

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

007



National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

1. Name of Property

Historic name Black Bottom Historic District

Other name/site number NA

2. Location

Street & town Roughly bounded by East 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Streets, Bowling Green Road, and Morgan Street NA not for public

city or town Russellville NA vicinity

state Kentucky code KY county Logan code 141 zip code 42276

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mark Dennen 12/23/08  
Signature of certifying official/Title Mark Dennen, SHPO Date

Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

James Schubert 3/17/2010

Black Bottom Historic District

Logan County, KY

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property

(check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing

Noncontributing

X private

building(s)

36

18

buildings

X public-local

X district

6

31

sites

public-State

site

structures

public-Federal

structure

objects

object

42

49

Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

49 Contributing Buildings and 5 contributing sites

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(Enter only categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/ single dwelling

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural field

RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation

DOMESTIC/ multiple dwelling

COMMERCE/TRADE/business

SOCIAL/meeting hall

LANDSCAPE/unoccupied land

Current Function

(Enter only categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/ single dwelling

VACANT/NOT IN USE

RECREATION AND CULTURE/outdoor recreation

DOMESTIC/ multiple dwelling

COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurant

SOCIAL/meeting hall

LANDSCAPE/unoccupied land

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter only categories from instructions)

Bungalow/Craftsman

Other: shotgun

Other: single pen

Materials

(Enter only categories from instructions)

foundation concrete, brick

walls weatherboard, brick,

roof tin, aluminum

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET  
Section 7 Page 1**

Black Bottom Historic District  
Logan County, KY

**Narrative Description**

The Black Bottom Historic District is a 5-block area located south and east of the center of Russellville (population 7149 in 2000), seat of Logan County, Kentucky, a largely agricultural area. The district contains the homes in which the town's largest concentration of African American citizens have lived; the district's identity and significance are interpreted according to that association. The district's buildings stand along the 500-600 blocks of 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> Streets, the 200-300 blocks of S. Morgan Street where it intersects with 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> Streets, and one house is on Edwards Avenue (sometimes called Strange Avenue). The district covers approximately 38 acres, and consists of 173 discrete parcels. Of those, 82 are currently listed on the National Register within the Russellville Historic District (NR 1976), with the following status according to their condition in 2008: 49 contributing buildings, 10 non-contributing buildings, 16 contributing sites, and 8 non-contributing sites. The 91 parcels proposed for new listing include 36 contributing buildings, 18 non-contributing buildings, 6 contributing sites, and 31 non-contributing sites. This nomination does not propose listing as an expansion to the Russellville Historic District, but seeks separate designation for this area due to its rich history and distinct resources.

The documentation presented here includes areas which are listed within the National Register and areas which are not. That earlier nomination encompasses approximately fifty city blocks. The present document seeks separate listing primarily because the 1976 nomination offers virtually no information on the African American community within its boundary, either in the Description or Significance narratives, save for mention of a lynching. The 1976 district's two maps show slight differences where the boundary cuts through the center of the Black Bottom, near the Town Spring Branch and Caldwell Street. While today, street signs posted at the edge of Black Bottom read "Historic Russellville," the 1976 Nomination which secured this sign did not include information about the buildings or people who lived in the Black Bottom. Thus, it seems more appropriate to use a separate nomination, and separate boundary, to properly recognize the identity and importance of the Black Bottom neighborhood as part of Russellville's African-American past. It is believed that separate listing for this area is necessary to enable the general population of Russellville and Logan County to incorporate this area into the larger collective past. This nomination has adopted the name for the district upon the advice of the board of directors at the West Kentucky African American Heritage Center in Russellville.

The district resides within Kentucky's Pennyryle Cultural Landscape, 25 miles southwest of regional center Bowling Green. The district appears as a neighborhood within the city, though following the interpretation of Wiese (2004), the Black Bottom can be analyzed as a suburban development. The district historically was adjacent to and incrementally incorporated into Russellville's expanding corporate limits, but its existence displays many elements of an existence separate from Russellville, complete with buildings that provided a full range of community institutions: social, educational, religious, and commercial. With the greater integration of blacks into the larger Logan County society after 1960, many of the district's educational and commercial buildings have been lost. The district today consists of single-family dwellings, a few duplexes, the newly renovated Knights of Pythias Hall community center, four historic homes converted to small museums and research centers, two small businesses currently in operation, two vacant historical business buildings, four churches, a multifunction church containing a child daycare center and a clothing donation center, a rehabilitation center for homeless adults and veterans, and numerous vacant lots. Many of the vacant lots were created through the removal of historic houses under the name of Urban Renewal in the 1970s and 1980s. Urban renewal accounted for more building removal than it did for new construction or reinvestment in the neighborhood.



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The architecture of the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District helps tell the story of African American history in west Kentucky. Locally-owned businesses, community centers, and family homes speak to the long-standing community in the neighborhood. Many similarities can be seen between this district and another historically-African American neighborhood in western Kentucky—the Shake Rag Historic District (NR listed 2000) in Bowling Green. In both, the landscape of houses tells the story of a strong sense of community—communities supported by black-owned businesses, all-black schools, and local churches—which has defined many similar neighborhoods through past and present. Yet the Black Bottom neighborhood is also historically distinctive in that its first land owners were former slaves who had obtained their freedom prior to the end of the Civil War; a few houses from that time are still standing. The Black Bottom district is also like many African American neighborhoods throughout our state—these areas have been reduced by urban renewal. What is unusual in the Black Bottom district, though, is that the majority of historic homes remain standing, as both homes and community buildings.

#### **Chronology of the Black Bottom Neighborhood**

Incorporated in 1798, Russellville is the oldest town in western Kentucky. Highway 68/80 is the main road in the town, and runs close to the district's eastern border. Highway 68/80, known as the Old Dixie Highway, has been a significant road since the early 1900s, leading to both Tennessee and Bowling Green. Located in low lying terrain, the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District is home to the Town Spring Branch, which runs through the district. Once Russellville's primary water source during the 1700s, this creek cuts through the middle of the district and runs all year round. Near the creek are walking trails which lead to a park on 5<sup>th</sup> Street. The district occupies the lowest elevations in the town, a flood-prone area. The location within Russellville where blacks could establish their community was land that few whites desired. Wiese and others observe this as a typical pattern, that "[m]ost such areas were poorly situated, prone to flooding, industrial pollution or some other nuisance" (p. 66). The location of the Black Bottom neighborhood, thus, became an important indicator of differential social status and economic attainment between Russellville's white and black populations.

The Black Bottom Historic District communicates the experience of African Americans in western Kentucky with special power, in that the neighborhood was founded by former slaves 14 years prior to the start of the Civil War. Still, neighborhood development expanded modestly during Reconstruction and the days of Jim Crow. A thriving business and cultural center emerged within Russellville's African American community, and numerous 19<sup>th</sup>-century houses remain in the district to give witness to this phase of the district's identity. Home to black-owned businesses and social clubs, the district became a highly important location for the African American community in Russellville and the outlying rural areas in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. People would travel from the larger city of Bowling Green to hear musicians like Cab Calloway at the Knights of Pythias Hall (Property #2) and those who lived in the rural areas would come to do their shopping in the neighborhood, eat hot tamales at City Merrit's restaurant (Property #3), watch the Russellville Red Devils baseball team play, or maybe even attend Leann Jennings' private school (Property #113) for young women. Four major phases can be found written upon the Black Bottom cultural landscape; these directly correspond to changes in Russellville's growth as a town: Latham's Addition in 1820, Norton's Addition in 1869, the Strange-Edward's Addition in 1945, and urban renewal in the 1970s-1980s.



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Black Bottom Historic District  
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**Russellville's Latham Addition of 1820 and the Black Bottom's earliest days**

Latham's Addition created the oldest section of Russellville, which is today the westernmost part of the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District and is located near the intersection of 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and Morgan Streets. It was in this section of town where two former slave families, set free by Major Richard Bibb, lived prior to the Civil War. The Kimbrough House (Property # 55) became home to one of the freed families. It was built in the 1810s and is therefore one of Russellville's oldest homes. Located on East 6<sup>th</sup> Street, this single-pen common-bond brick structure is located in the heart of the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District today. During antebellum days, these two families' houses stood on the fringe of the areas occupied by whites, on land not sought for dwellings, due to its sometimes-swampy character. Early plat maps of the community have not been found to indicate whether the district's earliest houses occupied small-sized lots, as became the rule within the district, or whether house sites were larger in the district's earliest days, providing for subsistence activities such as raising animals and crops for food. The low-level of official documentation for this era, which makes describing that historic landscape difficult, itself is evidence of the status that formerly enslaved people held. Like several historic homes in the district, the Kimbrough House is being renovated by the West Kentucky African American Heritage Center for use as a museum and interpretive center for western Kentucky's African American history.

**Russellville's Norton Addition of 1869—Black Bottom during the Reconstruction Era until WWII**

Norton's Addition followed Latham's Addition and officially created the neighborhood called the Black Bottom, extending the neighborhood to Caldwell Street and the Town Spring Branch. George W. Norton was one of the richest merchants in Kentucky, worth \$150,000 in 1860 (<http://www.nortonfamily.net/norton-bio-2.htm>). Created in 1869, these lots were sold specifically to African American families after the end of slavery. With frequent flooding, residents were susceptible to regular losses of property and illnesses that accompany standing water. Research of death records from these early settlers show that many people in the area died from malaria and related illnesses<sup>iii</sup>. Multiple single-pen homes, dating from the late-19<sup>th</sup> century, can be found on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets, such as the Cooksey House (# 58), built in 1875. This single-pen one-and-a-half-story brick structure is undergoing renovation for use as a museum by the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum.

The first lot in Norton's Addition was sold to Butler Rush, a preacher and former slave, in 1866.<sup>iii</sup> The second lot was sold in 1869, to the Bank Street Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church (# 29), at 564 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street, right around the corner from both the Caldwell and Cooksey Houses. The church, built in 1869, is still located on that original lot, but the building itself was partially rebuilt after a fire in the early 1900s. A common-bond two-story structure with brick detailing, the church was renovated in the 1930s after the fire, and retains its original interior sanctuary, including church pews dating from the 1930s. The Reverend Vaughn House (# 59), located behind the Bank Street Zion AME Church on 533 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street, was constructed in the 1890s. Vaughn would become minister of the First Baptist Church on Spring Street (Property # 1).<sup>iv</sup> A one-and-a-half-story single-pen structure with a later back ell addition, this unique house possesses its original shark-tooth gingerbread around the roof eaves. It is the only house standing in western Kentucky known to have been built by a formerly enslaved person who later became a Union Civil War soldier and teacher. This house was recently renovated with loan funds from Historic Russellville, and is home to one of the neighborhood's founding families.

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The Black Bottom neighborhood grew in size and vitality into a vibrant African American business and cultural center in latter years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Its community and residential structures were built along East 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> Streets, and a surprising number of these buildings remain standing today. As the Black Bottom grew in size and density, its residents undoubtedly forged some business relations with the surrounding white community; Russellville continued to annex the blocks on which increasing numbers blacks built their homes. Many service businesses could be found in the Black Bottom that benefitted not only the neighborhood's residents but townspeople at large, such as the Post Mill Metal and Welding Shop (#128) at 5<sup>th</sup> and Morgan Streets—which stands on the line dividing whites from blacks in the community.

Other of the community's more important and substantial structures occupied sites along Morgan Street. These sites turned the black community's best face to white townspeople to the west, as well as provides a buffer to the Bottom's residents. The The Knights of Pythias Hall (#2), a two-story half-block-and-half-wood-frame structure, was built in 1920 at the corner of South Morgan and East 5<sup>th</sup> Streets, right down the road from the Bank Street AME Zion Church (#29). Serving as a multi-function structure, the building has been used as a church, dance hall, restaurant, gym, school, and meeting hall. Renovated in 2003 through a Community Development Block Grant and matching funds from Historic Russellville, the building now stands as a community center and the home of the local organization, Concerned Citizens of Russellville and "Make the Grade" tutorial program.

Two documents help us recognize the rate of growth in the Black Bottom after the 20<sup>th</sup> century begins: Maps # 11 & 12 of the 1923 Russellville Sanborn map collection, and their updated 1939 versions. Comparison of the two map sets reveals a significant level of economic vitality experienced by the neighborhood's residents up to and through the Great Depression. The neighborhood actually increased its supply of buildings despite the economic pressures of the 1930s. The 1923 map shows 119 primary buildings, most of which were wood frame residences occupying lots with approximately 50' to 60' of frontage and extending 100' to 130' from the road, though some lots are no more than 25 feet wide, others no more than 75 feet deep. Among all these properties, no more than 10 subsidiary buildings, possibly garages or secondary dwellings, stand on the sites. By 1939, the number of primary buildings has risen to 126, however, much more than the simple increase of 7 buildings occurred between 1923 and 1939. Close study of the maps shows no fewer than 23 changes to the lots, changes that include new construction, expansion of existing houses, demolition of at least 3 buildings, and erection of numerous new outbuildings. A total of 19 outbuildings of some type appear on the 1939 map, nearly a doubling of the number present in 1923.

This comparison indicates several facts, and suggests others. The district landscape certainly grew denser over the 16-year period covered by the two maps. The changes indicate not a static but a dynamic pattern of activity. The presence of more buildings suggests a continued prosperity even during an economically challenging time. The evidence of more outbuildings, some of which surely were garages, suggests that a greater number of Black Bottom residents came to own automobiles and other possessions that needed shelter than owned such an item 16 years earlier. The continued physical development of the district, along with residents obtaining greater access to transportation opportunities, all are signs of strength within this community, especially during an era where Americans generally experienced economic hardship.

Several bungalows and L-plan houses remain on the landscape today from this era. Several houses and businesses from this period can be found in the 500, and a portion of the 600 block of East 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> Streets. The majority of these houses have been greatly renovated to meet the needs of residents throughout the years, though comparisons with older photographs show many of these houses retain their original plan and form. The Todd House (# 89) at 675 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street is an L-plan wood frame house with central chimney. The Holman House (# 84), which belonged to a daughter of the Todd Family, at 673 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, is one of the larger houses in the district—an L-plan wood-frame house with a pitched roof.



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**Russellville's 1945 Strange-Edwards Addition**

In 1945, the Strange-Edwards Addition to the city of Russellville was created out of the lots from the Norton's Addition, thus adding additional building sites in the 600 block to 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> Streets, and a small side street that cuts from East 6<sup>th</sup> to East 7<sup>th</sup> Street, called in different sources either as Edwards or Strange Avenue. It is possible to extrapolate from the number of houses built after 1939 and the squeezing of small houses onto the small lots of the Strange-Edwards Addition, that residents of the Black Bottom experienced the pressures for housing expansion that defined life in the United States after World War II ended. The Strange-Edwards Addition provided lots for a good number of small shotgun style houses to expand the Black Bottom's southern and eastern reaches—further away from Russellville's white residents and toward the more agricultural hinterland surrounding the city. Few of these houses built in this Addition survive, many falling victim to urban renewal. At a point in the past, several of these modestly-built houses were used to store beans, and later rented to blacks. From this association, the addition was given a colloquial name "Bean Alley."

One of these shotgun plan houses with two front doors remains standing at 693 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street (# 39a), and is in good condition. It appears that the front porch is not original to the structure and newer siding has been added, but the house has experienced little structural change, thus making it a highly important resource to tell of this phase of the neighborhood's history. The majority of homes dating from the mid-1900s that diverged from the common shotgun plan are small houses with single-pen plans and little ornamentation. Most of these houses have an internal chimney. Unlike the shotgun plans dating from this period, several of the single-pen one-story wood houses remain standing and can be found spread throughout the neighborhood.

The Payne-Dunnigan House (#48), occupying a corner lot at East 5<sup>th</sup> and Morgan Streets, also dates from the 1940s. A small house with single pen plan and a porch addition, this house has been completely renovated and is currently being used as a museum by the West Kentucky African American Heritage Center and Museum as a home for rotating exhibits about regional African American history. A similar single-pen house with a rear ell, located at 252 South Morgan Street (#8), across the street from the Payne-Dunnigan House, is the home office for the West Kentucky African American Heritage and Genealogy Center. Aside from a small cluster of single-pen wood houses on the east end of East 6<sup>th</sup> Street, the different building styles mentioned are most often found dispersed throughout the neighborhood, providing an eclectic array of housing that testifies to the different phases of development.

**Urban Renewal in the Black Bottom during the 1970s and 1980s**

Perhaps the most dramatic physical changes to the district's landscape occurred during the post-WWII era, under the heading "Urban Renewal." Beginning in the mid- to late-1970s, portions of the neighborhood began to be demolished. Today, those places either remain as vacant lots, or replacement structures have been constructed. Looking through PVA records, it is obvious that Caldwell Street, which runs parallel to the Town Branch Spring, particularly where Caldwell intersects with East 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets, was an area particularly targeted for demolition, with several single-pen and one- and one-and-a-half-story homes being destroyed.

These diminutive houses, that once helped distinguish the black community from the white community in Kentucky towns of any size, have virtually disappeared from the current landscape, victims of urban renewal statewide. Wiese explains a range of aspirations that made sense economically and socially to erect houses that seem substandard by today's reckoning. A house of any size and material quality held the promise of self-determination for their owners, something that owners hoped would insulate them from vagaries of unkind employers and/or landlords (p. 68-88). For the most part, these houses no longer remain in the district, but their lot dimensions are still imprinted on the Property Valuation Administrator's (county tax) maps, testifying to their former existence.



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Many vacant lots in the district once contained the district's smallest and most dilapidated houses—houses which were removed in urban renewal projects in Russellville in the 1970s and 1980s. Following National Register convention, such vacant lots are assigned to the category “Non-Contributing site,” a term that suggests that they do not contribute to our understanding of the district's sense of historic time and place. Changes occurring in the district after 1958—the conventional 50-year close to the Period of Significance—though, have much to tell us about the district's historic identity. This nomination describes a Black Bottom community within Russellville that occupied a lower position of social economic power, yet survived and thrived despite a system of racism and classism which greatly limited economic opportunities. One indication of this differential social system is the housing, which historically did not display the same quality and durability of general housing throughout the rest of Russellville. Although many of the Black Bottom's houses are still standing, many of the shot-gun style homes built on the smaller lots often started their existence with shorter life-span potential than was enjoyed by housing constructed outside of the neighborhood. Although many owners of these homes found them acceptable for dwellings well into the 1970s and 1980s, these homes were torn down, often against the owners' desires, leaving the owner with compensation that provided less-than-adequate substitute housing. Thus, these vacant lots, created in the 1970s and 1980s, point to the socio-economic realities that formed the historic African American experience in the Black Bottom and elsewhere in Logan County during the more conventional historic period, i.e., prior to 1958. The vacant lots created during urban renewal do not mark a break with the past; in some way they are a culmination of that past.

Construction that has occurred since 1958 is also important to signal the vitality of the neighborhood, and testifies to a continuation of the historic tenacity that the neighborhood exhibited during the historic period. While the places where new buildings have been erected since 1958 exhibit greater physical change than the district's contributing properties, their social contribution to the overall vitality of the neighborhood's viability might be quite high. For instance, the Jesus is Lord complex (# 39), consisting of a day care center, clothing donation center, church, and home for veterans, which takes up one block on 5<sup>th</sup> Street, was created from Benton's Personal Care Home, originally built in the late 1960s. Additions to these buildings include buildings constructed on lots cleared by Urban Renewal. This and several other non-contributing-historic buildings indeed provide some of the highest indication of the community's deep sense of resilience that marked it through the historic period. These and several other places are designated non-contributing by National Register guidance, but they are deeply compatible with the portions of the neighborhood that enjoy contributing status. Many of the contributing and non-contributing features of the district serve as physical markers of social forces that have historically defined the African American experience, not only in the Black Bottom neighborhood of Russellville, but many black communities within the Commonwealth.

### **Integrity Considerations**

The Russellville Black Bottom Historic District meets the National Register Criterion A and is historically significant within the context “African-American Experience in Logan County, Kentucky, 1847-2008.” Extending the context's perspective to the present helps the authors evaluate the historic significance and impact of events that occurred in the district during the 1970s and 1980s.

This evaluation of integrity applies to the entire district. The individually-owned and -documented parcels each play a part in the calculation of the district's overall integrity; contributing or non-contributing status is given according to a number of factors that bear upon individual parcels. The question of integrity, though, is to determine that the entire district, despite the changes since 1958, still tells the important story of the African American experience in Logan County prior to 1959.

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An individual property will contribute if it was built by 1958 and reinforces the overall association of the district with the important historic theme. Integrity of association will extend to the district insofar as individual properties retain integrity of location, setting, and modest amounts of material and/or design.

The Black Bottom Historic District retains an integrity of **location** because it occupies the place in Russellville that African Americans have identified with. This part of town, for the most part, was less desirable land due to its flood-prone nature. The historical fact that African Americans came to populate this area is consistent with the social status that they possessed after 1865. The legal and unofficial sanctions that put African Americans into an inferior social status, until the era of Civil Rights began to change that order, is indicated by the Black Bottom's inferior land for dwelling development. Yet, while the Black Bottom occupies a place of less value for housing construction, it also remains close to the areas of higher desirability occupied by whites, as blacks and whites in the town had a relationship of mutual dependence. The Black Bottom Historic District's location strongly tells the story of this relation, for it lies adjacent to, and partially sits within, the larger Russellville Historic District (1976).

We can understand a great deal about the Black Bottom neighborhood, and Russellville by extension, through consideration of the location of land lots on which the houses stand. Part of this insight comes from more than just the integrity of location, but depends on examination of public record and collection of oral interview evidence as well. Two houses apparently sitting side by side are addressed as 651 6<sup>th</sup> Street (#78) and 655 6<sup>th</sup> Street (#81). According to oral sources, there is a small vacant lot between these two houses (#155). This fact is corroborated by the 1869 Norton's Addition plat to the city. Community residents remember a time, before the destructive effects of urban renewal, when nearly all small lots in the neighborhood, such as the apparently non-existent 653 6<sup>th</sup> Street, once held a house. In other Russellville locations, where many of the historic homes occupied by whites are found, the lots are larger by comparison, showing the great economic differences between the white-owned and black-owned property in historic Norton's Addition.

As long as a historic house resides on its original site, in any condition, it too will give physical evidence of this story by its location. While many houses have been demolished during the urban renewal starting in the 1970s, the "place" of the Black Bottom District remains to reinforce this strong story of social relations, which is a large component of the African American experience.

The historic district will be said to have integrity of **setting** if it continues to have enough of the arrangement of physical features on its lot that existed at the close of the Period of Significance. One aspect of the district's setting that is critical to the overall integrity of the district is that of the collective combination of uses found within the district. As with the example above, the historic setting of 653 6<sup>th</sup> Street has been somewhat obscured by urban renewal. Nonetheless, the district retains important social institutions, particularly churches. These places provided a setting within the district, indicating to residents and visitors which places anchored the community from outside influence.

As with the integrity of location, recognizing the district's integrity of setting will be aided by using the official record to examine and discern the landscape evidence. When someone has removed a historic house after 1959, that removal makes it harder to recognize the district's historic setting. However, historic records can help. Sanborn maps show where most houses in the district once stood, and with the preservation of legal space maintained by Logan County Property Valuation Administrator (tax office), one can better "read" the landscape of this district, and understand that a good deal of the historic fabric of the setting remains. Few properties built since 1958 have combined lots, putting a larger residence on a larger lot than would have been normal during the historic period. Several lots where historic houses have been demolished still have a more recent house on that same site. Small lots dominated this district's interior setting historically; the district today remains a landscape of small parcels.



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The Black Bottom Historic District will possess **integrity of materials and/or design** with each historic residence and public building that it retains. The historic experience of living in this neighborhood was one of relatively dense collection of residences punctuated by churches, businesses, and civic buildings. With a lower economic status shaping much of the experience of African Americans in Russellville during the Period of Significance, construction materials on black housing were, not surprisingly, of inferior quality. The lower economic attainment of the district's residents also led to years of deferred maintenance. While Russellville's general housing quality outside the neighborhood continued to rise during the 20<sup>th</sup> century, residents within the neighborhood did not see their housing quality rise nearly as rapidly. As long as most neighbors shared these conditions, the situation was bearable. However, the overall weakened building weakened over time, causing outsiders to perceive the area as blighted and housing to be classified as substandard. Urban renewal did great damage to some of the district's historic fabric—the majority of buildings were removed from the district from 1979-1989. This nomination has interpreted these government-sponsored demolitions as continued efforts to place African Americans in a weakened social position. Thus, there is a material relationship between lower quality material construction and later demolitions. Russellville's more affluent neighborhoods held buildings that would last several human lifetimes; holding the Black Bottom Historic District, and many African American neighborhoods throughout Kentucky, to those expectations, cannot be seen as realistic, or even appropriate. The loss of individual historic buildings can be seen more as part of the normal physical evolution of the neighborhood, which is consistent with the historic reality defined by this nomination.

The judgment of the district's retention of integrity of materials and design will be supportable by a majority of historic buildings present in contrast to the number of non-historic ones. Currently there are 85 buildings built before 1960 in the district vs. 26 buildings erected after 1959, giving a great balance of historic structures. Lots cleared from 1959-1989, and which remain vacant, have been counted as non-contributing sites, but are seen to have a higher compatibility with the remaining material associated with the historic African American experience in Logan County, than do demolitions after the Period of Significance in those districts populated by whites.

Many of the historic buildings have been renovated to include new siding, porch additions and external aesthetic renovation, to meet the needs and taste of the homeowners who added them. Regardless, most historic residential structures still show the single-pen, L- plan, or bungalow forms that the house had historically. Comparison of the houses with older photographs has been undertaken to get a basic understanding of house forms and features, so that an appropriate judgment about the contributing status of a particular house can be made. The determination of an individual property's contributing status places a greater weight upon whether that building was standing by 1959, than upon its current exterior materials.

The Black Bottom Historic District will be determined to have integrity of **association** through the considerations listed above. Residential buildings included in this proposed district clearly reflect the building forms and styles of the late-19<sup>th</sup> and early-20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Many properties contain historic houses that have remained in the same families for over sixty years, bearing the name of community members who founded the area, such as Todd, Payne, Bibb, Cooksey, and Vaughn. These are seen by the community as containing important associations. The longstanding connection between these houses and their historic residents underlines positive associations between the district and African-American community life in Russellville.

The Russellville Black Bottom Historic District grew into a community for African Americans throughout rural Logan County, and we can certainly see this written on the landscape today. After the end of slavery, a great number of freed slaves from Logan County moved to the larger towns, such as Lexington and Louisville, to find jobs and separate themselves from the racism of rural west Kentucky.



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However, not everyone could leave or wanted to leave. The Kimbrough House (#55) dating from the late 1800s, sits right next door to the Payne-Dunnigan House (#48) built in the 1940s. Local residents continued to erect housing during the 1960s and beyond. In fact, a certain renaissance is occurring within the community, sparked by activists who are using the neighborhood past to strengthen the sense of community pride and desire to continue building roots within the community. With the Kimbrough House operating as a museum and the Payne-Dunnigan House soon to become one, these two houses from different times speak of continuity in the story of African American life in the community, a story that continues to the present.

Perhaps nothing speaks more to a district's **integrity of feeling** than its continued use by people who live within the community. Russellville's Black Bottom Historic District is a place where buildings are being used for community historic interpretative purposes, greatly adding to the integrity of the neighborhood's historic feeling. The district, both in the properties included on the 1976 Nomination and the proposed new district, retains its integrity of feeling and association in many important ways. The district remains predominantly an African American neighborhood. This reflects the history of the city, not only the African American experience, but also the interaction between the white community and black community throughout Russellville's development in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The land lots, the houses, the churches and the locations of activism like the Jesus is Lord complex and the Knights of Pythias Hall, represent not only the district's history, but its desire to have that history be a living part of the community today.

The recently-renovated Payne-Dunnigan house is now a museum, which features displays concerning African American history in the region. The house once belonged to Alice Dunnigan's sister-in-law. Alice Dunnigan, a native of Russellville, was the first woman and the first African American to be appointed to the position of White House journalist. She also worked as a diplomat, and she is the author of multiple books, including one about both her life growing up in Russellville and her time spent in politics. The exhibit, which was the first locally-produced exhibit in the museum, is aptly named "Alice Allison Dunnigan: Russellville's Persistent Fighter" in connection with her legacy as a woman who challenged racism and sexism in the world of journalism and the government. The West Kentucky African American Genealogy Center, which opened in 2007, will be the first community center of its kind, allowing researchers to navigate the difficult work of researching African American genealogy before the Civil War. The Solomon Cooksey House will feature an exhibit about black Civil War soldiers in western Kentucky, and the Kimbrough House will function as a museum, much as the Payne-Dunnigan House will.

**Notes on the evolution of this nomination:**

The original version of this nomination, submitted to the National Register for listing, proposed a Period of Significance extending to 1989, attempting to view urban renewal as a vital part of the district's historic story. The district's vacant lots give tremendous local witness to the effect of urban renewal, and pushing the Period of Significance to 1989 would have allowed a contributing site status to be accorded to these sites. The return of the document by the National Register, asking for clarification for that position, posed research questions that the nomination's authors and sponsors felt could not be answered at this time. Consequently, this nomination has returned to a more conventional position about the end of the Period of Significance and the counting of those vacant lots. This decision was ratified by the local contacts with whom the authors depended to understand the district's meaning. These citizens wanted the listing for the entire district, at least more than they wanted to wait for those questions to be answered to demonstrate that those vacant lots have a historic validity in this larger district story.

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Inventory

Map #	Evaluation	KHC Survey #	Property Name/ Type of Property	Address	Description	PVA # 068-08-
1	Contributing/NR	LO-R 69	First Baptist Church	Corner of Spring and 5 <sup>th</sup> Street.	Early-20 <sup>th</sup> Century brick and stone two-story building with front gable roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	09-001-00
2	Contributing/ NR	LO-R 70	Knights of Pythias Hall	Corner Lot of S. Morgan and E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	1920 Two-story wood-frame-and-block structure with shingle gambrel-style roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Renovation of entire structure, including the upstairs dance hall, took place in 2005.	09-003-00
3	Contributing/NR	LO-R 71	Gertrude Merritt Home. (City Merritt)	160 S. Morgan	Early-20 <sup>th</sup> -Century one-story home with gable shingled roof. Weatherboard siding added in 1970s.	04-005-00
4	Contributing/NR	LO-R 72	Winston Funeral Home	162 S. Morgan	1930s wood-frame single-story building with gable shingled roof. Weatherboard siding added.	04-004-00
5	Contributing/NR	LO-R 73	Pool Hall/Formerly Cora White Restaurant and Grocery	205 S. Morgan	Early-20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Two-story stone and brick structure with flat shingle roof, and red brick foundation. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	08-001-00
6	Contributing/NR	LO-R 74	Vacant brick building Formerly Todd's Caf�e and Todd Hotel	207 S. Morgan	Early-20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Two-story block building with four rooms downstairs and approx six rooms upstairs. Flat metal roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	08-033-00
7	Non-Contributing/NR	LO-R 75	House	242 S. Morgan	1978 frame house with brick veneer and gable shingled roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	09-004-00
6A	Contributing/NR	LO-R 76	Zion Baptist Church	255 S. Morgan	House appears to be 1950s wood frame building, with brick foundation and front gable roof. Additions to church in the 1990s.	09-006-00
7A	Contributing/NR	LO-R 77	House	261 S. Morgan	1890s or early 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Single pen wood frame house with center brick chimney. Two rooms wide by two rooms deep. Brick foundation. Vinyl siding and handicap ramp added in 1970s.	08-030-00
8	Contributing/NR	LO-R 78	West Kentucky African American Research Center	252 S. Morgan	Early 1900s-1940. Wood frame house with block foundation and rear ell and porch addition. Interior and exterior renovations completed in 2007. Small house shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	09-005-00
9	Non-Contributing site/NR	LO-R 79	Vacant Lot	576 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Vacant Lot created by urban renewal. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	08-007-01
10	Contributing/NR	LO-R 80	Lucille Bell's House	495 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Circa 1930s. Wood frame home with concrete block foundation and shingled roof.	09-007-00
11	Contributing/NR	LO-R 81	House	373 S. Morgan	Early- to mid-20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame single pen house with concrete block foundation and gable shingled roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-001-01
12	Non-Contributing	LO-R 82	House	388 S. Morgan	1978. Wood frame house. Extremely small house shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	16-004-00
13	Contributing	LO-R 83	Michael Benton House	390 S. Morgan	Circa 1930. Wood frame house with gable shingled roof. Vinyl paneling addition. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	16-004-01
14	Contributing	LO-R 84	House	391 S. Morgan	Wood and stone construction with 2-tiered gable roof. Front porch addition and vinyl siding. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map, but construction looks ca. 1950.	17-062-00
15	Non-	LO-R 85	Dr. Yokley's House	220 E. Spring	Circa 1960. Brick home with concrete block	10-003-00

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	Contributing/NR			St.	foundation with shingled roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	
16	Contributing/NR	LO-R 86	Rev. Langley's House	224 E. Spring St.	Circa 1930. Major revocations in the 1980s. Wood frame house with wood paneling and tin roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	10-004-00
17	Contributing/NR	LO-R 87	House	228 E. Spring St.	Circa 1940. Wood frame house with concrete block foundation and shingled roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	10-005-00
18	Contributing Site /NR	LO-R 88	Vacant Lot	207 S. Caldwell St.	Appears to be vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	07-036-00
19	Contributing/NR	LO-R 89	Used Car Lot & Body Shop	5 <sup>th</sup> and Spring St	Circa 1940. Brick building with shingled roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	03-006-00
20	Non-Contributing Site/NR	LO-R 90	Old Doctor Procter's House and office	436 E.5th	Vacant Lot. Site of Urban Renewal. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	09-002-00
21	Non-Contributing/NR	LO-R 91	House	518 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	1978. Wood frame house with concrete block foundation and end gable shingled roof. Weatherboard siding. <i>Created after Urban Renewal.</i>	08-002-00
22	Contributing/NR	LO-R 92	House/Daycare Center/Formerly The Peoples Funeral Home	517 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Circa 1920. Wood frame house with brick foundation. Vinyl/weatherboard siding addition and metal roof added in the 1980s. House shown on 1939 Sanborn map.	05-025-00
23	Contributing/NR	LO-R 93	Rev. Hutchison's House	530 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Circa 1930. Wood frame house with front gable shingled roof. Currently undergoing renovation. Vinyl siding added in 2007. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	08-003-00
24	Contributing/NR	LO-R 94	House	533 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Circa 1935. Brick single pen house with chimney and block foundation. Wood frame and metal roofed addition in 1980s. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	05-024-00
25	Contributing Site /NR	LO-R 95	Vacant lot	545 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn and still vacant in 2008	05-023-00
26	Contributing/ NR	LO-R 96	House	538 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Early-20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame with brick chimney. Side gable shingled roof and block foundation. House shown on 1939 Sanborn map.	08-004-00
27	Contributing/ NR	LO-R 97	Josephine West House Old Church Parsonage	546 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Early-20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Two-story wood frame house with dormer windows and clapboard siding. Metal roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	08-005-00
28	Contributing/ NR	LO-R 98	House	549 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Circa 1940. Two stories. Wood frame house with rear ell. Front gable shingled roof. Clapboard siding added in 1960s. <b>House shown as vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map.</b>	05-022-00
29	Contributing/ NR	LO-R 99	Bank Street African Methodist Episcopal Church	564 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	1872. Two story common bond brick structure. Partially burned in early 1900s and renovated in 1930s. Contains original stained glass windows from the 1930s. Limestone and concrete foundation. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	08-006-00
30	Contributing/ NR	LO-R 100	The Church of God Sanctified	555 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Late 1930s. Brick/concrete block structure with front gable shingled roof. Building shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	05-021-00
31	Contributing/ NR	LO-R 101	Historic AME Church Parsonage	570 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Constructed late-1930s with weatherboard siding added in the 1960s. Wood frame L-plan house with front gable shingled roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	08-007-00
32	Contributing/ NR Site	LO-R 102	Community Park/Formerly baseball field	582, 584, 588, 592, 596 E. 5th	This area was a baseball park and community park area during the Period of Significance. Urban Renewal demolitions expanded the park. Six houses are shown on this series of lots on 1939 Sanborn map. Multiple parcels counted as one site.	08-008-00 08-009-00 08-010-00 08-011-00 08-012-00 08-013-00



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33	Contributing/ NR Site	LO-R 103	Extension of park toward Town Spring Branch	567, 571, 577, 579, E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Same as above, on opposite side of the street from Community Park. Four houses shown on this series of lots on 1939 Sanborn map. Presumed that houses demolished in 1979-89.	05-020-00 05-019-00 05-018-00 05-017-00
34	Contributing/ NR	LO-R 104	House	581 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Early-20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame house with central chimney and stone pier foundation. Gable shingled roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	05-014-00
35	Contributing/ NR	LO-R 105	House	597 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Early-20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame structure with two front doors and central chimney. Tin roof added. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	05-013-00
36	Contributing/ NR	LO-R 106	Built by Harvey Smith First African American City Councilman.	598 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Mid-20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame house with stone foundation and gable shingled roof. <b>This house shows as vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map.</b>	08-014-00
37	Non-Contributing Site/ NR	LO-R 107	Vacant Lot/ Todd Property	608 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Vacant lot. Site of Urban Renewal. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	07-001-00
38	Non-Contributing Site/ NR	LO-R 108	Vacant Lot/ Todd Property	610 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Vacant Lot. Site of Urban Renewal. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	07-002-00
39	Non-Contributing	LO-R 109	Jesus is Lord Church and Community Center complex.	635, 637, 695 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Portions of the buildings built 1963-1964; others parts built Circa 1990. Brick and wood structures. Portions of this complex formerly the Benton Personal Care Home.	06-024-00
39a	Contributing	LO-R-109.1		693 E. 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	1940s Shotgun House rehabilitated in 1997. <b>This lot was vacant on 1939 Sanborn map.</b>	06-020-00
40	Non-Contributing	LO-R 110	House	644 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Single-story frame house with side gable and shingle roof. Built in the 1980s after Urban Renewal. House shows on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	07-006-00
41	Non-Contributing	LO-R 111	House	650 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Single-story brick veneer house with side gable shingled roof. Built in 1980s after Urban Renewal. House shows on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	07-007-00
42	Non-Contributing	LO-R 112	House	688 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Wood frame home with side gable shingled roof. Built in early 1990s after Urban Renewal. House shows on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	07-009-00
43	Non-Contributing	LO-R 113	House	692 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Brick veneer house with end gable and shingled roof. Built in 1980s after Urban Renewal. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	07-010-00
44	Contributing	LO-R 114	House	696 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Circa 1939. Wood frame house with partial brick veneer and two front doors. Gable shingled roof. Renovations and vinyl siding addition in 1997, but recently burned. Slated for rehab. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	07-012-00
45	Non-Contributing/ NR	LO-R 115	Formerly Marla's Snack Bar/ Restaurant/Club; owned by Todd's	603 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Solid brick building with gabled shingled roof. Part of the Jesus is Lord and Community Center of Russellville. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	06-028-00
46	Contributing	LO-R 116	House	695 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Mid-20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Single-story wood frame house with side gable shingled roof. <b>This was vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map.</b>	06-011-01
47	Contributing	LO-R 117	Payne House	212 Franklin St. (Bowling Green Rd/US 68/SR 80)	Late-1800s or early-20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame boxed house with two front doors and two internal chimneys. Stone foundation and gable roof with shingles. Deep porch. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	07-014-00
48	Contributing/NR	LO-R 118	Payne-Dunnigan House/Museum	Corner lot of South Morgan and East 6 <sup>th</sup>	Circa 1940. Wood frame single pen house with sloped front gable shingled roof and porch addition. Complete interior and partial exterior rehabilitation in 2006. <b>Property was vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map.</b>	08-029-00
49	Contributing/NR	LO-R 119	House	419 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Approx 1930 wood frame house with stone foundation and A frame shingled roof.	09-010-00

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		120			shingled roof and brick foundation. Siding added in 1980s. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	
51	Contributing/NR	LO-R 121	Tyler House	463 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Approx 1935. Wood frame house with pitched metal roof. New metal roof added in 1999. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	09-009-00
52	Contributing/NR	LO-R 122	Harrison House	496 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Mid-late 1800s wood and brick two story home with stone foundation and dormer windows. Gable shingled roof. Currently undergoing renovation. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	16-003-00
53	Contributing/NR	LO-R 123	House	510 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	1950. Wood frame brick house with front gable shingled roof. <b>Property shown as vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map.</b>	17-001-00
54	Contributing/NR	LO-R 124	Dr. Henry Proctor House	518 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Early- to mid-20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Story-and-a-half wood frame house with front gable shingled roof. Porch added in 1980s. Recently renovated. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-002-00
55	Contributing/NR	LO-R 125	Kimbrough House/Museum	517 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	1810. Single pen story-and-a-half common bond brick structure with internal end chimney and restored side gable wooden roof. Interior and exterior restoration in progress.	08-028-00
56	Non-Contributing/NR Site	LO-R 126	Civil War Soldier Duffy Hogan Vacant lot	524 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Vacant lot. Foundation still in place. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map, but presence of foundation probably means this was not demolished by urban renewal.	17-003-00
57	Contributing/NR	LO-R 127	House	529 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Mid-20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame house with side gable shingled roof. Enclosed porch added in approx 1960. <b>Property shown as vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map.</b>	08-027-00
58	Contributing/NR	LO-R 128	Solomon Cooksey Free Black House/Museum	528 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	1870s. Single pen story-and-a-half common bond brick structure with renovated wood shingle roof. Complete interior and exterior renovation in 2006-2008. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-004-00
59	Contributing/NR	LO-R 129	Reverend Vaughn Hse.; Civil Soldier, teacher, and Preacher	533 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	1879. L-plan wood frame house with rear ell, internal chimney and shark teeth gingerbread. Front gable shingled roof. Porch added. New Roof in 2007. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	08-026-00
60	Contributing/NR	LO-R 130	Orendoff House (Home of John Wesley Orendoff, a black Union soldier.)	536 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Late 1800s-early 1900s. Wood frame story-and-a-half house with deep porch. Stone foundation. "Composition" Siding and new roof added in late 1990s. Porch tiers added. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-005-00
61	Contributing/NR	LO-R 131	House (Home of first African American police officer in Russellville.)	541 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Late 1800s- early 1900s. Wood frame two-story house with external stone chimney. Possibly a cabin underneath. Front gable shingled roof. Additions to the front of house. Vinyl siding addition in 1990s. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	08-025-00
62	Contributing/NR	LO-R 132	Stark House	545 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Early-mid 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Two-story wood frame house with front gable shingled roof and enclosed porch addition. Slated for renovation. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	08-024-00
63	Contributing/NR	LO-R 133	House	544 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Early 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame single pen house with side gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding added in 1997. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-006-00
64	Contributing/NR	LO-R 134	Ellis Bellamy's House/ Old First Baptist Church Lot	547 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Early - Mid 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame shotgun style house with front gable shingled roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	08-023-00
65	Contributing/NR	LO-R	James Thomas Bibb's	561 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Mid 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame house with	08-022-00

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		135	House/Old First Baptist Church Lot		front gable shingled roof and porch addition. Property shown as vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	
66	Contributing/NR	LO-R 136	Civil War Soldier/Rev. Henry Morton's House	563 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Early-20 <sup>th</sup> -Century wood frame home with end gable shingled roof. Weatherboard siding added in the 1980s. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	08-021-00
67	Contributing/NR	LO-R 137	Major Hudson's House, Founding Trustee First Baptist Church	560 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	1890. Wood frame house with two front doors. Front gable shingled roof. Slated for renovation. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-007-00
68	Non-Contributing Site/NR	LO-R 138	Vacant Lot	573 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Vacant Lot. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Impact of urban renewal on this site unknown.	08-019-00
69	Contributing Site/NR	LO-R 139	Civil War Soldier Cliffy Hogan/Vacant	E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Vacant lot during the Period of Significance.	17-006-01
70	Non-Contributing/NR	LO-R 140	House	574 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Mobile home. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-009-00
71	Non-Contributing/NR	LO-R 141	House	581 B E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Circa 1970. Wood frame house with gable shingled roof. Property shown as vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	08-018-01
72	Contributing/ NR	LO-R 142	House	581 A E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Early 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. L-frame house front gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding added in late 1900s. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	08-018-00
73	Non-Contributing/NR	LO-R 143	House built 2006 Habitat for Humanity	580 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Circa 2006. Wood frame house with front gable shingled roof. Property shown as vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-010-00
74	Contributing/ NR	LO-R 144	Young's Family House	587 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Circa 1890. Wood frame two-story house with brick chimney. Tin roof added. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	08-017-00
75	Non-Contributing/NR	LO-R 145	House	584 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Circa 1990. Wood frame house with siding. Front gable shingled roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-011-00 17-012-00
76	Non-Contributing Site/ NR Site	LO-R 146	Park/Vacant lot by Town Spring Branch	596 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Vacant Lot. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Site of Urban Renewal and now a community park. Part of this land was once used as a park in the early days of the Bottom.	17-013-00
77	Non-Contributing Site/ NR	LO-R 147	Park/Vacant lot by Town Spring Branch	620, 622, 637, 635,621 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Vacant Lot. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Site of Urban Renewal and now a community park. Part of this land was once used as a park in the early days of the Bottom.	17-014-00 17-015-00
78	Contributing	LO-R 148	McGuire House	651 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Early 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Two story wood bungalow with gable wood and shingle roof and deep porch. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	07-030-00
79	Non-Contributing	LO-R 149	House	652 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Late 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame house with front gable shingled roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-018-00
80	Non-Contributing	LO-R 150	Mattie Louise McReynolds Smith Hs. Beautician and teacher	650 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Late 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame house with side gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding added. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-017-00
81	Non-Contributing	LO-R 151	Duplex	653 and 655 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Late 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Front gable, metal roof, wood siding, brick foundation. Property shows as vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	07-028-00
82	Contributing	LO-R 152	Daniels House	659 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Early 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. L-plan wood frame house with two front doors and front gable shingled roof. Vinyl Siding added in 1980s. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	07-027-00
83	Contributing Site	LO-R 153	Vacant Lot	670 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Vacant Lot 40' x 90'. Shows as vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-020-00
84	Contributing	LO-R 154	Holman House	673 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Early 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. L-plan house with rear ell. Front gable shingled roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	07-025-00
85	Contributing	LO-R 155	James Henry Mckinney House	673-1/2 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	1-story wood frame house clad in vinyl siding built 1950 (PVA)	07-025-00



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Black Bottom Historic District  
Logan County, KY

86	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 156	Vacant lot	Corner of East 6 <sup>th</sup> and Edwards Ave.	Once home to many shotgun houses during the 1940s and 1950s.	17-020-00
87	Contributing	LO-R 157	Shifflet House	674 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Early – Mid 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Single pen wood frame house with center brick chimney and front gable shingled roof.	19-001-00
88	Non-Contributing	LO-R 158	House	673 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Late 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame house.	07-025-00
89	Contributing	LO-R 159	Todd House	675 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Early 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. L-plan wood frame house with brick chimney and two front doors. Front gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding and roof added in 2004. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	07-024-00
90	Non-Contributing	LO-R 160	Living Church of God in Christ	676 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Circa 1970. Block structure with front gable metal roof.	19-002-00
91	Contributing	LO-R 161	Thornton House	678 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Early 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame house with brick chimney. Front gable shingled roof	19-003-00
92	Contributing	LO-R 162	House	680 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Mid 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame house with front gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding added.	19-004-00
93	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 163	Vacant lot.	681 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Vacant Lot. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map, but reason for demolition, or date of demolition unknown.	07-023-00
94	Contributing	LO-R 164	House	682 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Mid-20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame house with side gable shingled roof.	19-005-00
95	Contributing	LO-R 165	House	685 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Early-20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Single pen wood house with center chimney. Siding added. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	07-022-00
96	Non-Contributing	LO-R 166	House	684 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Circa 1960. Wood frame house with front gable metal roof.	19-005-00 (Second house on lot)
97	Contributing	LO-R 167	House	686 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Mid 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame house with front gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding added.	19-006-00
98	Contributing	LO-R 168	House	688 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Mid 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame house with front gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding added approx 1980.	19-007-00
99	Contributing	LO-R 169	House	690 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Early – Mid 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Single pen house with brick chimney. Front gable shingled roof.	19-008-00
100	Contributing	LO-R 170	House	687 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Early – Mid 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame house with two front doors and brick chimney. Siding and roof addition. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	07-020-00
101	Contributing	LO-R 171	House	693 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Early-Mid 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame house with two front doors and chimney. Front gable shingled and metal roof. Roof repair took place in the 1980s.	07-019-00
102	Contributing/NR	LO-R 172	House	409 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Circa 1880s. Major revocations in 2005. Brick home with rock foundation and tin roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	16-006-00
103	Non-Contributing	LO-R 173	House	415 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Circa 1960s. Brick home with concrete foundation with shingled roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	16-005-00
104	Contributing	LO-R 174	Rev. Shelbourne's House	503 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Vinyl-clad wood-frame house. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map, but local tax office estimates construction date of 1950.	17-061-00
105	Contributing	LO-R 175	House	515 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	1930s. Wood frame house with front gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding in 1980s. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-060-00
106	Contributing	LO-R 176	House	527 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	1930s wood frame house with rock foundation and side gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding added in the 1980s. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-058-00
107	Contributing	LO-R 177	Cooksey Family House	529 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Ca. 1900. Wood frame house with pitched gable shingled roof and rock foundation. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Vinyl siding added ca. 1980.	17-059-00
108	Contributing	LO-R	House	541 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Early-1900 two-story wood-frame house with	17-057-00

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Black Bottom Historic District  
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		178			end gable shingled roof.	
109	Contributing	LO-R 179	Gladys Payne House/ Beautician	543 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Early-20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Long wood frame structure, story and a half with top gable shingled roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Weatherboard siding added after 1950s.	17-056-00
110	Non-Contributing	LO-R 180	House	547 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	1977. Wood frame brick veneer one story house with end gable shingled roof and rock foundation. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Could be replacement for house demolished by urban renewal.	17-054-00
111	Contributing	LO-R 181	Willie Cross House	563 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	1-story wood-frame aluminum-and-vinyl-sided house built ca. 1940, according to local tax office. <b>Property shows as vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map.</b>	17-053-00
112	Contributing	LO-R 182	House	573 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	L-plan wood frame house that is shown on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-052-00
113	Non-Contributing	LO-R 183	House. Site of Leann Jennings School and now home to Freedom Singer/First African American Magistrate of Logan County, KY Charles Neblett.	571 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	1978. One story brick home with gable shingled roof. A house is shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map, and possibly this house is a replacement dwelling due to urban renewal demolition of site.	17-052-00
114	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 184	Vacant Lot	581 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Vacant Lot of 65' x 155' in 2008. Conditions leading to demolition unknown.	17-051-00
115	Contributing	LO-R 185	Teacher Mose Haddox House	587 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Early-20 <sup>th</sup> Century. L-plan house, ell in rear. Brick veneer with end gable shingled roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-050-00
116	Contributing	LO-R 186	Carter Morris House	595 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Early- or mid 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. L-plan wood frame house with side gable shingled roof and continuous brick foundation. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-049-00
117	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 187	Vacant Lot	609 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Vacant Lot in 2008. Conditions leading to demolition unknown.	17-047-00
118	Contributing	LO-R 188	House	603 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Late 1800s. Two-story house covered in clapboard. Pier rock foundation and shingled gable roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-048-00
119	Contributing	LO-R 189	House	615 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Late 1800s. Two story wood frame house with basement and block foundation. End gable shingled roof. Curiously, the 1939 Sanborn map shows this lot as vacant.	17-046-00
120	Contributing	LO-R 190	House	619 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Early 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Wood frame house with original deep porch. Stone foundation and gable roof. Metal roof and vinyl siding added in 1997. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-045-00
121	Contributing	LO-R 191	House	625 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Late 1800s to early 1900s. Wood frame two-tiered house with deep porch. End gable shingled roof. Vinyl siding added in the 1980s.	17-043-00
122	Non-Contributing	LO-R 192	House	691 E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Circa 1970s. Major renovations in the 1980s. Rock and brick home with block and brick foundation and a metal roof.	17-042-00
123	Contributing	LO-R 194	House	352 Edwards Ave.	Mid 20 <sup>th</sup> Century. Single pen wood frame house with shingled gable roof. Weatherboard siding addition.	17-023-00

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124	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 195	Hampton Park	No address listed for these lots. All houses are listed simply as Edwards Ave.	Eleven vacant lots treated as one contributing site, due to urban renewal. These small lots formerly held several houses, and became a major Site of Urban Renewal. Some of these lots have been turned into a baseball park, named after Willie Hampton, first black city councilman to win his seat by election.	17-031-00 17-032-00 17-033-00 17-034-00 17-035-00 17-036-00 17-037-00 17-038-00 17-039-00 17-040-00 17-041-00
125	Non-Contributing Site/NR	LO-R 196	Smith Martin field	No addresses listed for these PVA #s. All houses Caldwell Ave.	Five vacant lots treated as one contributing site, which formerly held several houses, and became a major site of urban renewal. The place is named after Harvey Smith, the first black in Russellville to serve on city council. Now used as community park area	08-015-00 08-016-00 07-033-00 07-034-00 07-035-00
126	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 193	Vacant Lot	Corner of 7 <sup>th</sup> and Edwards	Vacant Lot	17-024-00
127	Non-Contributing Site/NR	LO-R 225	Church lot and house	Corner lot of S. Morgan and E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	1920 Two story wood frame and block structure with shingle gambrel roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	09-011-00
128	Non-Contributing Site/NR	LO-R200	Post Gill Metal and Welding Shop	5 <sup>th</sup> and Morgan Streets	Welding shop with masonry exterior walls, wood floors and roof. Height 12 ft, stucco on studs and steel roof configuration. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	05-027-00
129	Non-Contributing Site/NR	LO-R 199	Post Gill Metal lot	5 <sup>th</sup> Street	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. This is a vacant lot in 2008, but conditions leading to its demolition are unknown.	068-08-05-026-00 and 05-027-00
130	Non-Contributing/NR	LO-R 222	Zion Baptist Church	Morgan Street	This is labeled Church of God on 1939 Sanborn map. Addition to the Church made in the 1980s, brick and wood with brick foundation and asphalt and shingle roof.	08-32-00
131	Non-Contributing/NR	LO-R 223	Vacant lot	Morgan Street	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. It is a vacant lot associated with the church in 2008.	08-031-00
132	Contributing Site/NR	LO-R 197	Vacant lot	5 <sup>th</sup> Street	Property shows as vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Unconfirmed report of a post-1939 house erected here, then demolished by urban renewal. Site restored to pre-1939 condition.	05-016-00
133	Contributing/NR	LO-R 198	House	581 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	1930 house with concrete block foundation and shingled gable roof. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	05-015-00
134	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 212	Vacant lot	E 5 <sup>th</sup>	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map; vacant lot in 2008 due to urban renewal.	07-005-00
135	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 211	Vacant lot	E 5 <sup>th</sup>	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map; vacant lot in 2008 due to urban renewal.	07-004-00
136	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 210	Vacant lot	618 E 5 <sup>th</sup>	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map; vacant lot in 2008 due to urban renewal.	07-003-00
137	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 137	Vacant lot	E. 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map; vacant lot in 2008 due to urban renewal.	07-008-00
138	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 214	Vacant lot	694 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map; vacant lot in 2008 due to urban renewal.	07-011-00
139	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 215	Vacant lot	698 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map; vacant lot in 2008 due to urban renewal.	07-013-00
140	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 209	Vacant lot	615 E. 5 <sup>th</sup>	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map; vacant lot in 2008 due to urban renewal.	06-027-00
141-150	Sites 141-149 are counted as non-contributing sites not on the National Register; Site 150 is a non-contributing site on the National Register.	LO-R-	Vacant lots associated with the Jesus is Lord Church and Centers.		Properties numbered 141-147 were vacant on the 1939 Sanborn map. Due to the modern ownership and reuse of the site by the Jesus is Lord Church, these vacant lots have a new interpretation, and so are considered non-contributing sites.	06-026-00 06-025-00 06-024-00 06-005-00A 06-006-01 06-007-01 06-022-00 06-021-00 06-019-01 06-029-00
151	Non-Contributing	LO-R	House	673 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Late 20 <sup>th</sup> -century one-story house. Block	07-026-00



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		218			concrete foundation. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	
152	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 220	Vacant lot	637 E. 6th	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Vacant lot created by urban renewal.	07-031-00
153	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 221	Vacant lot	E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Unknown reason for house demolition.	07-031-01
154	Non-Contributing Site/NR		Vacant lot	E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Vacant lot created by urban renewal.	07-032-00
155	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 219		653 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Unknown reason for house demolition.	07-029-00
156	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 216	Vacant lot	E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Unknown reason for house demolition.	07-021-01
157	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 217	Vacant lot	E. 6th	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Unknown reason for house demolition.	07-021-00
158	Non-Contributing Site/NR	LO-R 227	Vacant lot	570 E.6 <sup>th</sup>	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Vacant lot created by urban renewal.	17-008-00
159	Non-Contributing Site/NR	LO-R 226	Vacant lot	E. 6th	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Unknown reason for house demolition.	17-007-01
160	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 229	Vacant lot	668 E. 6 <sup>th</sup>	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Vacant lot created by urban renewal.	07-019-00
161	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R 228	Vacant lot	E. 6th	House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Vacant lot created by urban renewal.	17-016-00
162	Non-Contributing site/NR	LO-R	Vacant lot	E. 6th	Vacant lot. House shown on this lot on 1939 Sanborn map.	09-008-00
163	Non-Contributing Site	LO-R	Vacant lot	E. 6th	Vacant lot	19-009-00
164	Contributing Site	LO-R 230	Vacant lot	Edwards Ave	Shown as vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Local historian says lot cleared by urban renewal, which restored site's historic condition	17-021-00
165	Contributing Site	LO-R 231	Vacant lot	Edwards Ave.	Shown as vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Local historian says lot cleared by urban renewal, which restored site's historic condition	17-022-00
166	Contributing Site	LO-R 233	Vacant lot	E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Shown as vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Local historian says lot cleared by urban renewal, which restored site's historic condition	17-055-01
167	Contributing Site	LO-R 234	Vacant lot	E. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Shown as vacant lot on 1939 Sanborn map. Local historian says lot cleared by urban renewal, which restored site's historic condition	17-055-00
168	Non-Contributing Site/NR	LO-R	Vacant lot	Morgan Road	Vacant lot	04-006-00
169	Non-Contributing Site/NR	LO-R	Vacant lot	Morgan Road	Vacant lot	17-001-01
170	Contributing Site	LO-R	Vacant lot	East 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	Historically vacant lot; lot shown as vacant on 1939 Sanborn map.	17-044-00

Note: there are 173 counted resources. Entries run from 1-170 because 3 resources were assigned an eccentric number. Those three entries are 6A, 7A, 39A, which follow immediately after entries 6, 7, and 39, respectively.

**Original submission's count of resources**

Contributing    Non-Contributing

49	10	Buildings on NR
16	8	Sites on NR
36	19	Buildings not on NR
17	18	Sites not on NR

118    +    55 = 173

**Revised submission's count of resources**

Contributing    Non-contributing

49	9
5	19
36	18
6	31

96    +    77 = 173

Totals

Black Bottom Historic District  
Name of Property

Logan County, KY  
County and State

**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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography** (See continuation sheets).

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Significance**

(enter categories from instructions)

Ethnic Heritage: African American

**Period of Significance**

1847-1958

**Significant Dates**

1847, 1876, 1869, 1920, 1945

**Significant Person (only if Criterion B selected)**

NA

**Cultural Affiliation**

NA

**Architect/Builder (use last names first for individuals)**

Unknown

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other Name of repository:  
West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

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Black Bottom Historic District  
Logan County, KY

Section 8 Page 1

**Statement of Significance**

The Black Bottom Historic District, in Russellville, seat of Logan County, Kentucky, meets National Register Criterion A and Criterion Consideration G. It is significant within the historic context: "African American Experience in Russellville, Kentucky 1847-2008." The proposed district contains structures and cultural landscapes that are associated with the vast changes of African American community life in Logan County, from the unusual instances of land ownership by freed African Americans prior to the Civil War, to the rise of the neighborhood as a business and cultural center for African Americans throughout Logan County. Unlike many African American neighborhoods, whose many buildings have been demolished, this neighborhood is still standing and retains the great majority of its historic buildings. While other African American neighborhoods in surrounding western Kentucky counties have experienced near-total demolition, erasing their names from the widely-known history of the area, neighborhoods such as the Black Bottom Historic District in Russellville and Shake Rag Historic District in Bowling Green, Kentucky, remain to tell the story of African American community life from the 1800s through today. Even though urban renewal would tear down a great number of the historical houses in the district, today the neighborhood is currently undergoing a revitalization, with historic homes being renovated for use as museums and cultural interpretive centers and youth centers for the citizens of Logan County and tourists alike.

A portion of the Black Bottom Historic District is currently listed on the National Register within the Russellville Historic District (NR listed 1976), an area that encompasses approximately fifty city blocks. The new submission intends to support a separate listing for the Black Bottom Historic District, which includes areas currently in the Russellville Historic District and areas which are not. This new documentation will focus on the ability of the district area to speak to the African American experience in a way that the 1976 nomination did not. Also, the 1976 district's boundary is difficult to follow as it travels through the Black Bottom neighborhood, as the two maps included in the nomination show slight differences near the Town Spring Branch and Caldwell Street. The absence of information on the African American experience in Russellville from the 1976 nomination has led to the decision to submit a separate nomination to properly recognize the identity and importance of the Black Bottom neighborhood as part of Russellville's African-American past. The goal of this effort is to help the general population of Russellville and Logan County to incorporate this area into the larger collective past. This nomination has adopted the name for the district based on the advice of the board of directors at the West Kentucky African American Genealogy Center in Russellville.

The Period of Significance, 1847-1958, reflects the vastly changing nature of the African American experience in Russellville and elsewhere in Kentucky. The beginning date of 1847 indicates the date when Nancy Bibb and her three children moved to a property near downtown Russellville. Nancy Bibb and her family were freed by slave owner and Methodist minister, Major Bibb<sup>v</sup>. She and her family were the first African-Americans to live in the neighborhood that would become the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District. The significant date of 1869 represents the creation of Norton's Addition, a city addition that created the land lots that would be purchased by African Americans after the Civil War. In 1876 the Bank Street African Methodist Episcopal Zion church was built to serve the Russellville African American community as a church, center of social activism, and a Freedman's Bureau School<sup>vi</sup>. A portion of the building was lost in a fire in the late 1920s, but the building was rebuilt on the original lot in 1930. It continues to stand as a house of worship today.



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Black Bottom Historic District  
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The important date of 1920 indicates the construction of the Knights of Pythias Hall, which served as a meeting hall, dance hall, restaurant, and community center where many famous entertainers, including Cab Calloway, Jelly Roll Morton and others performed. In addition to its use as a performing hall for musicians on the Chittlen Circuit in the 1950s and 1960s, the building also functioned as a church, a restaurant, a community center and a meeting hall.<sup>vii</sup> The important date of 1945 reflects the creation of the Strange-Edwards Addition, which added approximately three city blocks to the district. The Russellville Black Bottom Historic District and the African American community in Russellville continued to grow during the years of segregation, as black-owned businesses grew in the area. Revitalization in the district today, in undertakings such as the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum, intend to become catalysts for the transformation of the neighborhood. There is not a specific date for the changes to the district that occurred under the banner of urban renewal, but those occurred until 1989. This district recognizes the impact of those demolitions by assigning non-contributing status to those vacant lots, but this nomination also sees urban renewal demolitions as highly linked to attitudes and activities from the historic period, which makes the vacant lots more compatible with the historic landscape, than are demolitions in districts listed for their high style architectural values. Buildings built after 1959 are given non-contributing status, as per National Register conventions.

**Interpreting the Cultural Landscape of the Black Bottom Historic District**

The physical landscape present in the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District today reflects cultural, political, and economic changes that have affected most African American communities in Kentucky, as the Commonwealth moved from a slave labor system, through years of segregation, through the period of greater civil rights. This neighborhood's story begins with a small number of blacks who became freedmen prior to the Civil War, locating in what became the Black Bottom district. The place in Russellville that a freed black could occupy during the era of slavery would be a place of low desirability for any residence: the low lying and flood-prone area on either side of Town Spring Branch. Thus, from its beginning, this neighborhood was a place whose people endured challenging circumstances, both physical and social. These early freed blacks, by establishing a group of dwellings, stood in opposition to the system of slavery, initiating a neighborhood that continued to be a place where African Americans fought for rights and equality from Jim Crow onward.

One narrative by which to understand the Black Bottom neighborhood, as an indicator of the local African American experience, is through a narrative of self-determination. Both historically and today, a great deal of development has taken place in the neighborhood that reflects the will of its residents. The recent conversions of several historic homes to museums and research centers witness local desires to fuse the historic landscape with the community/social identity. Renovation work has also recently spread to formerly vacant homes—enabling historic properties to continue telling a story of pride of place.

The district, however, also transmits an alternative message, that of power differences between whites and blacks in Russellville during the historic period. Despite the freedoms outlined in the Emancipation Proclamation and the U.S. Constitution's 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment, racism increased, with a whole realm of official and unofficial measures—from legal segregation in public places, to illegal acts of violence. For example, Logan County had the second highest number of lynchings in Kentucky during the early 1900s.<sup>viii</sup> Within this climate of opposition, African Americans built the Black Bottom community as a business, religious and cultural center for African American life throughout rural western Kentucky and Tennessee. The district signals many social problems and a system of racism that the inhabitants of the Black Bottom Historic District, and African Americans throughout the state, have had to fight throughout the years of legalized segregation.

The buildings and neighborhood landscape, particularly the vacant lots created by urban renewal, tell the story of this fight, as well as the determination of the community to thrive in the face of unequal opportunity.

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Sanborn maps from 1923 and 1939 help illuminate the landscape to reveal these social differentials. The Black Bottom District contained lots that were much smaller than lots in the white neighborhood nearby. Such discrepancies in lot size demonstrate great economic inequalities that have been a reality in the neighborhood since its early beginnings. Oral history and photos at the PVA office, as well, reveal the district's many extremely small lots, which formerly contained a home; today, those lots are harder to perceive as a series of very narrow parcels. For some of these smaller buildings left standing, the relatively large amount of physical alterations indicates the need to remodel the home, to bring it closer to standards of contemporaneous white housing. Many of these homes built in the 1940s and 1950s were built without indoor plumbing at a time when the rest of the town had long since had access to such living standards. Many of these homes were substandard and, according to oral history, some homes did not receive indoor plumbing until the 1970s.

The neighborhood today testifies to the immense amount of social change that has marked the African American experience over nearly 150 years. Add to these problems the fact that the Bottom was built on a flood plain, which frequently damaged homes. Although many of these homes were continually remodeled to meet the needs of community members, many were torn down during urban renewal. Although some of the houses taken down during that period were in states of physical decline, the effects of tearing down homes and relocating community members had a disruptive force in the community. The negative and destructive effects of urban renewal in the 1970s and 1980s has been interpreted here as a continuation of the historical forces that created this substandard housing in the first place. The interpretation of this district's seven integrity factors—location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling, association—were examined within this interpretation.

**HISTORIC CONTEXT: AFRICAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE IN LOGAN COUNTY, 1847-2008****Slavery in Russellville and Logan County, Kentucky**

One can understand a great deal about certain aspects of the institution of slavery in agricultural western Kentucky by looking at the history and architecture of the district. Western Kentucky was a slave-owning region and many of the large homes in downtown Russellville and the outlying rural areas belonged to families who made their riches in a slave-based agricultural system. Although many people in Russellville owned slaves, as did other wealthy white Americans throughout the south, there was an early movement to eradicate this labor system long before the Civil War. In 1817 the American Colonization Society formed in the United States, which represented the Back to Africa movement for slaves in the south. Rather than calling for an end to slavery and equal rights for all men and women, the Back to Africa Movement suggested that slaves should be freed and sent back to Africa. In 1823 Kentucky founded an independent colonization society and one of the biggest supporters of this movement was Major Richard Bibb, a prominent slave owner and Methodist minister in Russellville.<sup>ix</sup> According to oral sources, Major Bibb is reported to have lived in Virginia before moving to Russellville Kentucky's tobacco fields<sup>x</sup>. In 1829 Major Bibb freed fifty-one slaves, and thirty-two of these former slaves went to Liberia, along with 150 freed slaves from other parts of the state. A cholera epidemic on board the ship forced the passengers to slow their trip, and approximately 30-40 of the passengers died before the ship made it to Liberia<sup>xi</sup>. One of the men on the boat with the former slaves from Russellville served as President of the country of Liberia for a short time. According to oral sources in Russellville, there are no longer any living descendents of Russellville's freed slaves living in Liberia today<sup>xiii</sup>. Later, in 1839, when Major Bibb died, his will dictated that all of the slaves were to be freed and given a 1200 acre tract of land about six miles outside of Russellville. The area became known as Bibb Town. Another 300 acres was also



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given to freed slaves near the village of Homou in North Logan County<sup>xiii</sup>. Many of the African-Americans who lived in Bibb Town prior to the Civil War later moved to Russellville to buy land in the Black Bottom area after the neighborhood was officially established in 1869.

The Bibbs were not the only slaves that were freed prior to the Civil War that would settle in the district after 1869. Solomon Cooksey and his mother Caroline were freed according to the Last Will and Testament of Dorcas Cooksey on May 27, 1850. The Cooksey House (#58), where Solomon and Caroline settled, was built around this same time, and is believed to be one of the older surviving structures in the city of Russellville.<sup>xiv</sup> It still stands today in the district and is currently being renovated by the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum for use as a Civil War interpretation center. These people who had an early taste of freedom galvanized the sense of community that would soon emerge as a neighborhood.

**African American Union Soldiers in Western Kentucky**

In western Kentucky many African American men fought for the Union during the Civil War, including Russellville native Henry Morton. The Morton family is one of the oldest in Logan County. Originally from Virginia, William Jordan Morton came to Logan County in 1815, bringing many slaves with him. Henry Morton was a descendent of these original slaves and lived in the Black Bottom Historic District at 563 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street (#66). He lost his foot in the famous Saltville Massacre in Virginia, but lived through that battle and eventually returned home to live again in Russellville in the Historic Black Bottom community. Although the majority of Kentucky was Union, Western Kentucky broke from the rest of the state and declared itself Confederate, making the nearby town of Bowling Green the Confederate capital of the state. In spite of its location as a Confederate stronghold, many African American men in Logan County bravely joined the Union Army and fought for the Union. Morton's story as an enslaved person who fought for the Union represents a larger story in western Kentucky. After the war, Morton received a pension for his service and came back to The Black Bottom to build a home and raise a family. The West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum will display an exhibit about Union Soldiers in the Kimbrough House (#55), one of the museums renovated by the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum.

**Creation of the Black Bottom as an African American neighborhood after the end of the Civil War**

In 1860 there were approximately 236,167 African Americans living in Kentucky—10,684 as free citizens. However, by 1870, only five years after the Civil War, the African American population had dropped to 222,210. Many of these citizens lived in or moved to urban centers such as Lexington or Louisville<sup>xv</sup>. As Kentucky's African American population shrank, and experienced dislocations from migrations to urban centers as well as the new responsibility of providing for their own subsistence, blacks also encountered increasing violence from whites, particularly in rural agricultural western Kentucky. The creation of African American neighborhoods became a refuge of support. With the creation of Norton's Addition to the City of Russellville in 1869, many African Americans could begin to acquire land upon which to erect their community within a town. The members of the Banks Street Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church (#29) purchased the first lot in Norton's Addition, and in 1872, the first church was built on the lot. In addition to serving as a house of worship, the building also partnered with the Freedman's Bureau to operate a school for African Americans. This building, a two-story brick structure, was partially burned in a fire in the late 1920s. The building was rebuilt in 1930 and it still stands, operating as a church where worshippers sit on benches that date to the 1930s rebuilding. The Mt. Zion Baptist Church (#6A), founded in 1886 in the district, resides in a house of worship



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that was built in 1954 on the original lot. Church records state the church began with thirteen members and that church meetings were held in members' houses until a structure could be erected in the heart of the Black Bottom. During the church's early years the building also served as a school for the African American community, linking the church's history with social activism through education<sup>xvi</sup>.

Two houses located in the far east end of the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District bear the name of the community mother and fathers that settled the neighborhood. The Payne House (#47, not to be confused with the Payne-Dunnigan House, #48) located at the corner of East 5<sup>th</sup> and Bowling Green Road, and the Todd House (#89) located at 675 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street, reflect the history of these early settlers of the district. The neighborhood boasted several famous preachers, including the Reverend Vaughn, whose 1890 home (#59) still stands at 533 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Reverend Vaughn was known around both Tennessee and Kentucky as a preacher and a man of strong opinions. He was the original pastor of the Banks Street Zion AME Church. Originally from Ohio, Rev Vaughn moved to Russellville in the 1870s after being asked to teach school at the Colored Baptist Church, located on East 6<sup>th</sup> Street. His reception in this position led members of the community to ask him to stay. He did, and married a woman from Russellville. Their daughter, Arletta, was a teacher at the local Knob City School, who taught renowned Russellville native Alice Allison Dunnigan. Rev. Vaughn split with the AME Church, going on to found the Zion Baptist Church. Oral sources cite Vaughn as an outspoken leader for human rights, a man who spoke openly about racism, discrimination, and racial violence in the north and south. He held many positions in both the community and the state, and was elected Chairman of the State Convention of Colored Men in 1884. A man dedicated to helping people, he assisted African American Civil War soldiers who could not read or write to fill out their paper work and receive their pensions. After Rev. Vaughn's death in 1923, his house would go to his daughter Arletta Vaughn Manuel Smith, a well known educator in the region, who would live there until her death in 1965<sup>xvii</sup>. The West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum recently put a new roof on the building and is working with the current homeowner to renovate the structure.

**Racial Violence in Rural Western Kentucky.**

The Civil War may have ended slavery, but racism and the violence that supported enslavement were far from over. By the early 1900s, Logan County had the second highest number of lynchings in Kentucky<sup>xviii</sup>. Even as late as 1976, the only mention of African Americans seen fit for the Russellville Historic District nomination came in the form of renegade white activity, recalling when the "Night Riders burned tobacco barns and vigilantes hung four Negroes from a tree in Russellville." This lynching is just one of many events that tell the story of western Kentucky's violent history. The 1976 nomination does not identify these men; research conducted by the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum and Michael Morrow reveals their names to be John Jones, Virgil Jones, Joe Riley and John Bouyer, all residents of Logan County.

At the turn of the twentieth century, life for some African Americans in Russellville and Logan County at large was precarious and unsafe. Many African Americans would leave the area during these years in search of a somewhat less violent existence in larger urban centers. However, for those who remained in or who moved to Russellville, the Black Bottom neighborhood became the lifeline of African American life in Logan County and western Kentucky. Within the neighborhood, African Americans could patronize black businesses, attend school, receive the services of an African American doctor, and worship at Bank Street AME Zion Church, First Baptist Church, or Zion Baptist. For those who stayed and for those who could not afford to move away, Russellville's Black Bottom area provided a strong and proud landscape of support.

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**The Thriving Russellville Black Bottom**

The experience of struggle—for freedom and safety—marked the early experience of blacks in Logan County. By the 1920s, however, the neighborhood was gaining income and a measure of self-determination. In the early 1920s, the Black Bottom boasted a private school on 7<sup>th</sup> Street, multiple houses of worship, and several African American businesses, including Winston's Funeral Home (#4), which still stands today at 161 South Morgan Street. This large brick structure is the only business still in operation from this era and one of only two businesses remaining in the district today.

Construction of the Knights of Pythias Hall (#2) in the early 1920s, at the corner of Morgan and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets, also indicated a measure of social stability and achievement. This institution served several functions throughout the years, including meeting hall, school, church, restaurant, barbershop, and community center. Some of the residents in Russellville's Black Bottom can remember when the top floor of the building was a dance hall and the bottom floor served as a church. In the dance hall, nationally-known performers such as Jelly Roll Morton, Cab Calloway, Earle Hines and Lockwood Lewis played. Later, the dance hall would serve as a concert location for musicians on the Chittlin Circuit. Oral history recalls Ike and Tina Turner, among others, playing there, and residents of the community can remember a time when all of the surrounding streets would be filled with cars, as people came from surrounding towns, such as Adairville, Auburn, and even Bowling Green, to hear the music. Local photo archives document performances by one of the most famous regional bands, Batsell's Syncopates. Additionally, oral history tells us that Mary Ann Fisher, who was for many years Ray Charles's backup singer, lived in a house across the street from the KP Hall. Her adopted family, the Merritts, lived at the corner of 5<sup>th</sup> and Morgan Streets (#3). Her stepmother, City Merrit, ran a liquor store and café famous for hot tamales, a foodways tradition that survives in the community this day.<sup>xix</sup> Today the building is the home of the Concerned Citizens of Russellville, a group that works with area youth to promote positive after school activities.

In addition to the rise of black-owned businesses and community centers, during the 1920s several L-plan and bungalow houses were built to house the districts growing community. Six of the houses in the proposed boundary expansion were built between 1900 and 1923<sup>xx</sup>. Although they have undergone remodeling to meet the needs of their current owners, these houses reflect a great deal of their integrity as statements of a rising African American middle class. At the same time these houses were built Russellville, with its thriving business center and music scene, continued to grow as a cultural center for African Americans in Logan County. During a time of segregation in Kentucky, Russellville was a place where African Americans could come together and patronize African American owned businesses, attend church, and hear music in the area music halls. Additionally, the neighborhood was home to some of Logan County's influential educators including Leann Wilson Jennings who ran a private school on 7<sup>th</sup> Street (#113). She was the first black female to operate such an institution that both offered the state mandated classes for students and teacher certification for high school graduates. Her husband Abraham Jennings ran a cleaning business and pressing shop on 4<sup>th</sup> Street.<sup>xxi</sup> These remaining homes dating from this time period are important domestic structures representing the growth of the district into a cultural and business center for all of rural Logan County.

**The Russellville Black Bottom Historic District in the 1940s and the 1950s**

While the Depression years were economically destructive for Russellville's citizens at large, the Black Bottom neighborhood continued to strengthen its position as the cultural and business center of the county's African American population through the 1940s. The Black Bottom neighborhood grew in size with the 1945 Strange Edwards Addition to the city, which added approximately three city blocks to the neighborhood, and created a new street—variously known as Edwards Avenue and Strange Avenue.



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The additional blocks extended the district up to the Bowling Green Road, also known as US 68 and State Route 80. While the additional platted land suggests strengthening of the social position of the Black Bottom area, other interpretations of this expansion are possible. One indicator of this small area's struggle for social legitimacy is the lack of clarity concerning the name of the new street. Ambiguity over the name arises from the absence of a street sign; written sources can be found referring to the small street by either name, Edwards Avenue or Strange Avenue.

Perhaps nothing demonstrates a relative loss of standing for Russellville's black community than the demolition of houses in the Strange-Edwards Addition to the city. This addition created a neighborhood within a neighborhood, referred to locally as the Bean Alley. Bean Alley became the spot where several structures were moved after 1945. Before being moved to this part of Black Bottom, these buildings served as storage for beans in rural Logan County. These were one-room structures without indoor plumbing and were known to be very poorly insulated. At this same time, a portion of 6<sup>th</sup> Street was developed with single pen one-story frame houses. Four of these structures remain today at 680, 682, 684, and 686 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street (#92, 94, 96, and 97, respectively), also like the converted bean storage buildings, built initially without indoor plumbing, and staying that way until being renovated in the 1970s<sup>xxii</sup>. The juxtaposition of these diminutive houses, many still standing next to larger houses built only a few years before, give dramatic witness to the downturn in the economic life of the district.

Although the Depression and post-WWII era changed the nature of residential building, it did not change the nature of community life in the district. During this post-war era, Russellville founded its branch of the NAACP. In 1949, Todd's Café was built as a hotel and restaurant for African Americans, and served the needs of many of the musical acts who played at the Knights of Pythias Hall during the 1950s and 1960s. Todd's Café (#6) still stands at the corner of Morgan and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets, in the heart of the district. Local sources fondly recall the fame of one of the Café's dishes, Margaret Ella's fried chicken<sup>xxiii</sup>. Although the building is currently empty, it is the desire of the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum to renovate the building within the near future.

According to Margaret Todd Grimes, a Todd family member born and raised on 5<sup>th</sup> Street in the heart of the Bottom, during the 1940s people often frequented Clayton Taylor's store where "he had everything." She also recalls her uncle, Grimey Green, running a BBQ restaurant, and, of course, there was City Merrit's famous restaurant located near Mrs. Todd Grimes's home. Being a child in the 1940s, she remembers watching the Russellville Red Devils baseball team play in the Bottom and her older sisters, and sometimes her parents, heading to the dances at the Knights of Pythias Hall. Although she was too young to join them at these popular dances, she does recall attending the Eighth of August celebration in nearby Auburn and seeing the touring Silas Greeves show from New Orleans. She recalls that her mother would take her to hear these traveling shows and that "they would have a parade at midday." The annual Eighth of August Celebration today is held in Russellville in the heart of the Black Bottom. However, before the 1980s the celebration of this holiday, which marks the end of Slavery in the state of Kentucky, used to move between the black communities in Logan County. When Margaret Todd Grimes was young, the celebration took place in nearby Auburn, and sometimes in Russellville. She recalls "they would have a picnic on the hill and all the people would have ice cream or whatever and have a nice time. So, everybody would celebrate it." Today the celebration takes place in the Black Bottom Historic District and serves as a town homecoming. The streets are blocked off and a street dance is held in the evening. At the last celebrations in 2007 and 2008, the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum has unveiled new exhibits in the community museums as a part of the festivities.



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Ms. Grimes also remembers socializing in homes and recalls attending dances with young people her age in neighborhood homes, especially the home of Willie and Emma Norton who loved to host young visitors. She recalls, "We loved to dance and on Sunday evening take a walk." The streets in the Bottom were places where young and old alike walked and visited with neighbors and socialized across generations. Mrs. Grimes also remembers the coming of Sophie Smith's beauty shop was a popular place for women in the community. She remembers that around the same time Sophie's Beauty shop opened, she had begun working, and saved up her money to get her hair done—quite a treat for her as a young woman. Ms. Grimes says that as she got older she worked taking care of a white doctor's children. Later she did maid work in white homes. And while she says she "enjoyed living here all right," she eventually left Russellville because, in the days of segregation, maid or childcare work for white families "was about all the work you could get."<sup>xxiv</sup>

Throughout the mid-1940s and on through the 1950s, the neighborhood saw another wave of building for at least a small number of community members. The house standing at 651 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street (#78), near the intersection of the Strange Edwards Addition, was built in the mid-1940 for James and Gussie Bibb<sup>xxv</sup>. James was a descendent of some of the slaves freed by Major Bibb who founded the district. Through the 1950s, more houses were developed on 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Streets. A large shotgun house on 5<sup>th</sup> Street and two houses on 7<sup>th</sup> Street were probably built in the early 1940s or 1950s. According to oral history, during the 1950s a great number of shotgun style houses were built in the Black Bottom, especially on the extremely narrow land lots that were added to the city with the Strange Edwards addition<sup>xxvi</sup>. However, most of these houses were torn down during urban renewal. The house standing at 693 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street (#39a) is the probably the only house left on the street from this era of shotgun-plan building.

**Some experiences in the district after 1959**

Certainly Urban Renewal had the most profound impact on the Black Bottom's historic landscape starting in the latter 1970s. By the 1970s, the district's historic resources had begun to erode, and local housing, health, and safety standards had risen since World War II. This prompted several responses. For many, residents once again found their world under siege from a white population, in the form of the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the decision-makers for urban renewal. For others, the increasing victories in Civil Rights efforts caused some residents in the Black Bottom district to question the quality of their housing stock, and perhaps, to long for something better. Clearly, the actual gutting of the physical landscape by urban renewal paralleled the effect of social oppression that defined the community's experience over time. Soon after the demolitions began, drug violence became high in the neighborhood, with five people being murdered.

Once again, the positive response was a community response. An organization, the Concerned Citizens of Russellville, and the community members, acted to curtail the violence<sup>xxvii</sup>. In 2003 the Concerned Citizens organization applied for and received a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) which completely rehabilitated the Knights of Pythias Hall for use by area citizens. On the bottom floor, central heat and air were added; the structure was rewired so that computers could be used in the after school interactive learning lab and tutoring center; the dance hall was fixed. Returning the building to its original use as a multi-function community center, the Knights of Pythias Hall sits in the heart of the Black Bottom within walking distance from the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museums.

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**Summary of Eligibility**

The landscape and architecture of the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District narrate the evolution of African American life in Logan County. The early years of building tell the story of slavery and those first free families who bravely began the community. Later houses speak to the years of Jim Crow and a segregated society, as well as the strength of area schools, community centers, and thriving churches. An examination of the homes can also tell us about people who directly fought against Jim Crow society, such as civil rights leader as Alice Dunnigan. The Black Bottom Historic District was a location where African Americans carved out a thriving community with little support or sympathy from the white community, and against open threats of violence, economic hardships, blatant social and economic racism and prejudice. The demolitions of urban renewal devastated some of the older homes, and offer an extraordinary capstone to this story of conflict.

The houses and businesses that exist in the district today trace the history of the African American experience in the area. Despite the loss of some buildings, a large number of the houses and businesses remain standing to tell the stories of strength, resistance, and hope. The district remains a predominantly African American neighborhood. Today, many of these buildings are being renovated for use as museums, as well as cultural and research centers within which to examine and reflect upon the special history of the district's residents.

Few things speak more to an African American neighborhood's integrity and historic significance than the larger community's willingness to interpret that history within the larger life of that community. The efforts of various local institutions preserve that history, in both documentary and physical form, from the void of forgetfulness, is nothing less than community activism. To state the obvious, these buildings are being used by the community, for the community, and that is what makes them significant--both historically and currently. Additionally, the renovation work of the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum has been contagious. Historic homes in the neighborhood are being purchased and renovated their owners. The wounds that urban renewal posed to the neighborhood's viability seem to be healing through focus on the neighborhood's continuing historic value.

Additional information about the neighborhood could be gained from archeological excavation. The city dump once existed in the neighborhood at the 600 block of the district. The museums under renovation by the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum are sensitized to this layer of the past. A casual walk through the neighborhood reveals foundations from 19<sup>th</sup>-century houses and sidewalks peeking through the grass. Construction workers involved in renovating some of the homes from the 19<sup>th</sup> century have found multiple objects that reflect life at the turn of the century. Additionally, Native American artifacts have been found when workers excavated the 1810 Morton/Caldwell house. Oral history claims that the creek that runs through the east end of the district, known today as Town Spring Branch, was used by both Native Americans and the area's earliest settlers around the time the location was occupied by the first non-native settlers in 1770 (the town would not be called Russellville until 1798). Additional archeological work might be done in the downtown area where Major Bibb once lived, the slave owner who freed all of his slaves upon his death, to learn more about African American history in Russellville.

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Black Bottom Historic District  
Name of Property

Logan County, KY  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property approximately 38 acres

UTM References  
(Place additional boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

USGS Topographic Quad name Russellville

A 16 510 340 4077 570  
Zone Easting Northing

B 16 510 990 4077 760  
Zone Easting Northing

C 16 511 160 4077 450  
Zone Easting Northing

D 16 510 540 4077 290  
Zone Easting Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(See continuation sheets, page 10-1)

**Boundary Justification** ((See continuation sheets, page 10-1)

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

**11. Form Prepared By**

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**Additional Documentation**

The National Register requires each nomination consist of the following beyond this 4-page cover form:

- Continuation Sheets for narrative
- A USGS topographic quad map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location
- A Sketch map for historic districts or properties having large acreage or numerous resources
- A Photo identification map for districts; one map can serve both as sketch and photo ID map.
- black and white photographs of the property. See policy statement for acceptable use of digital photographs

The Kentucky Heritage Council requires the following for all nominations:

- An additional set of black and white photographs that remains at the KHC
- Floor plans of properties whose significance is based on their plans
- Color slides or PowerPoint images and presentation of the property to the Kentucky State Review Board

**Property Owner**

name/title multiple owners  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_  
email address (if available) \_\_\_\_\_

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Logan County, KY

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

The proposed boundaries of the Black Bottom Historic District contain properties in Russellville, Kentucky, facing Morgan Streets on the west, facing Fifth Street on the north, properties north of Seventh Street on the south, and properties west of Franklin Street (US 68/SR 80). The district sketch map provides a scaled definition of the area proposed for listing.

**Verbal Boundary Justification**

The boundaries of the Russellville Black Bottom Historic District are the most cohesive group of residential, commercial, religious and residential structures representing several decades of African American life in Logan County in western Kentucky. The strong sense of community and activist historic preservation is present in the architectural history, current use, and the historical significance of the buildings within the area proposed for listing.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Black Bottom Historic District  
Logan County, KY

Section Endnotes Page 1

Endnotes

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- <sup>i</sup> West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum, death records and unpublished research documents
- <sup>ii</sup> West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum, unpublished research documents
- <sup>iii</sup> West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum, unpublished research documents
- <sup>iv</sup> <http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/shipp/lynchstats.html> along with unpublished research from the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum.
- <sup>v</sup> Michael Morrow, recorded interview with Meredith Martin, 11/19/2006
- <sup>vi</sup> West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum, unpublished research documents
- <sup>vii</sup> Morrow
- <sup>viii</sup> <http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/shipp/lynchstats.html> along with unpublished research from the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum.
- <sup>ix</sup> Dunnigan, p 33
- <sup>x</sup> Morrow
- <sup>xi</sup> Dunnigan
- <sup>xii</sup> Morrow
- <sup>xiii</sup> Logan County Chamber of Commerce, and oral history
- <sup>xiv</sup> West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum
- <sup>xv</sup> Dunnigan,
- <sup>xvi</sup> UP Zion Baptist Church "100<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary"
- <sup>xvii</sup> Logan County Chamber of Commerce
- <sup>xviii</sup> Dunnigan
- <sup>xviii</sup> Morrow
- <sup>xviii</sup> Morrow
- <sup>xviii</sup> Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1923
- <sup>xviii</sup> Morrow
- <sup>xviii</sup> West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum
- <sup>xviii</sup> *ibid*
- <sup>xviii</sup> West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum
- <sup>xix</sup> Morrow, UP document about Mary Ann Fisher
- <sup>xx</sup> Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1923
- <sup>xxi</sup> Morrow, Jennings
- <sup>xxii</sup> Morrow
- <sup>xxiii</sup> West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum
- <sup>xxiv</sup> Interview with Margaret Todd Grimes by Michael Morrow June 14, 2006
- <sup>xxv</sup> *ibid*
- <sup>xxvi</sup> West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum
- <sup>xxvii</sup> Morrow



**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Black Bottom Historic District  
Logan County, KY

Section    Photo Identification    Page      

**Photograph Identification**

**Same information for each photograph**

Name of property: Black Bottom Historic District

Location: Logan County, Kentucky

Photographer: Meredith Martin

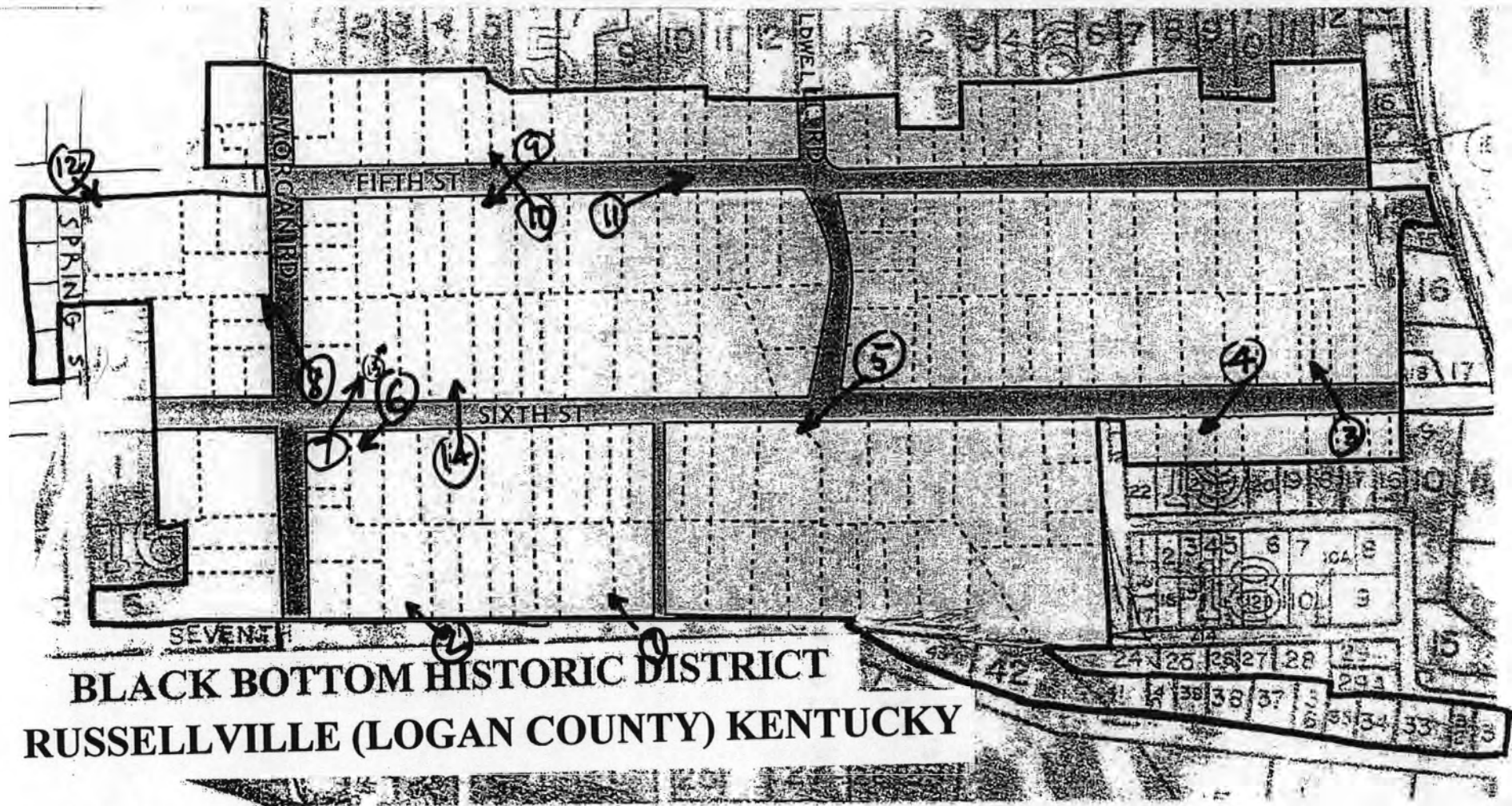
Date of Photographs: October—December, 2006

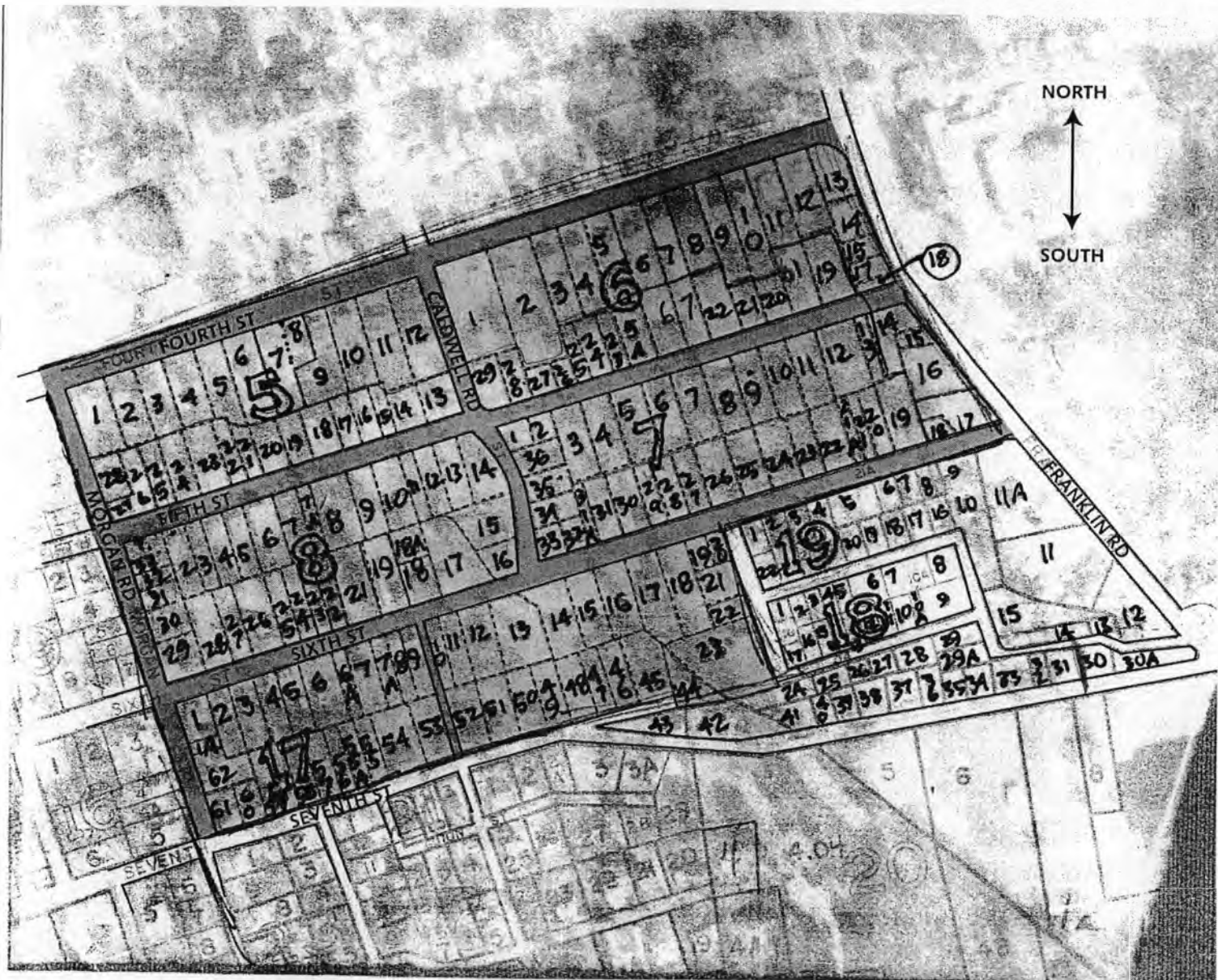
Location of digital files: to be deposited in the West Kentucky African American Heritage Museum and the Kentucky Library on the campus of Western Kentucky University (Bowling Green, Kentucky).

**Information specific to each photograph**

Photograph Log # 1

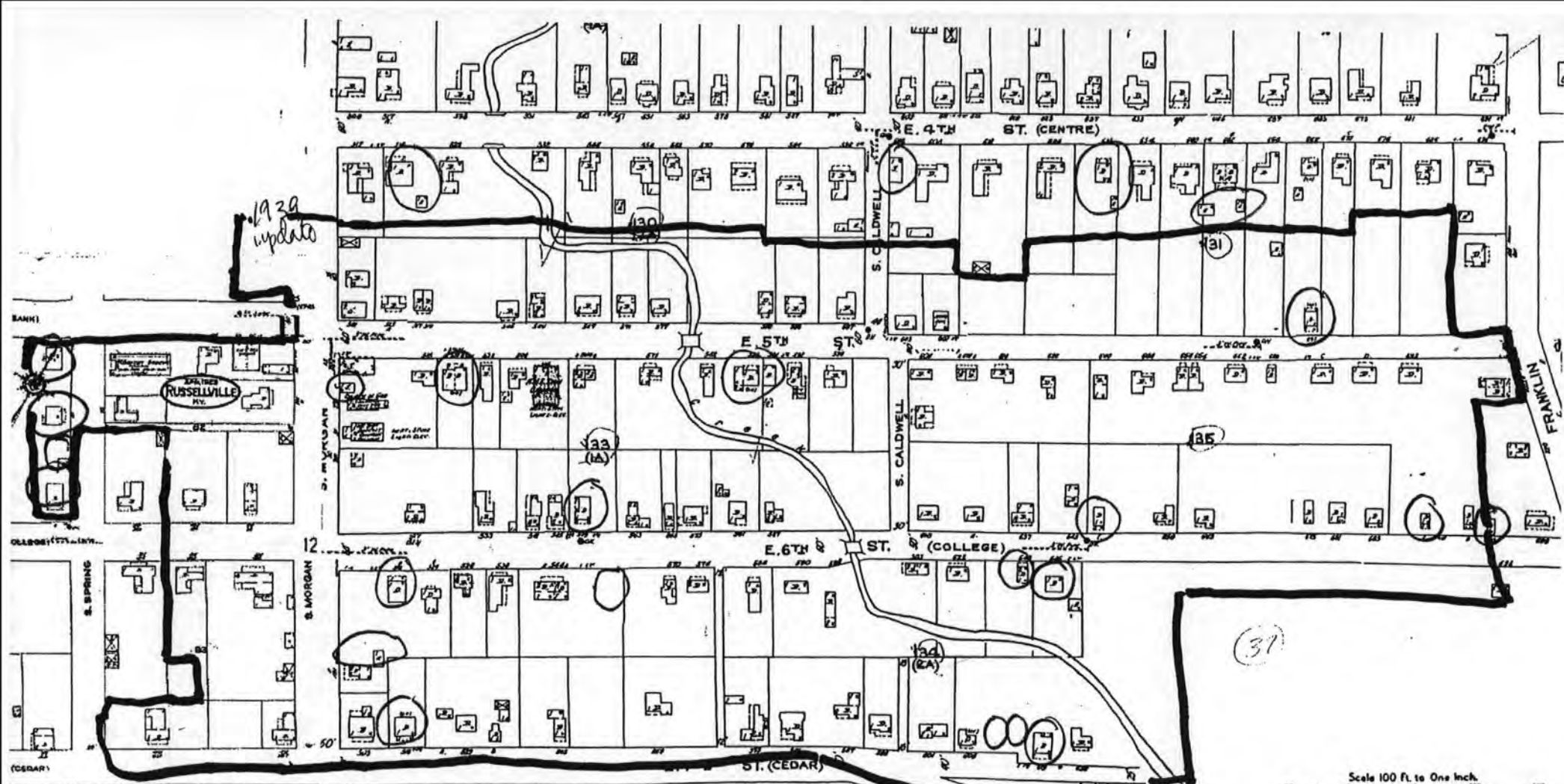
Photo #	Subject	Property Number (if applicable)	Direction of shot
1	7 <sup>th</sup> Street properties		West-northwest
2	7 <sup>th</sup> Street properties		West
3	6 <sup>th</sup> Street properties		West
4	6 <sup>th</sup> Street properties		Southwest
5	6 <sup>th</sup> Street properties, where the bridge crosses Town Spring Branch		Southwest
6	6 <sup>th</sup> Street properties		Southwest
7	6 <sup>th</sup> Street (Kimbrough House at right)	48 and 55	North
8	Morgan Street properties	NA	West
9	5 <sup>th</sup> Street properties, Bank Street AME Church on left	29	South
10	5 <sup>th</sup> Street properties, Church of God Sanctified on right	30	West
11	5 <sup>th</sup> Street properties		Northeast
12	First Baptist Church	1	East
13	Kimbrough House	55	Northeast
14	Vaughn House	59	Northwest





Black Bottom Historic District, 2008  
 Logan County, KY  
 County tax map showing ownership boundaries and parcel #s



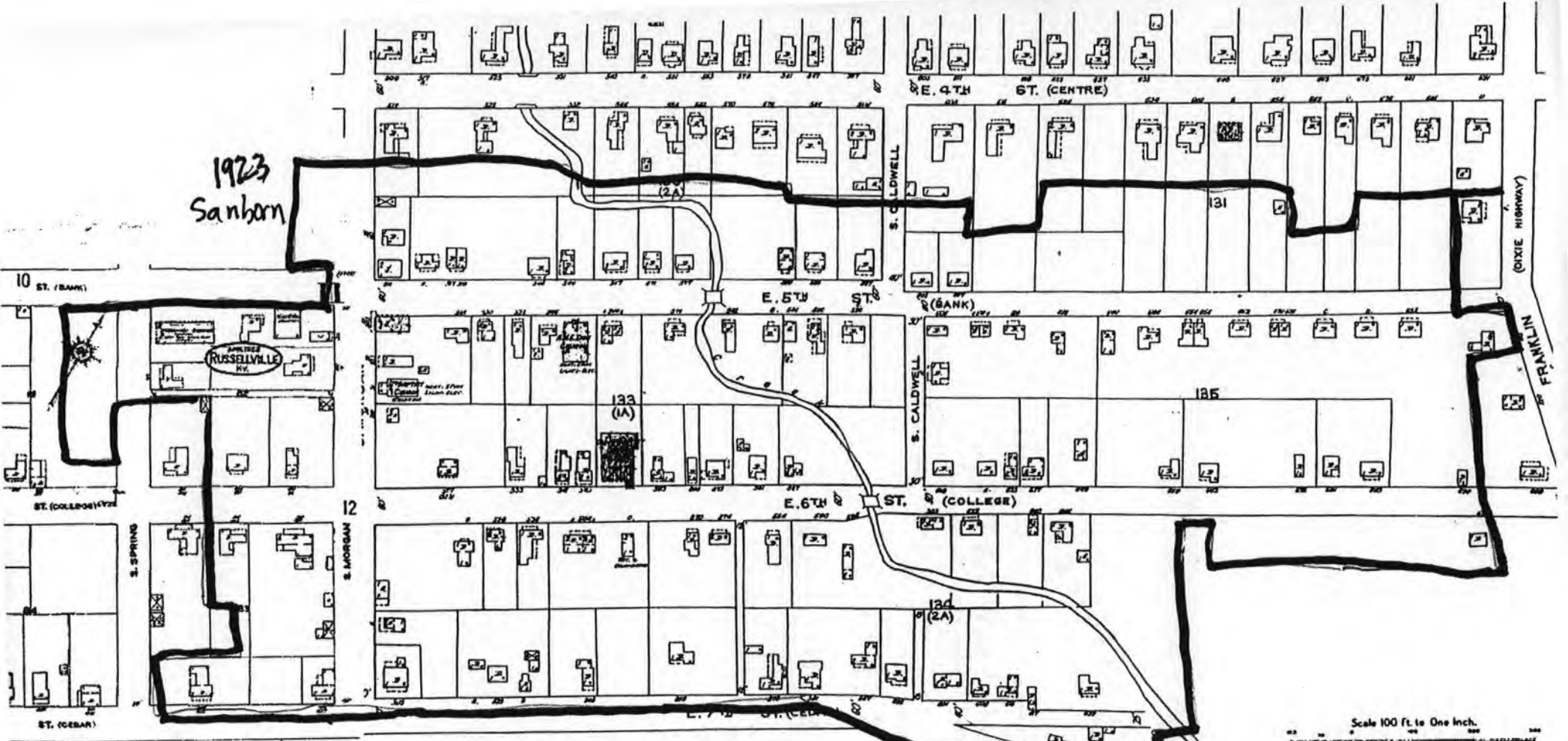


Black Bottom Historic District  
 Boundary Superimposed on 1939 Sanborn  
 Lots with change between 1923 and 1939 are circled  
 Logan County, KY

Scale of Feet

Scale 100 Ft. to One Inch

1923  
Sanborn



Black Bottom Historic  
District boundary  
super-imposed on 1923 Sanborn  
Logan Co., KY

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Property

\_\_\_\_\_  
County and State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

### SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 09000007

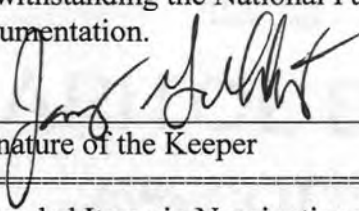
Date Listed: 3/17/10

Property Name: Black Bottom Historic District

County: Logan

State: KY

-----  
This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

3/17/2010  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

-----  
Amended Items in Nomination:

#### Section 8: Narrative

The original submission of this nomination had a period of significance ending in 1989. The original submission invoked Criteria Consideration G. The revised and accepted nomination ends the period of significance at 1958. However, the opening paragraph of the Statement of Significance still mentions Criteria Consideration G.

The Statement of Significance on page 8-1 is hereby amended to delete reference to Criteria Consideration G.

\_\_\_\_\_  
The Kentucky State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

#### DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file

Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Block Bottom Historic District  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Logan

DATE RECEIVED: 12/31/08      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/21/09  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/05/09      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/13/09  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 09000007

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    2/10/2009 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*See Return Comments*

RECOM./CRITERIA

REVIEWER

DISCIPLINE

TELEPHONE

DATE

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

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



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

## The United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Return/Evaluation Sheet

Property Name: Black Bottom Historic District  
Logan County, KY

Reference Number: 09000007

The Black Bottom Historic District nomination is being returned for substantive revision.

The Black Bottom Historic District appears to meet the National Register criteria for evaluation for its local significance in the African American heritage of Russellville. It is the opinion of this office that the argument concerning the effects of Urban Renewal and the resulting extension of the period of significance to 1989 is an interesting one, but does not meet the standard necessary for Criteria Consideration G. Please revise the nomination to a more defensible end of the period of significance, perhaps coinciding with the plat and build-out of the Strange-Edwards Addition. This would also entail revision of the district's boundaries where appropriate.

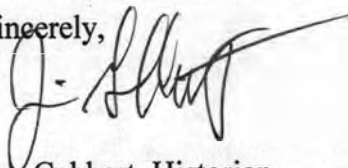
The argument concerning Urban Renewal and its effects on communities in general and this neighborhood in particular were discussed at length in our review of this nomination. It was felt that in the case of Russellville, the clearance programs of the 1970s into the late 1980s marks not an exceptional period of the federal program, but an ongoing aspect of the normal history of the program. While it can be noted that the program, over the course of two or more decades, resulted in changes to the landscape of the Black Bottom neighborhood, these changes are not so significant as the dramatic changes wrought to cities and neighborhoods during the early period of Urban Renewal. It is acceptable to discuss the Urban Renewal program and acknowledge its overall impact on the neighborhood.

The district has large swaths of open space, much of it that was never built upon. This helps define the character of the district. The numerous empty lots along the north side of East 5<sup>th</sup> Street especially are indicative of the natural development (or lack thereof) of

the neighborhood. It is not necessary to count each lot as a site in this case. The aggregate of contiguous lots can be considered one site.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this nomination and hope that you find these comments useful. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at (202) 354-2275 or email at [James\\_Gabbert@nps.gov](mailto:James_Gabbert@nps.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Gabbert", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Jim Gabbert, Historian  
National Register of Historic Places  
2/12/08



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY Black Bottom Historic District  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Logan

DATE RECEIVED: 3/05/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 4/19/10  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 09000007

DETAILED EVALUATION:

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 3/17/2010 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The original submission had a period of significance extending to 1989 and an argument that Urban Renewal efforts of the 1970-1989 era merit exceptional importance status. The resubmission returns the POS to 1959. The District overlaps the Russellville Historic District, but represents a distinct entity whose importance reflects the history of the African American community in Russellville. Modest houses and small community bldgs reflect the marginalization of the community from its inception to its erosion by urban renewal.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A

REVIEWER J. Gabber DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/~~N~~ see attached SLR (Y/N)

















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THE  
OFFICE  
OF THE  
ARCHDEACON





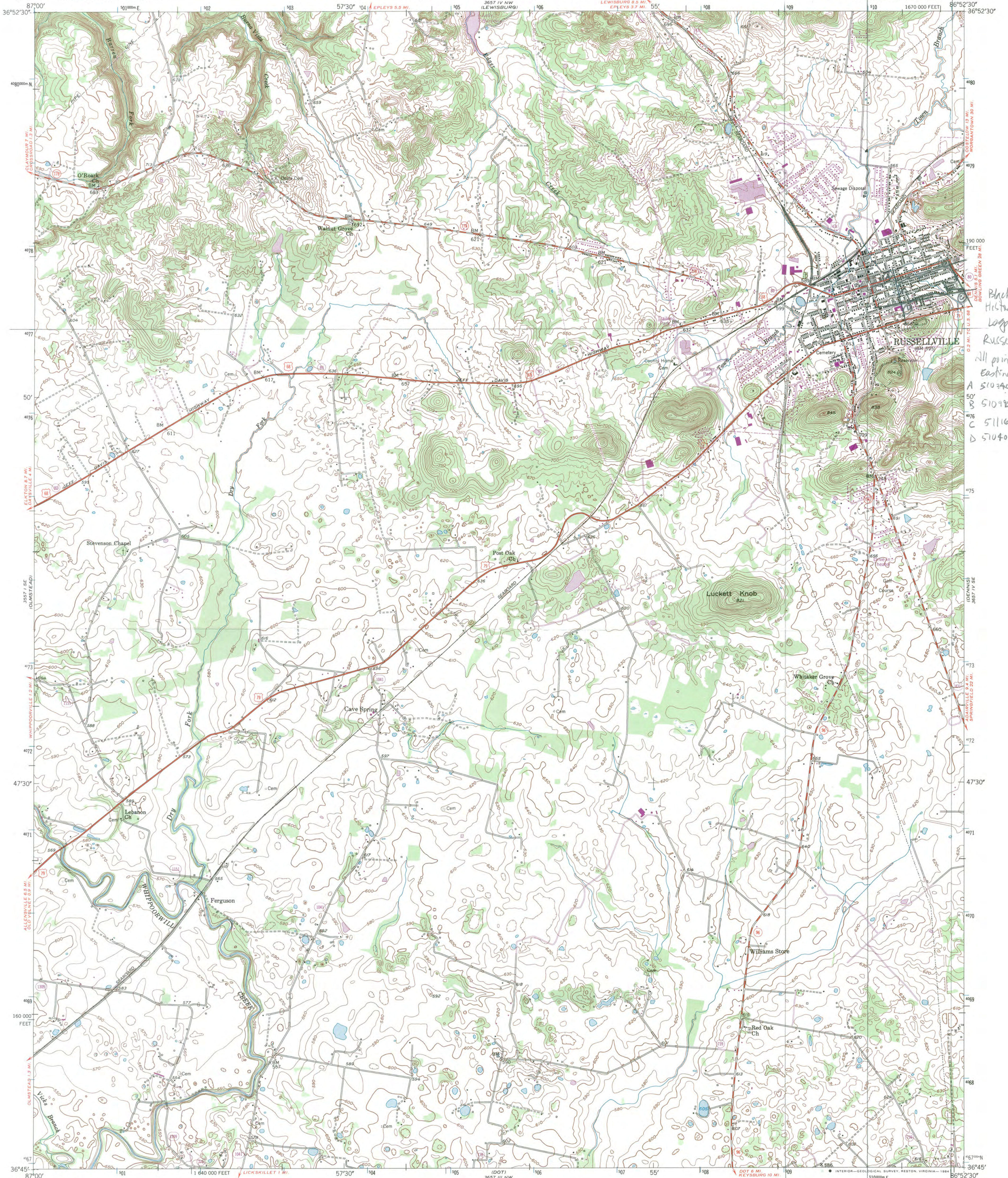






533





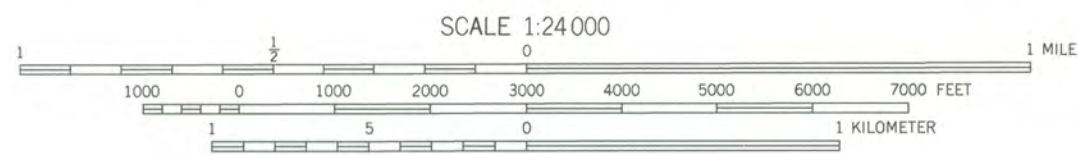
Black Bottom  
Historic District  
Logan Co., KY  
Russellville Quad  
All points zone 16  
Eastings/northings  
A 510340/4077570  
B 510380/4077760  
C 511160/4077450  
D 510400/4077210

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA  
Planimetry in part by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1950. Topography by photogrammetric methods and planimetric surveys 1952  
Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Kentucky coordinate system, south zone 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue  
1927 North American Datum  
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 5 meters south as shown by dashed corner ticks

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation with State of Kentucky agencies from aerial photographs taken 1980 and other sources. Contours adjusted adjacent to certain photorevised hydrographic features. This information not field checked. Map edited 1983

UTM GRID AND 1983 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



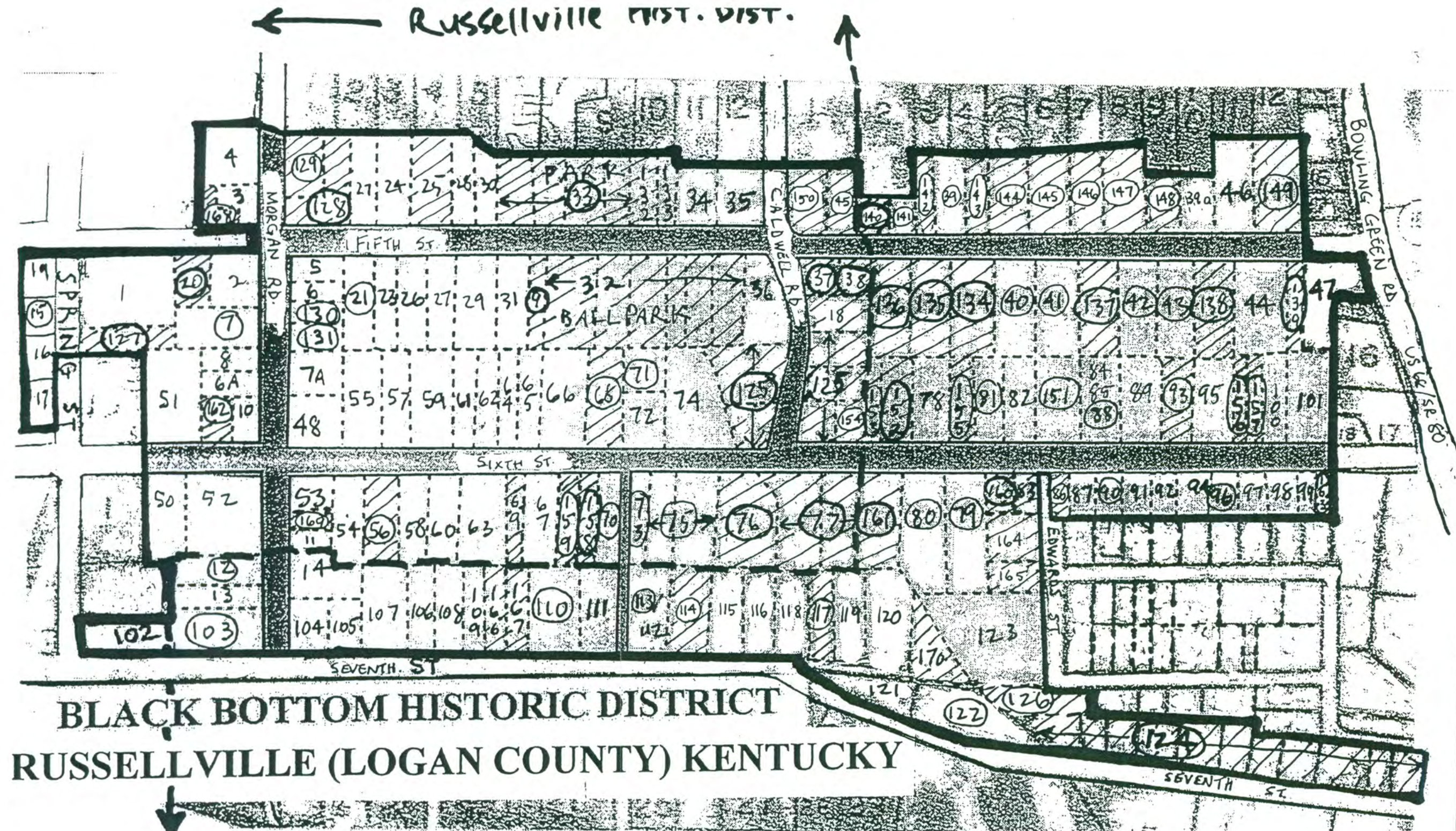
ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Heavy-duty	4 LANE 16 LANE Light-duty
Medium-duty	4 LANE 16 LANE Unimproved dirt
U. S. Route	State Route

RUSSELLVILLE, KY.  
SW/4 RUSSELLVILLE 15' QUADRANGLE  
36086-G8-TF-024

1952  
PHOTOREVISED 1983  
DMA 3657 IV SW - SERIES V853

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092,  
KENTUCKY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40506,  
AND KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST





Scale:



contributing site  
(vacant lot) = 20

non-contributing site  
(vacant lot) = 56

--- Shows where eastern boundary  
of Russellville Historic District (1976)  
goes through Black Bottom Historic District

4 = contributing building

7 = non-contributing building





COMMERCE CABINET  
KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL



Steven L. Beshear  
Governor

The State Historic Preservation Office  
300 Washington Street  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601  
Phone (502) 564-7005  
Fax (502) 564-5820  
www.kentucky.gov

Marcheta Sparrow  
Secretary

December 23, 2008

Jan Snyder Matthews, Ph.D., Keeper  
National Park Service 2280  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington DC 20005

Dear Dr. Matthews:

Enclosed are nominations approved at the December 9, 2008 Review Board meeting, submitted for listing:

- **James E. Pepper Distillery**, Fayette County
- **Buffalo School**, LaRue County
- **Kenmil Place**, McCracken County

This form, approved by the Board on August 27, 2008, required additional work, and is submitted for listing:

- **Black Bottom Historic District**, Logan County

The following nomination was returned, and has been revised according to comments provided by the National Register staff reviewer. We resubmit it for reconsideration and listing:


- **Cherokee State Park**, Marshall County NR ID: 08001120

The following nomination has a bit more complicated history of processing. It is a property that involves land in both Kentucky and Tennessee. The property was initially submitted for review in 2006, with Kentucky SHPO signing the form and the Tennessee SHPO disputing eligibility and submitting comments; the Register returned the form to the Kentucky SHPO on 12/29/06. The Kentucky SHPO revised the nomination as per return comments, reducing the boundary and strengthening the integrity evaluation, and resubmitted the form to the Register in May of 2008. Learning that the Tennessee SHPO had not reviewed the revised form, the Register returned the form, instructing the Kentucky SHPO to send the form to the Tennessee SHPO for comment. The Tennessee SHPO has reviewed the revised version, maintains their position of non-eligibility, and has enclosed comments. This property resubmitted for reconsideration and listing is:

- **Jesse Whitesell Farm**, Fulton County, KY and Obion County, TN; NR ID: 06001200 and 06001199

We appreciate your consideration of these nominations.

Sincerely,

  
Mark Dennen, Acting Executive Director  
Kentucky Heritage Council and  
State Historic Preservation Officer



STEVEN L. BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

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

MARCHETA SPARROW  
SECRETARY

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

MARK DENNEN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

February 24, 2010

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

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed is documentation for the **Black Bottom Historic District** (NR #08000007) in Logan County, Kentucky. The form has been revised in accord with the comment letter. These changes were made:

- The Period of Significance has been altered to end at the conventional place, 50 years before the nomination's submission.
- Many properties that were counted as contributing sites in the original submission are now counted as non-contributing sites, due to the change in the Period of Significance.
- This change in the status of sites has resulted in many changes to the revised nomination form: to page 2 and 3 of the cover form, to the inventory in the Description, to the district Sketch map, and to the text of both the Description and Statement of Significance.
- We have left the boundary of the district as originally drawn. That boundary offers respect to two views: the understanding that district residents have of the neighborhood's extent, and the National Register's goal of including intact resources within the boundary.
- We respectfully continue to count all vacant lots as individual sites. Because we have the Register's support to count each historically vacant lot as one contributing site, out of consistency we count each vacant lot created by urban renewal and other forms of recent demolition as a non-contributing site. This decision not only exhibits consistency, but it respects the discrete identity and history that each lot possesses. By maintaining a separate identity for each parcel, we will facilitate the nomination's use in planning processes, particularly in Section 106 decisions.

We appreciate your consideration of this resubmitted nomination.

Sincerely,

Mark Dennen, SHPO and  
Executive Director  
Kentucky Heritage Council

MP/mp





STEVEN L. BESHEAR  
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

MARK DENNEN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

February 24, 2010

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

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Sincerely,

Mark Dennen, SHPO and  
Executive Director  
Kentucky Heritage Council

MP/mp