

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0676331

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APR 3 1978  
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**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 Warren County Multiple Resource Area

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

The county limits of Warren County

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

02

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Kentucky

021

Warren

227

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

see continuation sheets

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input 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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
x multiple resources	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

see continuation sheets

NAME

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Warren County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

10th Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Bowling Green

Kentucky

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE

1971 and Supplements

FEDERAL  STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Frankfort

Kentucky

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

---

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

see continuation sheets.

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Warren County Multiple Resources Nomination  
Warren County, Kentucky

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The historic sites survey of Warren County was conducted during April, May and June 1978 by historians Jayne C. Henderson and Lee D. Walker and architectural historian Dr. Kenneth T. Gibbs. The survey is part of a ten-year project of the Kentucky Heritage Commission to survey the state's historical and archaeological resources on a county by county basis.

National Register criteria were applied to all structures viewed in this county; all of those meeting National Register criteria are included in this nomination; those not meeting National Register criteria are omitted from this nomination. The comprehensive survey process included examining every standing structure in the county by traveling every passable road. To supplement the visual survey of Warren County, published histories of the area were consulted, historical research was conducted in local and state depositories, and local historians and owners of properties were interviewed to identify properties possessing local significance. City maps were used for the largest urban area, Bowling Green, and U.S.G.S. maps were used elsewhere in the county. Individual structures that met minimum standards of architectural or historical significance were mapped, described, documented, photographed and given a site identification number, consisting of the Smithsonian designation for Warren County, Wa, and a number. Sites in Bowling Green were given the designation Wa-B and a number. All of this information was recorded on the Kentucky Historic Resources Inventory forms.

Because of time limitations and the abundance of common types of late nineteenth and early twentieth century structures, a typology system was developed which allowed the recording of a large number of post-Civil War structures that did not meet minimum standards of architectural significance. Each of these structures was mapped and given a letter designation corresponding to its particular type, but it was not photographed or recorded on an inventory form. A typed structure later found to possess local historical significance was then revisited, photographed, documented, and recorded on an inventory form and added to the surveyed sites. The seventeen types used in Warren County were based on the primary exterior form characteristics of each building, including such matters as number of stories, number of bays in the main facade, plan type as determined by exterior viewing, roof forms, and in certain cases--gable end churches, schools and commercial buildings--the original use. All of the structures that were typed are of frame construction and all were built between about 1870 and 1930. A key tool for analyzing distribution patterns of common types across the county, the typology system will be included in the upcoming publication of survey results.

Following the completion of the visual survey and the completion of historical research and interviews, each site surveyed (excluding typed structures) was evaluated and placed in one of three categories: National Register (those sites meeting National Register criteria individually), Kentucky Survey or Inventory. The Warren County Multiple Resources nomination includes all of those sites in the National Register category as well as all of those sites of any category that were judged to contribute to the overall character of a historic district.

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Photocopies of all inventory forms for structures included in the Warren County Multiple Resources Nomination are found in Item Number 8. For reference the forms for Warren County structures already entered in the National Register are included as well. Texts that discuss the historical and architectural development of Warren County, the city of Bowling Green and the various districts and maps of these areas appear within Item Number 8 before relevant groups of inventory forms. In the texts the term "surveyed" refers to those sites that were photographed, described and recorded on inventory forms. The term "typed" refers to those structures recorded in the typology system, and those sites already on the National Register are identified by the date of entry.

Of the 192 sites surveyed in Warren County outside of Bowling Green, four are nominated as the Smith's Grove District and thirty-seven are nominated individually. 627 were typed. Of the 215 sites surveyed in the city of Bowling Green, seventeen are nominated individually; eight are nominated as a thematic nomination, the Pre-1930 Brinton B. Davis Buildings on the Western Kentucky University Campus; ten are included in District A, the St. Joseph's District; seventy-two are included in District B, the Downtown Commercial District; fourteen are included in District C, the Upper East Main Street District; and forty-six are included in District D, the College Hill District.

- Map 1: Smith's Grove District Wa-34-37 and individual sites Wa-38, Wa-39, and Wa-47
- Map 2: Bowling Green Wa-B-1-215
- Map 3: Upper East Main Street District Wa-B-23-36
- Map 4: Downtown Commercial District Wa-B-37-110
- Map 5: St. Joseph's District Wa-B-112-122
- Map 6: College Hill District Wa-B-140-185
- Map 7: Western Kentucky University Campus Wa-B-203-214
- Map 8: Warren County General Highway Map

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Intrusions within Districts

District A

St. Joseph's

- ✓ 1. Salvation Army building and parking lot; located between 427 East Main and Nugent Street; south side of the street.
- ✓ 2. Gas Station and garage; located at 212 West Main Street; north side of the street.

District B

Downtown Commercial

- ✓ 1. An empty lot; located between 816-20 and 826 Adams Street; east side of the street.
- ✓ 2. Gas station; located at 139 East Main; south side of the street.
- ✓ 3. An empty lot; located between 140 East Main (Galvin's Grocery) and 128 East Main (Ester's Resturant); possible address 132 East Main; north side of the street.
- ✓ 4. An empty lot; located at 112-114 East Main; north side of the street.
- ✓ 5. Two empty lots; located at 213 and 219 East Main; south side of the street.
- ✓ 6. An empty lot; located between 214-16 and ~~224-26~~ East Main; <sup>(21900)</sup> former Joseph E. Burch building; north side of the street.
- ✓ 7. An empty lot; located between 322-24 and 326-24; former H & R Block and Barber Shop building; north side of the street.
- ✓ 8. Two empty lots; located between 332 Main (Fitz Patrick Building) and the northwest corner of College and Main; including 342 Main; north side of the street.
- ✓ 9. All empty lots; located between 418 10th Street (Gerard/Meyers Building) and the Davenport Building at the Northwest corner 10th and State; north side of the street.

District C

Upper East Main Residential

- ✓ 1. Bank parking lot; located between 604 and 548 Main Street; north side of the street.

District D

College Hill District

- 1. South Central Bell Telephone Building; located at 1126-1144 State Street; east side of the street.
- 2. Commercial Building; located at 1137 State Street; west side of the street.

# 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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

see continuation sheets.

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Summary of Historical and Architectural Development of Warren County

The twenty-fourth of Kentucky's 120 counties, Warren County was created from Logan County in 1796 and named in honor of General Joseph Warren, veteran of the Battle of Bunker Hill. The earliest avenue of settlement in the county was the Cumberland Trace, which connected the Wilderness Road at a point in Lincoln County with Nashville. The Trace passed through the center of Warren County near the county seat, Bowling Green, crossing the Barren River at Ewing's Ford near the mouth of Drake's Creek. McFadden's Station was built at this major river crossing in about 1785 and is held to have been the first structure erected in the county. Early settlement patterns in the county are represented by concentrations of log houses in the northwest and southeast sections and brick, Federal style houses along the main north-south route.

Most of the 110 log houses recorded during the survey are of the single-pen form, and most of these are of roughly square proportions with three openings on the main front and single, evenly coursed stone chimneys. Thirty-eight square, single-pen houses and eight with rectangular rather than square proportions were surveyed, and twenty-seven--all presumably single pen--were typed. Three log houses of undetermined form were surveyed in Bowling Green (see Wa-B-165 and Wa-B-178). Although the single-pen form dominated by two to one all other forms combined, all of the common forms of log house construction are represented: twenty-three houses of dogtrot form (see Wa-187), six double-pen houses (see Wa-128) and five log houses of saddlebag form (see Wa-10 (entered National Register 26 March 1976) and Wa-58). An especially concentrated group of fifteen log houses is found in the forks of Drake's Creek area in the southeast section of the county (see Wa-91); the majority of these are single-pen structures with square proportions and regularly coursed stone chimneys.

The areas of the county in which Federal style brick houses are found are agriculturally richer than the upland sections where large numbers of log houses have survived. Most of the early brick structures are found along the principal north-south route, now US 31W, and in the county seat. Of this stylistic group of fifteen structures, eight are based on the hall-and-parlor plan type (see Wa-2, -7, -73, -115, -123, and Wa-B-127), five are based on the central passage plan type (see Wa-8, -133, -169 and Wa-B-20 (entered National Register 20 June 1972) and -123), and two, both in Bowling Green, are based on the side-passage plan type (see Wa-B-21 and -37). In character, these structures are relatively plain with very little elaborate exterior detail. The Flemish bond brickwork is competent, and any elaborate interior detail was reserved for the mantels (see Wa-2, -8, -169 and Wa-B-20 (entered

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National Register 20 June 1972). Of particular note are the stone imposts and keystones of the James Kelley House, Wa-133 and the Hall House, Wa-B-123, built perhaps by the same builder, and the rare double pile, hall-and-parlor plan and exterior details of Fairview, Wa-2, which are reminiscent of eighteenth century work.

The overall high quality of the soil provided a solid agricultural base for the county's economy. In addition, entrepreneurial initiative helped to make the county a regional commercial center. The Green River and its tributary the Barren River, both running through Warren County, were the first Kentucky rivers improved for steamboat navigation, largely through the efforts of Bowling Green businessmen from the 1830s. Located on the Barren River about thirty miles south of its connection with the Green River and about 170 miles from the mouth of the Green River at the Ohio River, Bowling Green was a sound choice for the head of a system of steamboat navigation.

As local businessmen agitated for Green and Barren River improvements in the 1830s and 1840s, so their successors in the 1850s persuaded the Louisville and Nashville Railroad to build its main line through Bowling Green. The Nashville line was completed in 1859, and the Memphis branch to Bowling Green was built shortly thereafter. At the time of the Civil War the county was predominantly agricultural--the main products were tobacco, hay and livestock--although several regional industries were located in Bowling Green--an iron foundry, a woolen factory, a candle factory and several flour mills.

The architectural style that dominated residential building during these several pre-War decades is the same style that characterizes much of the Warren County landscape today--the Greek Revival. The style reached the area in the 1840s, and long after picturesque late-century forms achieved great popularity in Bowling Green, much simplified, nominally Greek Revival I-houses--that is, single pile structures based on the central passage plan type--continued to dominate the rural landscape. While frame versions of the style, usually following the I-house format, are fairly evenly distributed across the county, the brick Greek Revival structures are concentrated in the northeast quadrant of the county--in the Smith's Grove area and along US 31W--and in and near Bowling Green (see Wa-3, -4, -5, -10 (entered National Register 26 March 1976), -11, -16, -31, -77, -162, and -167 (entered National Register 2 July 1973), and Wa-B-154, -167, and -186). Sixteen of the twenty-two brick Greek Revival houses surveyed are I-houses, five are based on the side-passage plan type (see Wa-77), and one is based on the T-plan (see Wa-39). As in the Federal style brick houses, the Greek Revival brick structures in Warren County are relatively plain versions of the national style. The chief exterior ornaments are flat lintels with bull's eye end blocks and pilastered door surrounds composed of sidelights and transoms.



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The few extravagant and innovative Greek structures that were built in Bowling Green have been destroyed, but the Clark House, Wa-B-167, illustrates a central bay treatment that is unusual in the area--a recessed double portico with angled side walls. Of thirteen frame Greek Revival structures surveyed, ten follow the I-house format and three are based on the side-passage plan type. Most of the frame, nominally Greek Revival I-houses built in the county after the Civil War were typed: forty-four of these are three bays across, and forty-one are five bays across. Seven were typed as being based on the side-passage plan type.

Warren County was disrupted and divided by the Civil War, but the period 1870-1900 was extremely prosperous, marked by intense building activity and the growth of Bowling Green and the several railroad towns in the county--Smith's Grove (see Wa-34-39 and 47), Woodburn (see Wa-117 and -119), Oakland (see Wa-22) and Rich Pond. In 1866 Woodburn was incorporated and Smith's Grove and Rich Pond were incorporated in 1871. Although much of the post-War prosperity may be attributed to the railroad, river commerce also increased dramatically in the last years of the century. Livestock tonnage increased from 482 tons in 1890 to 2,970 tons in 1896. Nearly all of the county's stock of nineteenth century commercial structures was built in the last quarter of the century in Bowling Green.

While most of the architecturally significant residential buildings of the last decades of the nineteenth century are found in Bowling Green, elaborately decorated cottage forms, based either on T-plan types or on the central passage plan type, were popular in the surrounding countryside (see Wa-22, -54, -117, and -164). Versions of Italianate style are more abundant than the other revival styles--thirteen were surveyed, while there were fewer than half a dozen each of Gothic Revival, Romanesque, Second Empire and Queen Anne styles--although relatively pure forms of any of the revival styles are scarce compared to the number of structures that combine two or more styles.

Such eclectic structures dominate three of the four districts in Bowling Green--the Upper East Main Street District, Wa-B-23-36, District C; the Downtown Commercial District, Wa-B-37-110, District B; and the College Hill District, Wa-B-140-185, District D. The fourth district, the St. Joseph's District, Wa-B-112-122, District A, consists largely of modest workers' dwelling with few stylistic refer-

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ences. The growth and character of these sections of Bowling Green is discussed in the introductions to each of the districts.

From the turn of the century agriculture remained the economic base of the county. The system of general farming and stock raising practiced in Warren County requires the owner to live on the premises, and in the first several decades of this century less than twenty percent of the farmers were tenants. Both black and white laborers were available for farm work, although the black population was concentrated in Bowling Green, where the primary industries were also found--canning, lumber processing, and national dealings in stone, rock asphalt and dairy products.

Physical Description

The northwestern half of Warren County lies at the edge of the Western Coal Field, although little mining has accrued in the county. The remainder of the county falls within the Pennyroyal, a region marked by limestone subsurface. The northeast and southwest fourths of the county are relatively flat and are watered by small streams, while the northwest and southeast fourths of the county are hilly and are watered by the county's major rivers and creeks--the Green, Barren, and Gaspar Rivers and Drakes Creek. The flat quadrants are intensively cultivated and are marked by the major transportation routes and relatively large farms, while the hilly quadrants are characterized by relatively small farms, large patches of forest and comparative isolation.

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Smiths Grove District: Wa-34-37

*Smiths Grove*

Description

Located in the midst of one of the richest agricultural sections of the county, Smiths Grove is presently the county's second largest town. It is 14 miles northeast of Bowling Green on the Nashville line of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. The town's period of greatest growth was between 1859, the year the railroad was completed, and about 1920. The Smiths Grove District (Wa-34-37) consists of four buildings located at the town's main intersection of streets, First and Main Streets. The three adjoining commercial buildings in the district (Wa-34-36) are located on the north side of First Street and face both the L & N Railroad tracks and the informally-planned town square. They illustrate three different building materials (frame, brick and stone) and three different approaches to style in late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial buildings. The most significant of the three is the former Farmers Bank, a small stone structure with considerable architectural pretensions and one of the few stone structures in the county outside the county seat. The fourth structure in the district is the William H. Cooke House (Wa-37), located on the east side of Main Street behind the three commercial structures. The brick house was based on the popular T-plan form, and its exterior detailing is largely intact. Built in 1885, the Cooke House is perhaps the earliest of the four structures in the district. The central location and generous siting of the house give it a manorial character in terms of its relationship with the surrounding town.

Significance

These four structures form the largest group of contiguous nineteenth and early twentieth century structures in the town. Their location in the historic center of the town and their key visual relationship with the railroad tracks (the reason for the town's existence) gives them a significance beyond their individual architectural or historical significance. Their visual relationship with one another illustrates the sometimes dramatic juxtaposition of commercial and residential structures in small Kentucky towns.

The justification for the boundaries of the Smiths Grove District is that other nineteenth and early twentieth century structures in the town are scattered around this historic center, separated from it by more recent buildings.

Number of buildings: 4  
Number of contributing buildings: 4  
Number of intrusions: 0

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Wa-B-1-215

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Summary of the Historical and Architectural Development of Bowling Green

Situated in a bowl of hills in a bend of the Barren River, Bowling Green was established and designated the county seat of government in 1798. Robert Moore, who donated two acres of his land to the county for the erection of the public buildings, had arrived in Warren County in the early 1790s and had built a log house near a spring at what is now the northeast corner of State and Main Streets. The "Big Spring" was dedicated to public use in 1799. During the first decades of the nineteenth century, Bowling Green grew principally around the public square, westward along Main Street, and along the two main north-south streets running beside the public square--College and State Streets. All of the structures from the earliest period have been destroyed, three houses remaining seem to have been built in the 1820s (see Wa-B-20 (entered National Register 20 June 1972), Wa-B-21 and Wa-B-123) and a number of Greek Revival structures have survived (see Wa-B-17, -21, -37, -78, -127, -161, -154, -167, -186). These substantial, well executed Greek buildings represent the first period of commercial prosperity that resulted from slack water navigation improvements in the Green and Barren Rivers in the 1830s and 1840s.

A second period of prosperity due to the arrival of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad in 1859 was postponed by the Civil War. The damage of the Civil War years in part explains the scarcity of pre-1840 structures. Although the majority of Warren County residents preferred neutrality in the War, Bowling Green was occupied by armies of both sides. The L & N Railroad intersected the Confederate line of defense almost at its center, with the Tennessee capital at one terminus and W. T. Sherman's army at the other. To discourage a Federal approach over the railroad, General Johnston sent 4,000 soldiers under Simon Bolivar Buckner to occupy Bowling Green. Losses in the West made the Confederate position at Bowling Green untenable, and on 14 February 1862 Buckner's army withdrew as the Union forces advanced. The Confederates set fire to the rail depot and warehouses near the courthouse square, while the Union army bombarded the center of the city to hasten the withdrawal of the Confederates. As a result the courthouse and many buildings facing the square were burned.

The courthouse and other county buildings were rebuilt on Tenth Street, one block south of the public ground (see Wa-B-54 (entered National Register 2 August 1977)), and the public square was subsequently turned over the city for use as a park. Much of Bowling Green's stock of commercial and res-

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idential buildings was completed in the four decades that followed the Civil War. The single most popular architectural style in these years was the Italianate, but mixtures of various styles predominated all of the relatively pure styles combined. These decades were also marked by speedy improvements in urban amenities. The town's first water system was complete by 1868, Fountain Square Park (See Wa-B-70) was dedicated in 1872, by 1876 the city of 6,000 was gas lighted, and the first street car rails were laid on Main Street in 1889. It was also in this period that Bowling Green's black population coalesced in the area between Seventh Street and the Barren River, in northern Bowling Green (see Wa-B-8 and Wa-B-9).

Following the Civil War Bowling Green became a regional leader in education. In 1876 there were three schools for women and one college for men. Ogden College, an institution for both men and women endowed by Robert W. Ogden, opened in 1877. City public schools were organized under a special state charter and opened in 1883. In 1884 the Southern Normal School for the training of teachers was moved to Bowling Green, in 1886 the Bowling Green Business University was founded, and in 1889 Potter College, a Christian non-sectarian college for women, opened. In 1906 the Southern Normal School and the Bowling Green Business University were combined to form a new state school, the Western Kentucky State Normal School, and two years later the state bought Potter College and moved the school to the Potter College campus on College Heights (see Wa-B-203-214).

In general terms the city of Bowling Green may be described by reference to two axes. The north-south axis on State and College Streets includes the principal northern approaches to the city at the Barren River (see Wa-B-1-2), landmarks in the predominantly black section (see Wa-B-8-9), several Federal style brick structures adjacent to the business district (see Wa-B-20-21), Fountain Square Park (see Wa-B-79) and surrounding business structures, the principal governmental structures (see Wa-B-53-55), numerous late nineteenth and early twentieth century residences in the College Hill District and along College Street (see Wa-B-137 and Wa-B-139) and the campus of Western Kentucky State University on the summit of College Hill (see Wa-B-203-214). The east-west axis extends along Main Street from Reservoir Hill in the east--the present site of the city's hospital and the former site of one of the Civil War forts that ringed

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Wa-B-1-215

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the city--through the Upper East Main Street District, the Downtown Commercial District, across the L & N Railroad tracks to include a significant Federal style brick house and an important industrial structure (see Wa-B-111 and Wa-B-123) and into the St. Joseph's District.

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Upper East Main Street District  
Wa-B-23-36

Description

Extending roughly a block along East Main Street and a half block along Elm Street, this residential district is located between the historic and commercial core of Bowling Green and Reservoir Hill, the site of the Confederate forts that ringed the city and the present location of the city's hospital. It is a highly concentrated collection of late nineteenth and early twentieth century structures--fewer than a third of the houses were built after about 1910, and none was built after about 1940. The houses are constructed of wood, brick or stone, and stylistically they are eclectic, both as a group and individually (see individual inventory forms). Of particular note are the Presbyterian Manse (Wa-B-25), the Eugene Underwood House (Wa-B-26), the Carl Herman House (Wa-B-27), the Mary Underwood House (Wa-B-28), and the Omer Hays House (Wa-B-32). The district is heavily planted in trees and shrubbery, and streetscape photographs are impossible to provide.

Significance

The architectural significance of this district lies in its high concentration of late nineteenth and early twentieth century residences, most of which individually possess outstanding architectural significance. This district has survived largely intact within a block of the historic and commercial center of Bowling Green and thus illustrates the close proximity of residential and commercial areas that was typical of nineteenth century Kentucky towns. In addition, the district holds local historical significance in that many of the houses were built for locally-recognized leaders in commerce, industry, religion, the judiciary and the hotel trade (see individual inventory forms).

The justification for the boundaries of the Upper East Main Street District is that it constitutes a highly concentrated group of late nineteenth and early twentieth century residences. Commercial structures are located to the west, across Chestnut Street, the mid-twentieth century hospital buildings occupy the peak of the hill immediately to the east, across Park Street, and the north and south are residences of less significance and later construction dates.

Number of buildings: 24

Number of contributing buildings: 24

Number of intrusions: 1 (see Item Number 7, page 4)

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheets.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

See continuation sheets.

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

QUADRANGLE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

QUADRANGLE SCALE \_\_\_\_\_

UTM REFERENCES

A	_____	_____	_____
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	_____	_____	_____
E	_____	_____	_____
G	_____	_____	_____

B	_____	_____	_____
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	_____	_____	_____
F	_____	_____	_____
H	_____	_____	_____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE Dr. Kenneth T. Gibbs, architectural historian

Jayne C. Henderson, historian; Lee D. Walker, historian;

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

21, September 1978

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

502-564-4452

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky 40601

# 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 \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE

12-26-80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

12-18-79

ATTEST:

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

12/17/79 11:25:80

WA-91, 115  
128, 166  
WA B-1, 7  
WA-B  
11-2-122



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received 10/31/84  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Warren County Multiple Resource Area  
State KENTUCKY

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. St. James Apartments ~~Substantive Review~~ Keeper

Leah Duke 8/2/84

Attest

2. ~~Civil War Fortification~~ ~~NR~~ ~~(Cover)~~  
note: this is not a thematic - see telephone report to ky. SHPO dated 12/5/84  
~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

Attest

3. Fort Lytle

~~Substantive Review~~ Keeper

Patrick Andrews 12/5/84

Attest

4. Fort C.F. Smith

~~Substantive Review~~ Keeper

accept Patrick Andrews 12/5/84

Attest

5. Fort Webb

~~Substantive Review~~ Keeper

accept Patrick Andrews 12/5/84

Attest

6. Smiths Grove Historic District  
Boundary Increase

~~Substantive Review~~ Keeper

Clay Seelag 5/20/87

Attest

7.

Keeper

Attest

8.

Keeper

Attest

9.

Keeper

Attest

10.

Keeper

Attest