

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JAN 29 1980
DATE ENTERED MAR 19 1980

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

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Inter- Southern Insurance Building

AND/OR COMMON
Kentucky Home Life Building

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 239-247 South Fifth Street
CITY, TOWN Louisville VICINITY OF 4th
STATE Kentucky CODE 021 COUNTY Jefferson CODE 111

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Gil Whittenberg

STREET & NUMBER Room 929 Kentucky Home Life Building
CITY, TOWN Louisville VICINITY OF Kentucky STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Jefferson County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER 517 West Jefferson Street
CITY, TOWN Louisville STATE Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Kentucky Inventory of Historic Sites

DATE 1978
 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Kentucky Heritage Commission
CITY, TOWN Franfort, STATE Ky.

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Inter- Southern Insurance Building is located on the northeast corner of Jefferson and Fifth Streets. The building is across the street from the Jefferson County Courthouse (National Register, April, 1972), and in the vicinity of City Hall (National Register, September, 1976) and the Jefferson County Jail (National Register, July 1973).

The Inter-Southern Insurance Building is a twenty-story structure of buff colored brick and stone. The lower four stories are in stone and give visual strength to the building. The windows of the first floor are small with decorative bronze grills. The first and second floors are divided by a stone band with guilloche motif. The Fifth Street facade is the main entry to the office building. The second through the fourth floors are flanked by two piers on each end. Four engaged columns of fluted stone with Ionic capitals run the height of the four floors. The original section of the Jefferson Street facade housed a bank. The original appearance of the bank entry is retained. The door hood is arched with a large cartouche under the hood. Two engaged fluted columns rise for three floors above the doorway. This section is also flanked by piers. The windows of the second through the fourth floors are double-hung and encased in stone with geometric decorations. The windows are divided horizontally by stone panels with stylized cartouche motifs. The fourth floor is divided from the upper stories by an entablature band. The upper floors are buff brick. The sixth through eighteenth stories on the Fifth Street facade have five bays of triple mullied windows flanked by two single windows. The fenestration of the nineteenth floor changes to double windows. The building has an extended cornice with brackets.

The building was constructed in 1913 with a matching addition in 1922. The addition contains one of the most striking interiors in the city. The former Citizens Fidelity banking room is based on the Roman Baths of Caracalla. The room is three stories in height. Large fluted Corinthian columns support an entablature. A broad coffered barrel vault is pierced by lunettes with windows.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES

1913 & 1922

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

B.B. Davis & D.X. Murphy

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Inter-Southern Insurance Building is one of the most handsome examples of the early twentieth century skyscraper in Louisville. (It remained the tallest building in Louisville until 1955) The old Citizens Fidelity banking room, contained within the building, is one of the most superb interior spaces in the city. The structure was designed by Brinton B. Davis and completed in 1913. A matching addition was built in 1922 by D.X. Murphy and Brother.

Brinton B. Davis (1862-1952) was a leading Louisville architect who originally came to Louisville in 1902 from Natchez, Mississippi. Davis designed numerous buildings both in Louisville and Atlanta, including the Ashley Hotel in Atlanta, Jefferson County Armory, Board of Church Extension, Parkland Branch Library and the Broadway School, all in Louisville. Davis' obituary states that he did not like to design residences since he found women difficult to work with. The Inter-Southern Insurance Building is among his finest designs.

The firm of D.X. Murphy and Brother designed the addition to the Inter-Southern Insurance Building. The firm was extremely prominent and prolific in Louisville. Among their other designs are the Jefferson County Jail (National Register, July, 1973), Norton Infirmary, the German Bank, St. Boniface Church, Presentation Academy (National Register) and the Grandstand at Churchill Downs (National Register).

The Inter-Southern Insurance Building is one of Louisville's finest twentieth century commercial buildings. It is also among a very few of the early skyscrapers which remain in the city.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"B.B. Davis, Designer of Buildings Here and in Bowling Green is Dead." The (Louisville) Courier-Journal. 28 June 1952.

Caron Directory Of the City OF Louisville. 1895-1925.

Falls of the Ohio Metropolitan Council of Governments. Walter Langsam, ed.

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 1/2 acre.

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

QUADRANGLE NAME New Albany

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 608640 4234540
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

D [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

E [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

F [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

G [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

H [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

City of Louisville Block 14W Lot 14 and 19

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

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marty Poynter Hedgepeth Director of Research

ORGANIZATION

Historic Preservation and Landmarks Districts Commission

DATE
502-587-3501

STREET & NUMBER

727 West Main Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Louisville

STATE

Kentucky

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Edward W. Tutton

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

1-8-80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

3/19/80

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *Kristin O'Connell*
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

3/17/80

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Inter-Southern Insurance Building

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 2

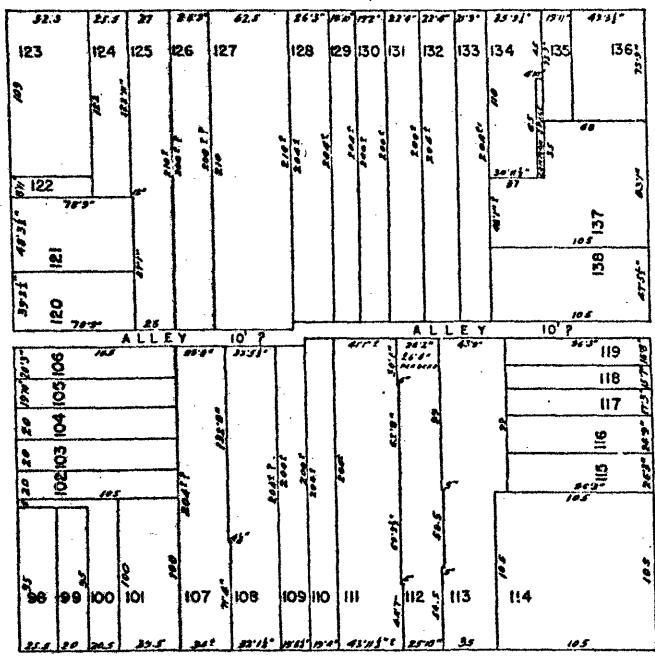
Metropolitan Preservation Plan. Louisville: Falls of the Ohio
Metropolitan Council of Governments, 1973.

"Inter-Southern Insurance Company to Build." The (Louisville)
Courier-Journal. 25 April 1911.

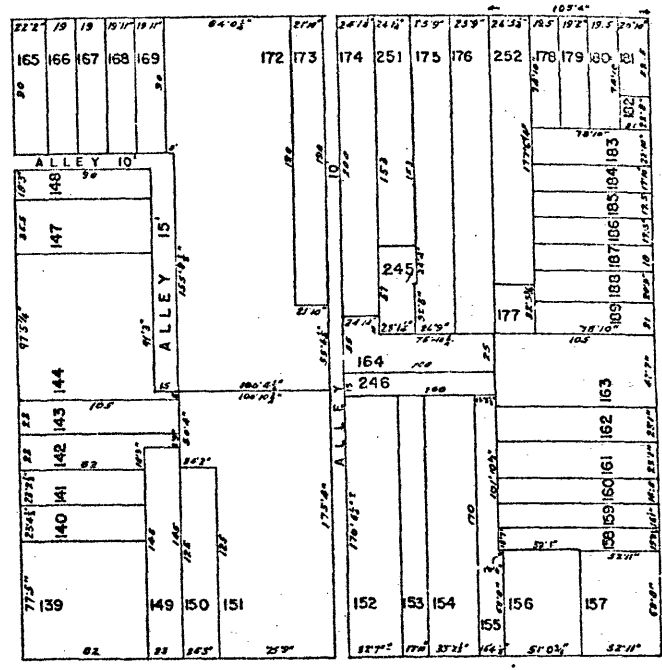
National Register of Historic Places Nomination form for the
Jefferson County Jail, (entered July, 1973).

MAIN

ST. 60'

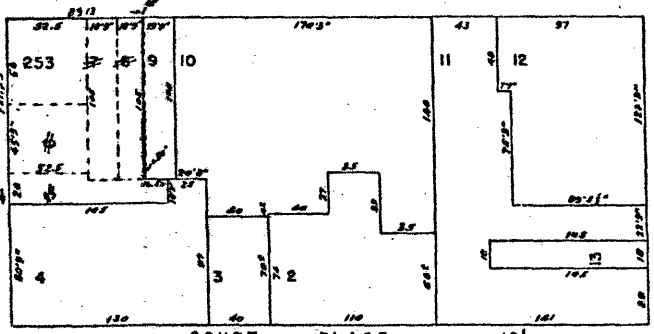


ST. 60'



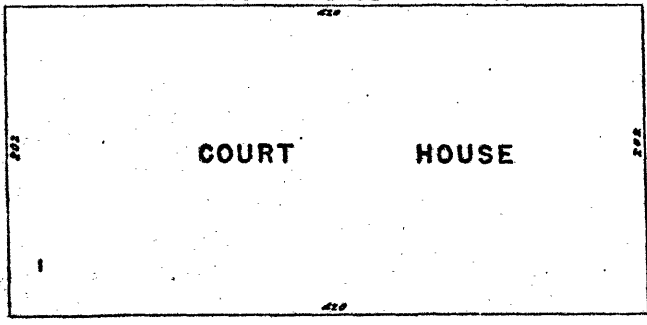
MARKET 90'

6TH



98'

5TH



JEFFERSON

Inter-Southern Insurance Bldg.
239-247 South Fifth Street
Louisville, Jefferson, Ky.
Real Estate Atlas
Jefferson County, Kentucky

(1968)

Map 2

JAN 29 1980