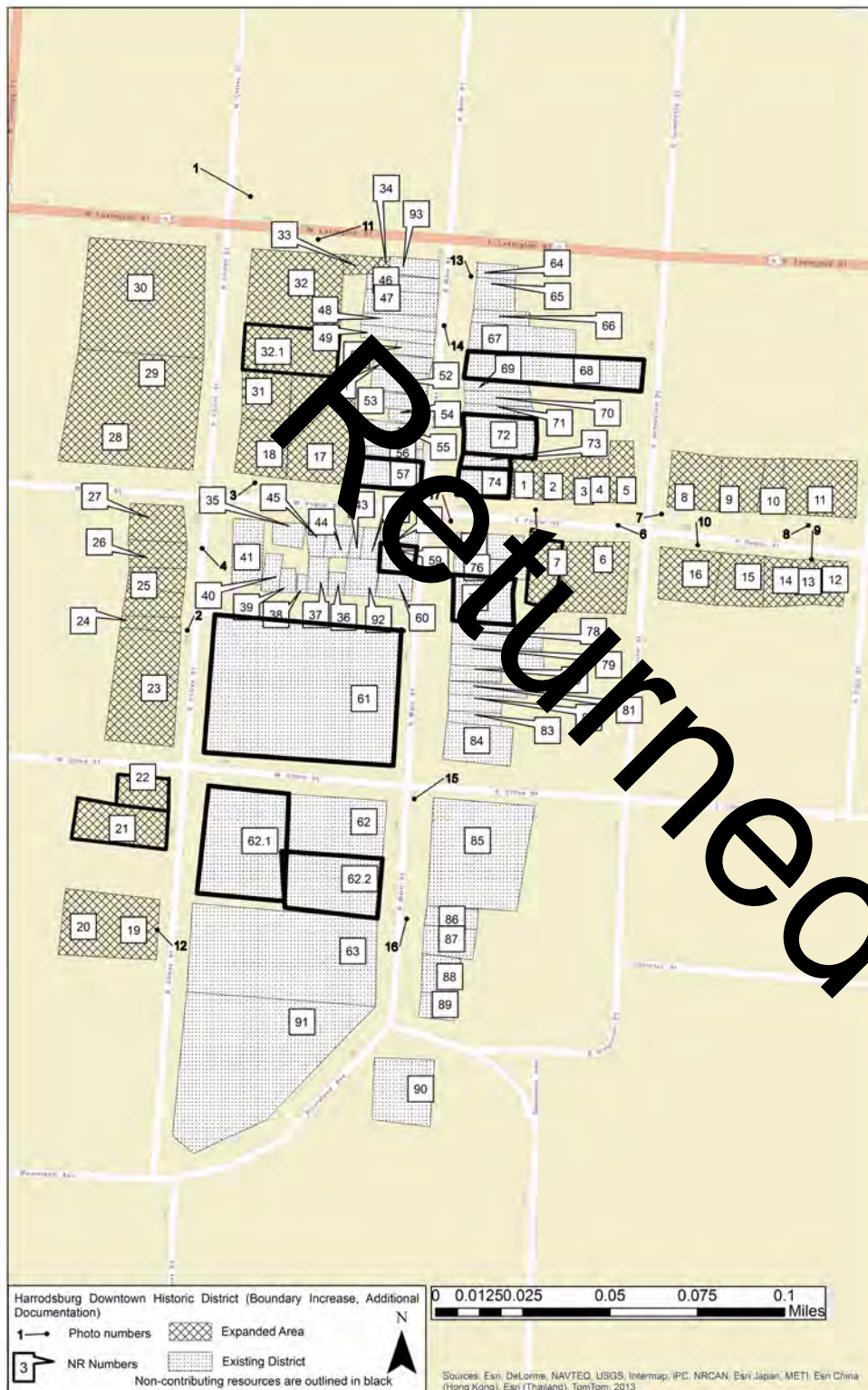
Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)
Harrodsburg, Kentucky USGS Topographic Quadrangle

- Existing District Parcels
- Expanded District Parcels

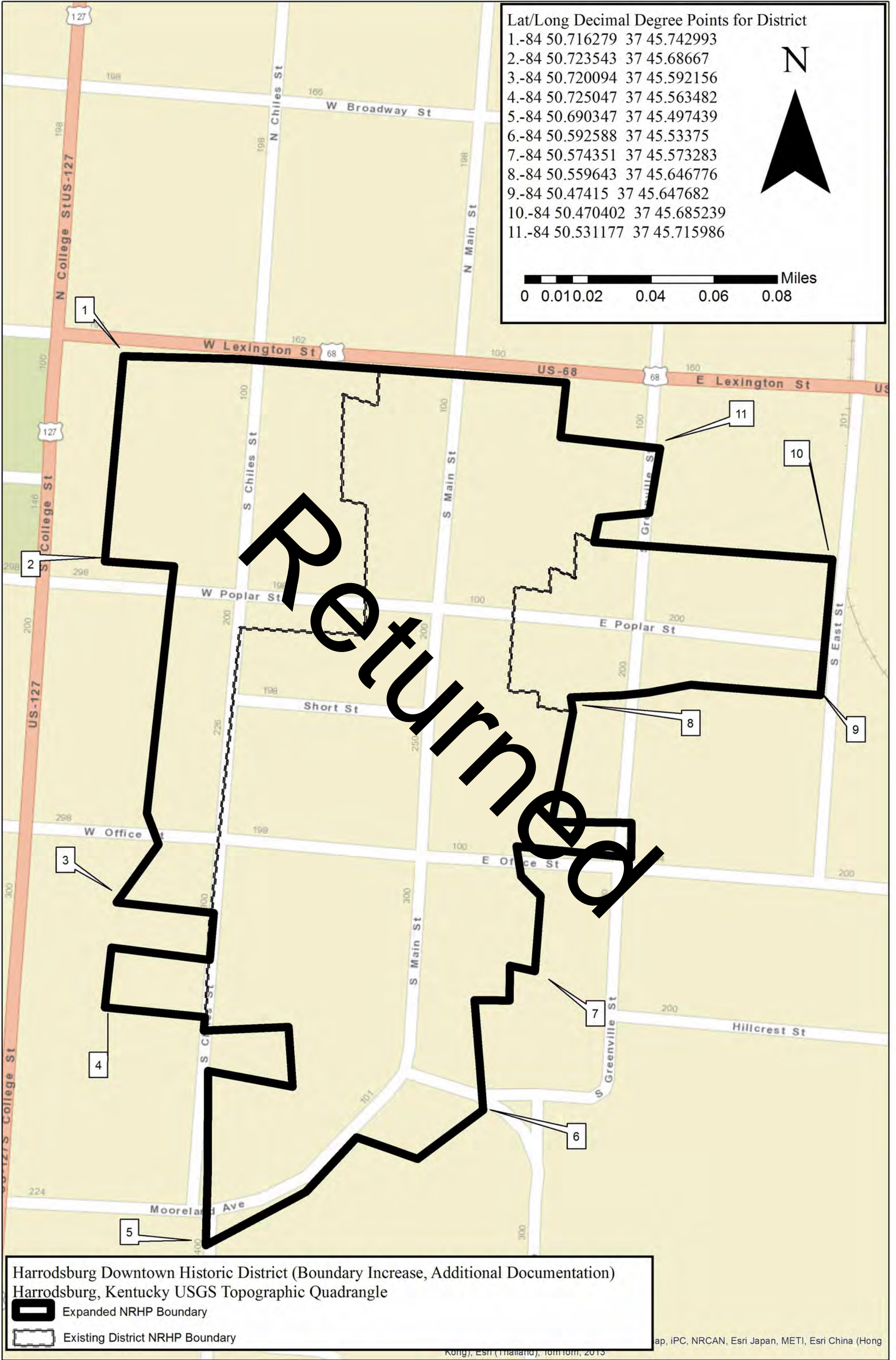
Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase, Additional Documentation)

Mercer County, Kentucky
County and State

Name of Property



District Sketch Map and Photo ID map



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Boundary Update

Property Name: Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation)

Multiple Name:

State & County: KENTUCKY, Mercer

Date Received: 6/23/2017 Date of Pending List: 7/18/2017 Date of 16th Day: 8/2/2017 Date of 45th Day: 8/7/2017 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number: BC100001427

Nominator: State

Reason For Review:

 Accept X Return Reject 8/2/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: The nomination uses a different name than the original district. The new name, while appropriate, cannot serve as a BI and AD to something named differently. The SHPO will submit a name change for the original district; once achieved, this BI and AD can be accepted. It provides a complete inventory and status for the original district and expands the boundaries to more adequately cover the architectural distinction of the downtown area.

Recommendation/ Criteria Return. Hold in-house until name change for original Harrodsburg Commercial Historic District is accepted.

Reviewer Jim Gabbert Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275 Date 8.2.17

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



MATTHEW G. BEVIN
GOVERNOR

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

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



CRAIG A. POTTS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

June 16, 2017

J. Paul Loether, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
Mail Stop 7228
1849 C St, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Loether:

We enclose the following nominations, approved by the Review Board at their May 17, 2017 meeting, and asking that these Kentucky properties be listed in the National Register:

Rock Cabin Camp, Barren County
Middlesboro Jewish Cemetery, Bell County
E.O. Robinson House, Campbell County
Montgomery-Sandidge House, Green County
Kentucky Home School for Girls, Jefferson County
Devou Park, Kenton County
Kellog and Company Wholesale Grocery Warehouse, Madison County
West Second Street Historic District, Mason County
Westminster Presbyterian Church, McCracken County
Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase), Mercer County
Craig-Peak House, Scott County

We enclose a revised nomination for a returned property, which we have revised according to the return comments:
Paducah City Hall, McCracken County

We thank you for your assistance in listing these properties.

Sincerely,

Craig A. Potts
Executive Director and
State Historic Preservation Officer

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Boundary Update

Property Name: Harrodsburg Downtown Historic District (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation)

Multiple Name:

State & County: KENTUCKY, Mercer

Date Received: 9/12/2017 Date of Pending List: 7/18/2017 Date of 16th Day: 8/2/2017 Date of 45th Day: 10/27/2017 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number: BC100001427

Nominator: State

Reason For Review:

X Accept Return Reject 12/12/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: The nomination uses a different name than the original district. The new name, while appropriate, cannot serve as a BI and AD to something named differently. The SHPO will submit a name change for the original district; once achieved, this BI and AD can be accepted. It provides a complete inventory and status for the original district and expands the boundaries to more adequately cover the architectural distinction of the downtown area. The SHPO has officially requested a name change as of 9/12/2017.

Recommendation/ Criteria: Accept BI and AD / A & C

Reviewer Jim Gabbert Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275 Date

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.