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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

APR 0 7 1989

NATIONAL

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines* for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1-4-1					
istoric name		Main Street His	toric District		
ther names/site number	JF-CD-1	through 11			
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treet & number		West Main Street			n/avicinity
ity, town	Louisville		T-66	code	
tate Kentucky	code	XY county	Jefferson	COUE	111 zip code 40
Classification			1 - 1	C 10 10 10	M
wnership of Property		Category of Property			esources within Property
N private	[building(s)		Contributing	Noncontributing
public-local	[X district		9	0 buildings
public-State	[site		0	0_sites
public-Federal		structure		0	0_structures
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ame of related multiple p	roperty listing:			Number of co	ntributing resources previou
N/A				listed in the N	lational Register 2
State/Federal Agend	Cartificati	0.0			
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6. Function or Use				
Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Fun	ctions (enter categories from instructions		
Commerce/Trade: Warehouse	Comme	rce/Trade: Restaurant		
Commerce/Trade: Specialty Store				
Commerce/Trade: Department Store	Vacant	Not in Use		
Commerce/Trade: Business	HEIM DINOSE	LEG MARKET RECEIPE		
7. Description		The transfer of the same of th		
Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (e	nter categories from instructions)		
	foundation _	Stone/Limestone		
Renaissance:	walls	Brick		
Other: Renaissance Revival		Stone/Limestone		
	roof	Asphalt		
Beaux Arts	1001	ZIGINICIE		

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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NATIONAL REGISTER 100 West Main Street Historic District

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Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky

The 100 West Main Street Historic District is a highly compact and cohesive grouping of late Victorian and early twentieth century buildings. Located in a one block commercial area, excellent these structures are examples of architecture dating from 1850 to 1905 in Louisville. While the Renaissance Revival style predominates, influences of the Beaux Arts Style and Chicago School can be seen as well. Although these buildings have, in some instances, been slightly altered or under-utilized in the last several decades, they have been well maintained and display a high level of architectural integrity, and are important physical reminders of Louisville's commercial past.

Louisville's 100 West Main Street Historic District is located in the north-central portion of the city in the Central Business District (CBD). The Historic District encompasses the north side of one city block bounded by West Washington Street to the north, West Main Street to the south, First Street to the east, and Second Street to the west. The city's most important topographical feature, the Ohio River, is one block north of the district (see USGS map and district boundary map).

The terrain of Louisville's CBD is flat except between Main Street and the Ohio River where it slopes down in a northerly direction. The streets are laid out in a grid of rectangular blocks with streets running in cardinal directions. East/west streets are slightly wider than those running north/south. The 100 West Main Street District is located on an east/west street on a slightly inclined lot with the primary facades of these buildings fronting along the north side of West Main Street.

Eleven buildings (all contributing) are included in the 100 West Main Street District. Of these, two have already been listed on the National Register: The House of Weller (1979) and the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Office Building (1973). The district is close to the Phoenix Hill National Register District to the east and the Old Bank of Louisville District to the West. Several blocks further west is the West Main Street National Register District which includes part of the 500 block and all of

X See continuation sheet

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the 600 through 800 blocks of West Main Street. Additional properties in the CBD have been individually listed on the National Register.

The architectural style that predominates in the 100 West Main District is Renaissance Revival, although examples of the Beaux Arts Style and the Chicago School are evident. The functional interior space of the buildings served office/retail and/or warehouse purposes and was faced with high style facades often designed by architects (also see Sec. 8, p.5).

The buildings in the 100 West Main Street District were built between the 1850s and 1905. All were constructed for commercial purposes and have ground level retail and office space with warehouse storage occurring on the floors above. Each building is rectangular in plan. The depth of each structure from Main Street to Washington Street is 204' while the building widths which front along Main Street vary between 26' and 57'. building has load bearing brick walls and all except the corner structures have party walls on each side. Many of the primary facades are faced with either limestone or sandstone. buildings vary in height from three to four stories. Each ground level retail/office space is defined by an entrance and large plate-glass display windows topped by transoms that are often set The upper stories which originally housed in cast iron frames. stored goods are fenestrated by windows arranged rhythmically. All windows have decorative surrounds with embellishments such as sills, lintels, hoods, pediments or moldings. Each building is capped by an extended cornice which, in most instances, has lentils, brackets, swags or the like. Several buildings also have attic stories with small windows located just below the A shed roof, which slopes at varying angles in a northerly direction, tops each building. Quoins, changes in floor to ceiling heights or other decorative detailing, differentiates each building from its neighbor (photos 1 thru 4).

The rear facades of the buildings in the 100 West Main Street District exhibit a much simpler architectural treatment than the primary facades. Most have ground level entry doors and some have plate glass display windows set within cast iron or brick surrounds. This indicates that, in some instances, retail activity may have occurred at the rears of these buildings as well as at the front. Virtually every one of these buildings has been altered at the rear first floor level but in most instances the alterations appear to be reversible . Above the ground floor

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level the windows, which are void of decorative embellishments, are evenly spaced. The most visible alterations above the ground floor level are changes in window sizes and light configurations. Some windows have been boarded (photo 5).

The interiors of the buildings in the 100 West Main Street District have few distinguishing architectural details. ground level spaces were sometimes partitioned to accommodate an office or two, usually toward the front of the building, but the bulk of the interior space was open with few visible structural supports except for the exposed load bearing brick party walls. Wooden floors, generous floor to ceiling height, ground level display windows and doors, and elongated windows on the upper floors which allowed natural light into the storage area, are all character defining features of these interior spaces (photo 8).

During its heyday from the 1850s to the 1920s the 100 West Main Street District looked remarkably similar to its present appearance. The changes to these buildings that occurred in subsequent years were minimal, having been made to only a handful of ground level storefronts and/or upper level facades. Thus, a high level of architectural integrity is evident in the district.

It is anticipated that in the very near future the 100 West Main Street District will experience a period of renewal. In February 1986, Belknap Inc., once the nations largest hardware company, ceased operations. In June 1987 the Presbyterian Church (USA) agreed to move its headquarters from Atlanta, Georgia into the vacant Belknap buildings one block north of the district. It is expected that this project will secure the future development for this strategic portion of Louisville's CBD. David Jones, Chairman of Humana, Inc., who had purchased Belknap Inc. in an attempt to save it from bankruptcy, chose to give two of the Belknap warehouse buildings to the Presbyterian Church (USA) as an incentive for them to locate in Louisville. In October, 1988 the newly renovated Presbyterian Headquarters were formally It is believed that such an extensive and concentrated effort to revive this once-dormant portion of the CBD will spread over into the area of 100 West Main and into other blocks close by. The availability of the Investment Tax Credit as an economic incentive to owners of income producing buildings in the 100 West Main Street District will be a direct benefit of National Register listing for these historic structures.

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Inventory List (photos 1 & 4)

1. 101-103 West Main Street (contributing)

This Renaissance Revival style structure was constructed circa 1852 for James E. Breed. T.L. Jefferson and Brothers a local commission merchant and wholesale flour distributor, occupied this building from 1866 until the early decades of the present century. It also housed the E.H. Chase and Company, a distilling firm, from 1880 through 1914. 101-103 West Main is a four-story brick structure faced with stucco. The symmetrical facade is composed of six bays with arched openings on each floor. The ground level arches enframe a recessed space while the upper level arches enframe windows (all boarded). Each arch springs from pilasters and is topped by a centered keystone. An extended, unadorned cornice completes the facade arrangement. Factors that lessen the architectural integrity of this building include iron security bars situated within the arches on the ground level and windows that have been boarded.

2. 105 West Main Street (contributing)

This Renaissance Revival style structure which also exhibits Gothic stylistic tendencies, was constructed circa 1877 based on designs attributed to the architect Henry Whitestone. built to replace a distillery headquarters heavily damaged by fire in 1877. Among the whiskey merchants who occupied the building through the years were W.H. Thomas and Sons (1822-1894), J.T.S. Brown and Sons (1895-1905), and D. Sachs and Sons. West Main Street is a four story brick building. The facade has a narrow, three bay, width. The ground level consists of an ornate cast iron front with quoins, two delicately rounded columns on either side of the central doorway and a five egg and dart motifs, at the lower cornice line. The upper stories rise on incised brick pilasters with corresponding cornices on the second and third levels, and a wide segmental arch on the fourth. A stone pediment with a single rosette set within the tympanum accents the central bay which is projected on the second and third stories. Adding heighth to the slender structure is a bracketed cornice. The ground level display windows as well as the windows on the upper floors have been boarded (photo 2).

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3. 107-109 West Main Street (contributing)

This 1905 structure, the last to be built in this block, is typical of early twentieth century building styles and displays classical motifs. It was built by the distilling firm of J.T.S. Brown and Sons, who, under several different titles including and Company, had occupied two different Brown, Foreman, structures on the north side of the 100 block of West Main Prior this building's erection flour and grain dealers (1860 to early 1870s) and wholesale whiskey dealers (1877 to Because of the similarity of design c.1905) occupied the site. between this building and 528 West Main Street, which was built in 1889 based on the design by architect D.X. Murphy, it can be assumed that Murphy was directly involved in the design of this Chicago School building as well. 107-109 West Main is a wide, four story structure composed of white glazed brick. The facade has a symmetrical, tri-part organization. The ground level consists of a cast iron front set within glazed brick which is delineated by an egg and dart trim of terra cotta. The cast iron members bear an ornate, foliated relief pattern. The central entry is marked by two free standing, fluted columns and arched ironwork above. All transom glass is, as in the upper stories, multi-paned and visually prominent. Fenestration of the upper stories is organized into three window pairs each and these are set within a vertial grid of glazed brick. The grid is emphasized by vertical spirals of terra cotta trim. A large cornice embellished with a bas relief design and volute brackets occurs above the fourth story windows. The upper portion of the facade is formed by a parapet which has two decorative terra cotta squares which repeat the bas relief motif of the cornice and a central disc with egg and dart trim. The first floor glass windows and doors have been boarded but the cast iron frame work is still clearly visible.

4. 111 West Main Street (contributing)

This dignified example of the Renaissance Revival style was constructed in 1870-1871 and designed by Henry Whitestone. It was built for Mary Lawrence Tyler. Provisions brokers McFerron, Armstrong, and Company (1871-1873), the local pork packing company of Shallcross, Menefee and Company (mid 1870's), and Henry W. Barrett of the Eclipse Woolen Mills (1880-1899) occupied this structure. Additionally, the W. B.Belknap Hardware Store rented the cellar and sub-cellar of the building around 1893. 111 West Main is a four story, four bay structure with a facade of

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light ashlar. The ground floor consists of simple cast iron pilasters which enframe the glass display windows. The entry, which is off center, consists of paired doors topped by a transom. The windows of the second and third stories are rectilinear and have flat stone caps, while those of the fourth level are slightly curved and have segmentally arched stone caps. All fenestration is replete with stone surrounds. Four wide, grated vents appear in the attic story just below a bracketed cornice. The first floor windows and doors have been boarded but the cast iron frame work is clearly visible.

5 & 6. 113-115, & 117 West Main Street (contributing)

These three separate buildings, which architecturally form a cohesive unit, were built circa 1857. Designed in Renaissance Revival style, these buildings were constructed to replace a group of buildings known as the Smith and Rowland block, which was destroyed by fire in 1857. From 1881 1924 the W. B. Belknap Hardware Company occupied 113-115 West Main Street for use as their main office and sales room. No. had several occupants: from 1881 until well into the twentieth century the structure was occupied by distillery companies. 117 and 113-115 West Main are both composed of brick and rise to a full four stories. The ground floors are composed of cast iron pilasters with decorative volutes, entrances, and glass display windows. The structure decends in horizontal rows of display windows. windows, each row having distinct decorative detail. the second story are rectilinear, have stone surrounds and a continuous flat stone cap supported by bracket pairs. The third and fourth story windows are arched and are recessed within brick pilasters which act as springs for stone arches, each with a volute key. Several brick stringcourses span the upper facade below a bracketed cornice. Although the cast iron frame work on the first floor level is still in place all windows and doors have been boarded.

7. 119 West Main Street (contributing)

This Renaissance Revival style structure was built circa 1860. Like the neighboring buildings to the east it was constructed to replace part of the Smith and Rowland Block which was destroyed by fire in 1857. Pork dealers, provision dealers, and a farm supply house all occupied this structure at different times until 1895 when S. Grabfelder and Company, whiskey dealers, assumed occupancy. Although the window treatments and floor levels

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differ slightly from those found on 113 through 117 West Main the consistency in architectural detail between these four buildings presents a unified architectural arrangement which reflects close construction dates. 119 West Main is a four story brick structure of a four bay width. The ground floor is composed of cast iron pilasters and a modernized front of multipaned glass and red brick infill. The original recessed entry now has a metal security grill in front of it. The rectilinear windows of the second level, and arched windows of the third are recessed within two story pilasters, joined at the top by stone arches with volute keys. A decorative brick stringcourse spans the structure below the fourth story windows which are also set within brick pilasters and are capped by a second row of stone arches with their respective volute keys. A bracketed cornice tops the building.

8. 121 West Main Street (contributing and National Register: 1979)

By far the most exhuberantly detailed facade in the 100 West Main Street District, this Beaux Arts style building was constructed circa 1893 while owned by William H. Thomas, a distiller and director of the Kentucky National Bank. Distiller Isaac Berheim owned the building from 1896 until George P. Weller, a whiskey merchant, bought the building in 1900. He occupied the structure well into the first quarter of the twentieth century. unusual in that it is the only structure in this block that has a facade faced with sandstone. Although the architect is unknown, the designer exhibits a thorough command of revival style architecture and classical motifs in particular. Rising to four stories, 121 West Main has a three bay facade composed principally of red sandstone and cast iron. The first and second levels have been remodelled so that the fenestration and entry are recessed behind square columns -- formerly pilasters -- which are partly fluted. The columns of the second level have a slight entasis and appear within a smooth stone fret. An elegant inset Palladian window spans the third and fourth stories. free-standing columns support a broken entablature which enframes a recessed central window. Foliated designs abound, adorning capitals and supplying relief borders. Sandstone gargoyles appear on either side of the central arch, with its delicately carved coffered ceiling. Crowning the structure is an ornately bracketed entablature/balustrade ensemble of large proportions composed of pressed metal.

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9 & 10. 123-127 West Main Street (contributing)

This group of Renaissance Revival style structures was designed by architect John Andrewartha and completed in 1869. They were built on the site of the Galt House Hotel which burned in 1865. 125 West Main was occupied in 1869 by pork packers Owsley and Co. and by wholesale provision merchants Hughes, Goslee and Company first of a number of distillers began to in 1883 until the 125-127 West Main was built for the occupy the premises. Hamilton Brothers who leased it to B.F. Guthrie and Company. Guthrie eventually purchased the building and conducted a prosperous iron business at this address. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries numerous distillers occupied 123 West Main Street is essentially identical to structure. 127 West Main in height, size of fenestration, detail and composition. 123 West Main, however, is more narrow, being only three bays wide, and has uneven quoins at the corners of the upper stories. The only alteration to this facade includes boarded transoms on the first floor and fully or partially boarded windows above. 127 West Main Street is four stories and is composed of brick with a light stone facing. The ground floor of cast iron has a central arched doorway with an acanthus key and panelled sprandrels. Quoins appear at the corners and flank the entry. The facade rises from this base in horizontal rows of low, round, arched windows. Those of the second story bear segmentally arched pediments while those of the third story have only flat lintels. Simple arched caps top the windows of the All fenestration is replete with decorative fourth story. Seven circular windows framed by inset surrounds and keystones. panels of stone appear above a stringcourse and below the denticulated cornice. The boarding of the ground floor transoms is the only alteration to this building (photo 3).

11. 129-133 West Main Street (contributing and National Register: 1973)

The Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company bought this tract in 1873 and it was for this firm that the eminent nineteenth century architect Henry Whitestone built the present ashlar-faced structure, which was begun in 1875 and completed in 1877. The Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company owned, and maintained general offices at 129-131 West Main Street until December of 1911. In more recent times the structure has been owned by the Louisville, Henderson, and St. Louis Railroad Company, Southern Press Inc., and the Trade Mart Building Company. 131 West Main is composed of brick with smooth limestone facing on the southern

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and western facades and rises to three stories atop an exposed basement level of rusticated, horizontally laid stonework. main facade is symmetrically designed and of a five bay width. Free standing Corinthian columns support an entablature and Symmetry and a sense of Renaissance proportion is evidenced in the treatment of the entry. Its central position is emphasized by an impressive stairway and the shadows created by two advanced columns set on plinths which flank it and carry an entablature/balustrade ensemble. The fenestration of the upper stories echoes this balanced design with double windows in the central bay capped by wide, bracketed arched pediments. At the second level, the windows on either side of the central bay bear bracketed pediments, while those corresponding on the third floor have flat, bracketed lintels. Below the cornice are brackets, a blank frieze and a decorative stringcourse. Large, even quoins define the corners and main entry way of the facade. structure runs the depth of the lot and has a highly fenestrated western facade of fifteen bays. This building's facade is unaltered.

Architectural Integrity

Value judgements concerning architectural integrity for buildings in the 100 West Main Street District are based on the overall architectural character of the district as outlined below.

Location and Setting

It is preferable that each building be sited in its original location and be an intact building unit as originally constructed (ie: no major demolition of all or part of the front or rear facades) in as much as this aids in establishing the context and boundaries for the district. However, it is not mandatory.

Design, Workmanship, and Materials

The primary facade at the ground floor level should exhibit its original configuration and historic fabric including entrances, commercial plate glass display windows and transoms and structural elements such as load bearing brick walls, especially if faced with limestone or sandstone, as well as cast iron framing. Wholesale replacement and/or sheathing the original ground level storefront in a non-historic manner, while not particularly desirable, is acceptable if the alteration is

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reversible (ie: if the original storefront arrangement is intact under a false front) or if the majority of the upper stories of the facade retain integrity. Above the ground level on the upper floors of the facade each building must retain its original window placement and light configuration. Changes in light configuration or obstruction of these windows, while not desirable, is acceptible if the change is easily identifiable, reversible, and retains intact the window surrounds including sills, fascia, lintels, hoods, pediments, and other decorative Boarding and masonry infill of the windows is details. treatment is recessed so that it is acceptible only if this easily distinguished from the building's masonry surface plane. Cornices and cornice details along with decorative parapets should remain intact although enveloping them in a non-historic material is acceptible if the historic fabric can be replaced or if the historic fabric remains intact under the added nonhistoric fabric. Although the secondary facades and especially the rear alley facades will not be subjected to the same standard as the primary facades, their design, workmanship and materials are recognized to be important in assessing significance and should be honored.

Feeling and Association

The building complex, in a conditions specified under the integrity discussion of design, workmanship, and materials, will communicate the required feeling and associative characteristics.

Summary of Contributing and Non-Contributing Buildings.

Contributing Buildings	9
Buildings previously listed on the National Register	2
Total Contributing Buildings	11
Total Non-Contributing Buildings	0

The boundaries chosen for the 100 West Main Street District are based on the original lots historically associated with these buildings which share a common architectural style, historic development, and function. Surrounding the 100 West Main Historic District are remnants of turn-of-the-century commercial developments but none, with one exception, retain enough architectural integrity to warrant National Register listing. The Belknap Hardware Company Complex is sited in the blocks north and east of the 100 West Main Historic District and has buildings

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that are clearly eligible for listing in the National Register. They are not addressed in this nomination, despite their close proximately to the 100 West Main Street District, because of differences in architectural style, date of construction, history and function between the proposed district and the Belknap Complex. The buildings on the south side of the 100 West Main Street, in some instances share a similar history, style of architecture, and function with their counterparts across Main. However, these "historic" remnants have been greatly altered or demolished for parking lots or for new construction. Those that remain are not believed to exhibit sufficient integrity so as to warrant inclusion in the 100 West Main Street Historic District. The area just west of the 100 West Main Street Historic District has new construction underway. The lack of historic fabric in the particular block makes it ineligible for National Register listing.

Structures, of course, are closely related to the surrounding Archeological investigations that have been environment. conducted in the urban areas of Louisville have yielded little valuable information. Archeological survey, excavation, and/or incidental discovery or monitoring occurred at the following The Tarascon Mill at Shippingport Island, The urban sites: Cistern at the Louisville Museum of History and Science at 727 West Main Street, The site of the Will Sales/Courier Journal building in the 400 block of South Fourth Street, and the Lions Garden at 1015 S. Preston Street. In each instance the investigation yielded little historic information. This was due largely to the disturbance of cultural resources by continuous urban modification. An archeological investigation of the 100 West Main Street Historic District would probably produce the same result. Between 1852, when the first extant structure was built and 1905 when the last was completed, there were numerous constructions and reconstructions in the 100 block which most likely disturbed any historic context that may have been present. At this time no investigation has been made to discover if remains exist on the site. However, archeological remains should be considered in any development of this property. If, in the course of work, it becomes evident that the site might reveal archeological information, it is recommended that work cease and the appropriate Kentucky Heritage council staff be notified.

8. Statement of Significance		
Certifying official has considered the significance of this nationally	s property in relation to other properties: Statewide X locally	
Applicable National Register Criteria XA B	□c □p	
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	C D E F G N/A	
Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions) Architecture	1052 1005	ificant Dates
Commerce		1905
	Cultural Affiliation n/a	
Significant Person n/a	Architect/Builder Whitestone, Henry	
State elemificance of preparty, and justify gritoria, criteria	Andrewartha, John Murphy, Dennis Xavier a considerations, and areas and periods of significance note	ad above

Major Bibliographical References	alliables or a second
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ouisville Historic Landmarks and Preservation Distri Louisville, KY 1988.	icts Commission. National Register File.
couisville Historic Landmarks and Preservation Distrition District Report," (Louisville: October 1974).	
Miller, Thomas V. Jr., "A Warehouse of Architecture."	" Courier Journal, September 3, 1950.
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Provious decumentation on file (NPS): N /7	X See continuation sheet
Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)	Primary location of additional data:
has been requested	X State historic preservation office
previously listed in the National Register	Other State agency
previously determined eligible by the National Register	Federal agency
designated a National Historic Landmark	X Local government
recorded by Historic American Buildings	University
Survey #	X Other
recorded by Historic American Engineering	Specify repository: Filson Club
Record #	Tibon cito
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of property Two Acres	
UTM References A 1 6 6 0 9 1 8 0 4 2 3 4 8 2 0	et. III. I. I. I. I. I. I. I.
A [1, 6] [6 0, 9 1, 8, 0] [4, 2 3, 4 8, 2, 0] Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
	n/aSee continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description	
The nominated property includes all of City of Louis 204' x 420'.	ville Block 18A, Lots 15 through 25 and is rough
	11/2 See continuation sheet
Boundary Justification	
The boundary includes the city lots which have histo	rically been associated with these properties.
	n/aSee continuation sheet
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Joanne Weeter, Research Coordinator	December 9, 1000
organization Louisville Landmarks Commission	date
street & number 609 West Jefferson Street	telephone502/625-3501
city or townLouisville	state KY zip code 40202

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100 West Main Street Historic District Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky

The 100 West Main Street Historic District is locally significant under criterion "C" for its outstanding array of commercial architecture which dates from between 1852 and 1905. The Renaissance Revival style predominates, but the influences of The Beaux Art style and the Chicago School are evident as well. The district has an unusually high concentration of cast iron commercial storefronts which are unique to all but a few locales in Kentucky. The 100 West Main Street Historic District is also locally significant in the area of commerce/development under criterion "A" as an important center for commercial activity during one of Louisville's periods of greatest growth and prosperity (photos 1 & 4).

Historic Development

Main Street, as the name implies, has been at the center of residential and commercial activity since soon after the City of Louisville was established in the late 1700s. By the 1850s, when the earliest of the remaining structures in the 100 W. Main Street Historic District were constructed, the street was lined with brick and frame one and two story buildings, serving residential and commercial functions. The City Wharf, located just one block north from the district, was Louisville's primary location for the buying, trading, and shipping of goods from arriving and departing packets and river boats (photo 7). the river's commercial activity increased in the mid-1800's impact was felt in the area of the 100 block of West Main Street. Gradually, residences that stood in this area were replaced with commercial structures, frame buildings gave way to more substantial masonry construction, and one and two story buildings of every type were replaced with new buildings that were as many as four stories in height (compare photos 1,4, & 6).

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100 West Main Street Historic District Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky

extant structure in the 100 West Main The earliest Historic District (100 West Main Street District) was constructed It, along with 105 West in the mid 1850s at 101-103 West Main. Main was built upon land that was once part of the estate of The house owned by Ormsby was sold after his Robert Ormsby. death to William W. Worsley who resided there as late as 1852. In December 1852 the former estate was partitioned and the dimensions of the current lot property began to assume the 101 and 103 West Main became the The site of property of James E. Breed who likely initiated construction of the present structure in the mid-1850's.

113-115 and 117-119 West Main had a similar development history. All were part of the estate of Thomas Prather, whose property was portioned among heirs after his death. In 1851 developer George Rowland and Abram O. Smith purchased this tract and constructed four, four story, contiquous warehouses. This group of buildings was known as the Smith and Rowland Block. Its occupants included wholesale grocer, and merchants, a manufacturer. On February 9, 1857 a disastrous fire broke out, which spread rapidly and destroyed the entire block along with two buildings to the west. Soon thereafter, the fire-damaged warehouses were replaced with new warehouse structures. 115 and 117 West Main were rebuilt in 1857. The building at 119 Main was rebuilt in the early 1860s. This redevelopment of the buildings destroyed by the fire illustrates the heightened demand for commercial warehouse structures due to their proximity to the Ohio River Wharf.

125-127 West Main and 129-31 West Main Street were occupied by the first Galt House Hotel from 1835 until 1865 on a site that also been previously used for residential purposes. Norbourne A. Galt developed the hotel which prospered and gained an international reputation for its gracious hospitality and elegant accommodations. In 1861, the hotel expanded eastward to William Tyler's store was the present site of 123 West Main. situated here as was the Galt House Hotel's bar, storeroom and The 1865 fire which destroyed the Smith and an open space. Rowland Block destroyed these buildings as well. Buildings at 123 West Main and 125-27 West Main were replaced in 1869 with the warehouse buildings that currently stand on these sites. 1875, the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company Offices were built on the site of 129-31 West Main Street.

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The building at 105 West Main was occupied from 1861 until 1877 by Cochran and Fulton, a distillery company. The warehouse structure was built upon the site of the former Ormsby estate. In 1877, twenty years after the Smith and Rowland fire, another fire occurred which destroyed much of the distillery company building. The current building was constructed on the walls and foundation that remained after the fire.

No. 121 West Main was another building badly damaged by the Smith and Rowland fire. It was replaced by a four story Italianate style commercial building occupied by a grocer and pork merchant until 1865. In 1865 yet another fire occurred which destroyed that building. As early as 1870 a wholesale whiskey dealer, William H. Walker, built a new ashlar Renaissance Revival style building. In 1889 William H. Thomas purchased the building and, most likely, was responsible for the erection of the sandstone-faced structure that stands currently at this address.

According to the 1851-52 Directory for the City of Louisville, the home of Abraham Hite, a prominent local businessman, was once situated at 107-109 West Main Street. At what point the site changed from residential to commercial use is uncertain, but it probably occurred no later than 1860 since by that time the Ormsby estate adjoining to the east, had been subdivided, while much of the block already contained wholesale merchants and pork packing firms. During the 1860s and early 1870s flour and grain dealers located here. Prior to the erection of the present structure in 1905, the property was the site of two warehouse structures which shared a party wall.

By 1905 all of the one and two story residences in the 100 West Main Street District had been replaced with the multi-story commercial buildings. This trend, which would continue southward into other portions of the CBD, was a strong testament to the important role these warehouse structures played in the commercial vitality of the West Main Street area.

Architectural Development

The elemental bond of the structures now standing in the 100 West Main Street District is their Victorian commercial architecture which is characterized by first floor office and/or retail space topped by warehouse storage. These buildings each had ground level access and large expanses of commercial plate glass topped by transoms. The floors above, in most instances, had

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elongated, Italianate style windows which allowed natural light to penetrate each floor of warehouse storage space. These commercial palaces were enhanced by ornately detailed architectdesigned building facades (photos 1 thru 4).

Eight out of eleven buildings in the district have cast iron storefronts. The availability of this material at a competitive price was a determining factor in the aesthetics of these Cast iron was developed as a building material by buildings. Daniel D. Badger of New York and first used in Boston in 1842; James Bogardus, also of New York, was another pioneer in its use. The advantages of cast iron were that it could be mass-produced, it was light and strong, and its load-carrying capacity was such that it made taller structures with wider expanses of glass possible. Almost coincidental with the expanded use of cast iron for local construction, a glass works in New Albany, Indiana, owned by John Ford and W. A. DePauw, developed the first successful American-made plate glass in 1870. The resulting kind of "facade" architecture afforded almost infinite flexibility, a characteristic which has been fully and frequently used to advantage. The interiors are long open spaces separated by brick load-bearing party walls and sometime broken by skylight openings. Any function can be assigned to the space behind the facades, even to the extent of combining buildings. When they have been combined, cast iron columns have been inserted for interior load support. It is not known when cast iron was introduced in Louisville, or by whom, but architectural plans by Rogers and Whitestone document that their firm used the material here in the 1850s. Several structures on Main Street which date from the 1850s use cast iron on the first story. Multi-story cast iron fronts, now quite rare, are not included in the District. Merz Architectural Iron Works was responsible for the foundry work of many of the cast iron facades in the 600-800 blocks of West Main Street which would have made their company's in the 100 block as well. product available for structures Since there were several foundries nearby, eg., the Snead Iron Company, it is probable that most of the cast iron used in Louisville's Main Street was manufactured locally.

Several of Louisville's National Register Districts have partially intact examples of cast iron commercial storefronts. The West Main Street National Register District, located five blocks from the 100 West Main Street Historic District, contains the highest number of cast iron structures in one district and is also notable for multi-story cast iron facades. Although the

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100 West Main Street Historic District Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky

100 West Main Street District cannot boast the same it is distinguished as the block of cast iron structures in the city with the best material integrity. This nineteenth-century genre of riverfront commercial architecture is rapidly disappearing from other waterfronts across America. According to Margot Gayle, chairman of Friend of Cast Iron Architecture, a New York-based national organization, Louisville has the best remaining collection of cast iron outside of New York City and Portland, Oregon.

The architectural styles that were used in the 100 block include the gamut of styles employed by architects of the late nineteenth century, during the age of eclecticism. These "commercial palaces", for the most part, were simply warehouses with In the district the facade styles include elaborate facades. Renaissance Revival, Beaux Arts, and the Chicago School. Renaissance Revival style, which along with the Italianate style, was among the most popular architectural styles in Louisville during the Victorian era, are found in all but two of the eleven buildings in the 100 West Main Street District. Characterized by narrow windows and doors with prominent hoods, extended and bracketed cornices, and low shed roofs, no where in the district are its signature details more evident than in 112-115, 117, and 119 West Main where the cast iron storefronts are unified by the rhythmic arrangement of square headed and fully arched windows. The Beaux Arts style, represented by 121 West Main Street, has a dominant Palladian third floor window and ornately detailed cornice with swags, fret work balstrade, and lions heads which are typical classical derivations employed by Beaux Arts style. This very formal arrangement which was executed in red sandstone commands attention because of the color and because its floor window arrangement breaks the rhythm of the flanking Renaissance Revival style buildings. Likewise, the building at 105 West Main (photo 2) is distinguished from its neighbors by the contrast between its light colored glazed brick and terra and a large ratio of glass. This Chicago style building, the last structure erected in the district, has a commercial cast iron storefront which is topped by several stories of paired windows separated into bays by pilasters and completed by an extended cornice and parapet. Classical details embellish this building's surface. Together, this block of structures is a rich inventory of late Victorian and early 20th century commercial styles which reflects the prosperity and utility of this portion of Main Street.

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Architects' names have been established for a number of buildings on Main street, but it was also possible for an owner and his builder, using the cast-iron foundry catalogues, to assemble a structure without an architect, mixing and matching elements as they pleased. One example of the extreme to which individual imagination could be expressed occurred on a building further down Main Street which is now demolished, where the columnar elements were installed upside down, wide at the top and slender at the bottom.

Henry Whitestone and John Andrewartha provided the design for serveral of the buildings in the 100 block. D.X. Murphy designed a building in the district as well.

John Andrewartha designed three buildings in the 100 block of West Main Street. The first, located at 121 West Main Street, is no longer standing. Circa 1870 Andrewartha drew plans for a cut ashlar Renaissance Revival style structure. However, in the 1890's a red sandstone and brick structure was built to replace the earlier building designed by Andrewartha. In 1869 Andrewartha built the Renaissance Revival style structures that stand next to 121 at 123, and 125-27 West Main Street (photo 3). Andrewartha's most crowning accomplishment was Louisville's City Hall. He also designed numerous commercial buildings and the Will Sales/Courier Journal Building.

Henry Whitestone may have been involved in the design of 101-103 West Main according to a deed between Thomas Fodsick and Thomas L. Barrett, executor for Salinas S. Hite, deceased , to whose estate the property west of Fodsick's belonged. The agreement concerns reconstruction of their party wall and mentions the necessity of first cleaning the rubbish at 105 West Main, taking down portions of the front and rear walls, and removing archways across the middle of the store. The deed was signed by both parties in the presence of Henry Whitestone. Whitestone's role, if any, in the design and construction of the present facade is documented. The Gothic and Renaissance design of 101-103 West Main, though different from the purer Renaissance Revival style he is most often associated with, is one the architect may have chosen for his later works. For instance, Gothic motifs were used 'Board of Trade' building of 1873. in his Louisville Renaissance Revival style structure at 111 West Main Street, built in late 1870-early 1871 for Mary Lawrence Tyler, was also designed by Whitestone. A deed signed July 14, 1870, between Mrs. Tyler and the owner of the adjacent property to the west,

District

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grants her the right to build a storehouse upon a vacant lot using the eastern wall of the adjacent structure for enclosure The document supplies an approximate date for and support. construction and names Henry Whitestone as the architect. Further evidence of Whitestone's direct involvement includes an notebook" from his office, "field "Measurement of excavation at Mrs. Tyler's store, Main Street", dated October 14, 1870. The Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company bought the tract now occupied by a building at 129-131 It was for this firm that Henry Whitestone West Main in 1873. built the third of his 100 West Main Street structures. ashlar-faced structure was begun in 1875 and completed in 1877. Henry Whitestone (c. 1825-1893), in partnership with Isaiah Rogers for many years, was one of Louisville's He was responsible for the design of the Peterson architects. Dumesnil House, the James F. Irving House and the Galt House at First and Main.

Plans at the Filson Club archives dated 1889 (?) and 1903 attribute 528 West Main Street to local architect D.X. Murphy. In view of the striking similarities between that structure and 107-109 West Main and the fact that their construction dates are so close, it suggests that Murphy was directly involved in the design of 107-109 West Main as well. D.X. Murphy (1854-1933), in partnership with his brother James, had a successful Louisville practice under the title D.X. Murphy and Brothers. He received his early architectural training under Henry Whitestone and assumed Whitestone's practice after his death in 1890. The church and rectory of St. Boniface, the Jefferson County Jail and buildings at Churchill Downs Race Track are among his noted buildings.

Generally speaking, few changes have occurred on Main Street since 1905 when the final building in the block was completed. In 1921 a group of Main Street merchants, in an attempt to promote business and real estate activity in the area, hosted a "Seeing Main Street Day". At the event, tours of shops and businesses were conducted, the Louisville Hotel in the 600 block was open for lunch, and a parade with a band served to mark the festivities. During the 1920s, Main Street buildings continued and attractive to investors and business to be profitable persons. The Great Depression was the beginning of the decline for Main Street. Development efforts after 1930 concentrated farther south near Broadway as Louisville turned its back on the river. While many of the buildings in the Main Street vicinity

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were lost to demolition to make way for parking lots or new construction, the 100 block has remained intact. In 1967 the Riverside Expressway was built which succeeded in separating the CBD from the Ohio River. In recent years however, this once commercial district has been at the center the West Main Street Historic District development. In 1976 was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. \$25,7 million in renovation of these historic its listing, located between Third and Eighth Streets, has structures, occurred. New construction along Main Street has included the Kentucky Center for the Arts and the Humana Building designed by Michael Graves. The completion of the Presbyterian Headquarters (USA) in October, 1988 will soon be followed by additional renovation of historic structures in the vicinity of the 100 block. The placement of these buildings on the National Register will help ensure the resurgence of these Main Street buildings.

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100 West Main Street Historic District Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky

Thomas, Samuel W., ed., <u>Views of Louisville Since 1776</u>. Louisville: The Courier Journal and The Louisville Times, 1971.

Willis, Cary B., "Group Drawing UP Plans to Ensure Resurgence Endurance of Main Street." <u>Courier Journal</u>, November 18, 1988 Sec. B, p.1.

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100 West Main Street Historic District: Louisville, Jefferson Co., KY

Section number photographs

Photo Identification

100 West Main Street Historic District 101-131 West Main Street Louisville, Jefferson Co., KY

Joanne Weeter - Photographer September, 1988 - date taken Landmarks Commission - negative repository

All photographs are numbered as indicated and keyed to arrows indicated.

1. West Main Street Streetscape: Looking northwest

2. 105 West Main Street: primary facade

- 3. 123, 125 and 127 West Main Street: primary facades
- 4. West Main Street Streetscape: Looking northeast
- 5. Washington Street Streetscape: Looking southeast
- 6. 100-200 blocks of West Main Street Circa 1850: Looking northeast
- 7. City of Louisville Wharf in 1856: Looking southwest

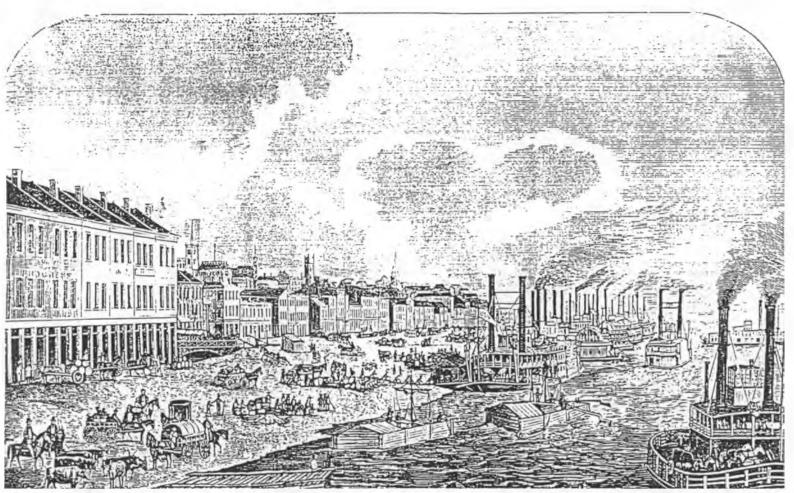
8. 107-109 West Main Street: Interior



Belknap's, U.S. Branch Bank and Galt House are in this 1850 view of Main Street looking east from 3rd. 98.

Photo @

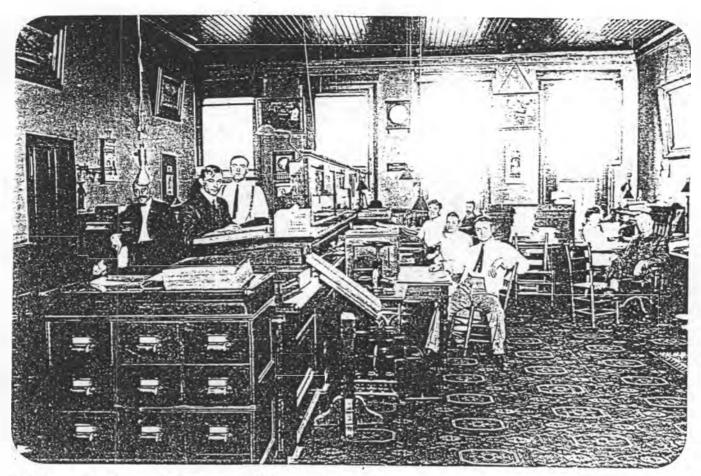
100 West Main Street Historic District
101-133 West Main Street
Louisville, Lefterson Co., ky.
100-300 Blocks of Main Street in 1850
"VIOUS of Louisville Since Mule Sunce Thomas, Ed.



This scene of the public landing in 1856 is probably the most explicit view ever made of stevedores loading boats along the wharf.

Photo (7)

100 West Main Street Historic District
101-133 West Main Street
Louisville, Lefferson Co., ky.
Louisville's City What In 1886: from
"Views of Louisville Since 1766" Sunce Thomas, 80

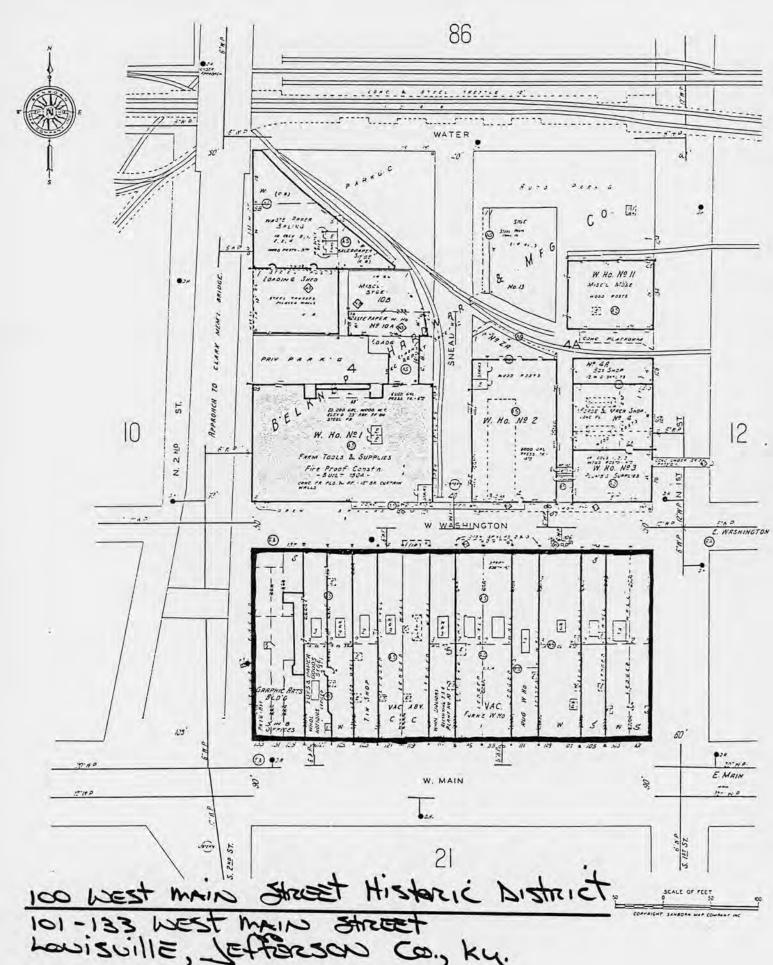


Main Street office of Brown-Forman, circa 1900. George G. Brown at far right.

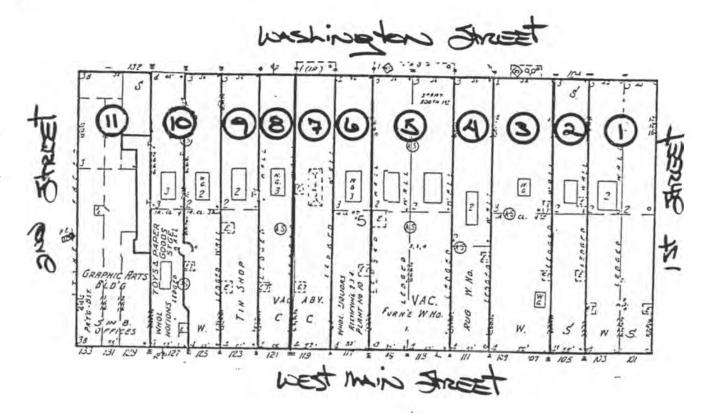
Photo (8)

100 west main street Historic District
101-133 west main street
Louisville, Lefterson Co., ky.

Interior of 105 west main street: from
"Nothing Better in The Market," Die 20 Pearce, 197

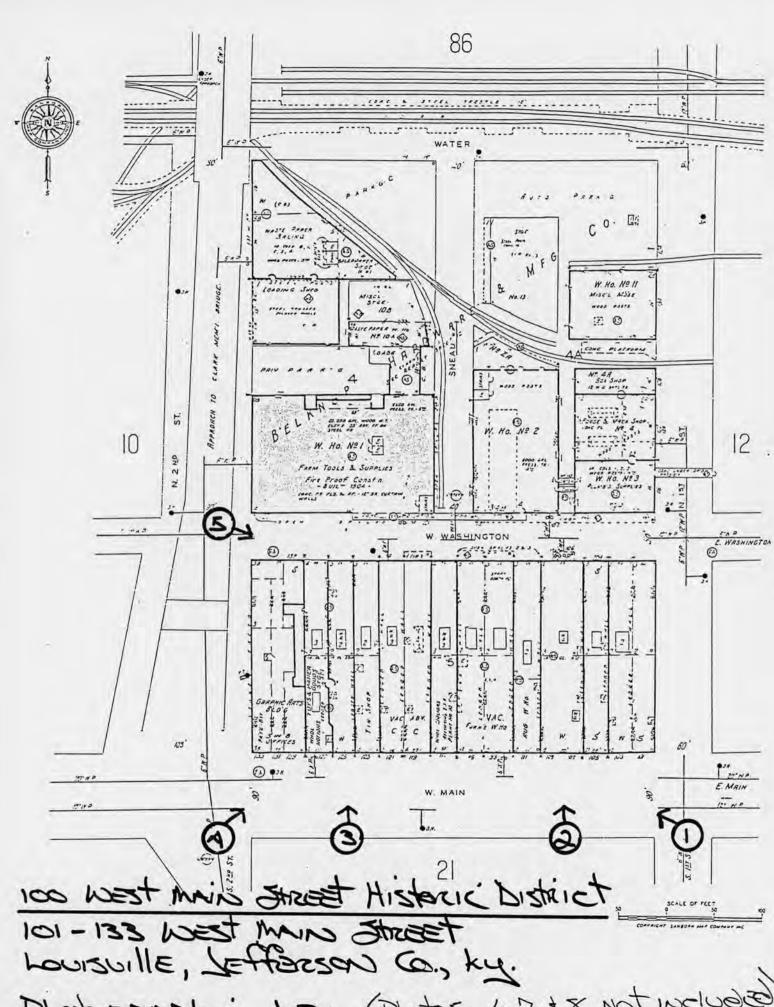


Proposed District Boundary



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100 West Main Street Historic District
101-133 West Main Street
Louisville, Lefterson Co., ky.
Site #5



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5 100 WEST MAIN STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2010

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Section number _ 1_ Page _ 1_

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As the desig	nated authority under the Natio	nal Historic Preservation Act, as amen	fed the short of the control	
nomination	request for determination o	eligibility meets the documentation st	andards for registering properties i	n the
my opinion,	he property x meets \(\Pi \) does no	ets the procedural and professional re	quirements set forth in 36 CFR Par	t 60. In
considered s	ignificant nationally state	ewide x locally. (See continuation s	sheet for additional comments.)	
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Justification for Name Change:

State or Federal agency and bureau

The area of Louisville known as Whiskey Row was a multi-block area of the city. It once included buildings on both side of West Main Street, stretching at least from the 100 block of East Main to the 300 block of West Main, and possibly further. These properties were used for warehousing the barrels of whiskey produced at numerous distilleries within Louisville and outside of it. The history of this nominated block has been recorded in several individual registration forms for buildings in this district. A historic record that gives the full geographic extent of Whiskey Row has not been found.

Carl E. Kramer, in his nomination for the J.T.S. Brown Complex (National Register 1998, NR ID #98001489), found that businesses associated with the distilled spirits industry in Louisville could be found from the 100 to the 900 block of West Main Street, but that this 100 block certainly was one place where the businesses concentrated:

By the mid-1870s so many distillers, blenders, and wholesalers had set up operations that this stretch of Main Street was known locally as "Whiskey Row" (Pearce, 1970). In 1905 the 100 block of West Main Street alone had at least nineteen distillers, wholesalers, and other whiskey-related businesses, including J. T. S. Brown & Sons, Inc. (Section 8, page 10)

Kramer cites John Ed Pearce, Pulitzer prize winning journalist for the Louisville Courier-Journal, indicated some of the district's western reach by mentioning "The new company was located at 322 West Main Street, in the heart of "Whiskey Row" in *Nothing Better in the Market* (Louisville, Kentucky: Brown-Forman Distillers Corporation, 1970, p. 21). This still suggests the district stretched several blocks to the west, into possibly the 500 or 600 block of West Main.

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Whiskey Row Historic District (Name Change & Additional Documentation) Jefferson County, Kentucky

Another source, Caron's Directory of the City of Louisville, 1895 (Louisville, Kentucky: C.K. Caron Directory Company) has 50-60 entries under the heading of whiskey companies. All of these places occurred in a smaller area than Pearce notes—just three blocks. The easternmost warehouse occurred at 116 East Main Street, and the westernmost in the 200 block of West Main (page 1507).

Finally, the relevant parts of the 1905 Louisville Sanborn map company were consulted. These confirm that whiskey and bourbon warehousing densely populated several blocks of West Main, on both sides. These maps also show that not any one block was totally given to distilled spirit warehouses. Buildings serving the industry can be found on both sides of West Main, in the 100 and 200 block (Sanborn Insurance Map Co., Louisville 1905, volume 2, sheets 104, 108, 133, 135).

Today, the block proposed for listing is the exclusive remaining stretch of buildings relating to this very important sector of Louisville's industrial past. Historic buildings on the 200 and 300 block have been removed for construction of other facilities that make Louisville a world-class city—the Humana Building designed by Michael Graves (1984) and the Kentucky Center for the Arts, the city's primary stage performance space. A 5-block break occurs between the Whiskey Row Historic District and another group listed on Main, the West Main Street Historic District.

The West Main Street Historic District (NR 1974, ID # 74000884) runs the 600-800 block of West Main, and contains buildings whose facades resemble those within the Whiskey Row Historic District—multi story with cast iron at the street level. Kramer suggests that these blocks contained some businesses related to the theme of distilled spirit warehousing, but the nomination does not mention that use in the district. Rather, it recalls that buildings within the West Main Street Historic District served as retail and warehouse space for an array of dry goods businesses. Whiskey Row appears to have been concentrated to the east of the West Main district area.

Thus, with no further physical or documentary evidence indicating additional buildings associated with this important local area, it appears that these 11 properties are the sole and best remnants of a larger area which contributed greatly to Louisville's economy and local identity. Giving it the listing name "Whiskey Row Historic District" seems a much better way to acknowledge its vital role in the city's past than does the more generic "One Hundred West Main Street Historic District."

NA.

Section number 5 Page 1			Whiskey Row Historic District (Name Change & Additional Documentation) Jefferson County, Kentucky		
Classification					
5. Classification					
Ownership of Property private public-local	Category of Propert building(s) district	Number of Resources wit Contributing Noncontril			
public-State public-Federal	☐ site ☐ structure ☐ object	1	sites structures objects		
		5 1	Total		
Name of related multiple	property listing	Number of c previously li Register	ontributing resources sted in the National		

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Whiskey Row Historic District (Name Change & Additional Documentation) Jefferson County, Kentucky

Description

Original National Register status and current proposal:

The Whiskey Row Historic District, formerly the 100 West Main Street District in Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky, was Determined Eligible for listing (DOE), due to owner objections, when submitted in 1989. At that time, 8 different owners owned the district's separate properties; 7 of those owners objected to the prospect of listing. Currently, the district's several properties are owned by 4 owners/entities, none of which were owners of district property in 1989. On March 19, 2010, all current owners were consulted via mail about the intent of the State Historic Preservation Office to request listing; by April 23, only 1 letter of objection was received. The current documentation is submitted, then, to support a switch from DOE to listed status.

Update on the status of properties in the District:

The district consists of the odd-numbered lots on West Main Street, running from addresses 101-133. The 1989 nomination form's inventory counted this group as 11 entries—2 previously listed buildings and 9 additional contributing buildings. With the passage of time, additional owners have gained individual National Register listing for district properties, intending to rehabilitate their buildings for tax credits. At present, 5 of the 11 properties have been individually listed on the National Register:

Property Name	Listing Year	NR ID#	1989 In- ventory #	Address
J.T.S. Brown & Sons Complex	1998	98001489	2 & 3	105 West Main and 107—109 West Main
The House of Weller	1979	79001008	8	121 West Main
The Hamilton Brothers Warehouse	2008	08000007	10	125-127 West Main
The Trade Mart Building, aka Louisville and Nashville Railroad Office Building	1973	73000811	11	129-133 West Main

These individually-listed buildings represent at least half of the linear facade and footprint of the proposed district. Three rehabilitation projects, following the Secretary's Standards for Rehabilitation, have been completed or are underway. They are the Hamilton Brothers Warehouse (Inventory #10) and Trade Mart Building (Inventory #11), both in the process of being rehabilitated; and the property at 123 West Main (Inventory #9), currently not yet on the National Register, has recently completed its rehabilitation according to the Secretary's Standards.

Since 1989, the greatest loss of historic fabric within the district have occurred on properties with Inventory #1--#7, which currently are in the hands of one owner. Inventory entry #1, at 101-103 West Main, no longer stands. That building collapsed in 2001, at the eastern edge of the district. It was built in 1852, and occupied at various times by wholesale merchants and whiskey distillers. The collapse occurred due to deferred maintenance. The loss of 101-103 West Main has removed less than 10% of the Whiskey Row Historic District, whether calculated by floor area, frontage, or footprint.

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Whiskey Row Historic District (Name Change & Additional Documentation) Jefferson County, Kentucky

Neglect also forms the most immediate threat to the buildings identified as Inventory #2--#7. Holes are visible in some of their roofs. The owner of these buildings has asserted recently that the buildings' interiors are structurally unsound, and has applied for a demolition permit (http://brokensidewalk.com/2010/03/03/iron-quarter/). Local preservation groups have challenged this contention, and are attempting to negotiate a sale to take advantage of their historic character and the tax credit possibilities that might come from National Register listing.

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Whiskey Row Historic District (Name Change & Additional Documentation) Jefferson County, Kentucky

Statement of Significance

The only change to the Whiskey Row Historic District's Statement of Significance comes in the form of a revised Period of Significance. The demolished building, Inventory #1, was the earliest structure to be completed in the district in 1852. This led the 1989 nomination to select a Period of Significance that spanned 1852-1905. The nomination indicates that the oldest standing structures in the district are properties #5 and #6, at 113-115 and 117 West Main Street, built ca. 1857. Thus, this additional documentation proposes to change the Period of Significance to ca. 1857-1905.

Evaluation of Integrity of the 100 West Main Street Historic District

The original 1989 nomination indicated a high level of integrity for each building in the proposed district and thus for the district as a whole. With the demolition of one building, the issue of the district's integrity has been reconsidered. The 1989 nomination found the district significant in association with the Area of Commerce (Criterion A), and due to its design qualities (Criterion C). Evaluation that the district has integrity calls for defining which of the 7 integrity factors the district must retain to convey that identity and significance. To meet Criterion A, the district must retain sufficient integrity of location, materials, and design to support the important associations between the property and important commercial activity in Louisville. To meet Criterion C, the district must retain relevant materials and design to support the feeling that comes from late-19th-century high-style commercial architecture.

The original nomination offered this statement in consideration of the district's integrity of Location and Setting:

It is preferable that each building be sited in its original location and be an intact building unit as originally constructed (ie: no major demolition of all or part of the front or rear facades) in as much as this aids in establishing the context and boundaries for the district. However, it is not mandatory. [bolding added in 2010]

The strength of this location was considered greatly important for giving the district part of its essential identity. With that final sentence, the nomination author recognized the particular location as a strong component of the district's identity and value, something which could compensate for the loss of a structure, which has happened in 2001. The position, that the entire district identity remains despite the loss of building #1, and even the boundary stays the same, is based on this conception from the 1989 document.

The nomination author in 1989 also provided very detailed specifications to evaluate the district's integrity of **Design**, Workmanship, and **Materials**. Except for the loss of building #1, these integrity factors within the district are at least as strong as they were in 1989, and stronger on the buildings for which rehabilitation is underway or completed. The District is experiencing a period of renewal, in large part due to the construction of the new downtown sports arena in the block immediately to the west of the Whiskey Row Historic District. This new structure lends a higher development value to the district's property than it had in 1989. The listing of the district in the National Register will give encouragement, in the form of state and federal tax credits, to owners to continue retaining the important design and materials of their buildings.

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Whiskey Row Historic District (Name Change & Additional Documentation) Jefferson County, Kentucky

The position of the 1989 nomination was that the district retains its integrity of feeling and association as a product of retaining its integrity of location, materials, and design. That continues to be the position of the State Historic Preservation Office in 2010. The block's legacy as the center of whiskey distilling and warehousing in downtown Louisville is still strongly evidenced from the remaining buildings (See picture #1). In addition the remaining buildings on the block still strongly convey the predominant Renaissance Revival style, with some Chicago School and Beaux Arts style mixed in. The work of the important architects listed on the original nomination—Whitestone, Andrewartha, and Murphy—are still strongly represented by the district's remaining buildings.

Whiskey Row Historic District (Name Change & Additional Documentation)

Section number 11 Page 1	Jefferson County, Kentucky		
11. Form Prepared By			
name/title Joe Pierson			
organization Pinion Advisors	date 5/4/2010		
street & number 1501 Morton Ave	telephone		
city or town Louisville	state_KY_zip code 40204		
email addressjpierson@pinionadvisors.	com		

Whiskey Row Historic District (Name Change & Additional Documentation) Jefferson County, Kentucky

Section number Photo Identification Page

Photographic Identification

Same information for each photo:

Name: Whiskey Row Historic District

Location: 101-131 West Main Street, Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky

Photographer: Joe Pierson Date of Photograph: March 19, 2010

Location of digital media: Kentucky Heritage Council, Frankfort, Kentucky

Photograph-specific information:

View of east buildings (105 & 107-109), camera facing north Photo #1:

View of center buildings (111 - 119), camera facing north Photo #2:

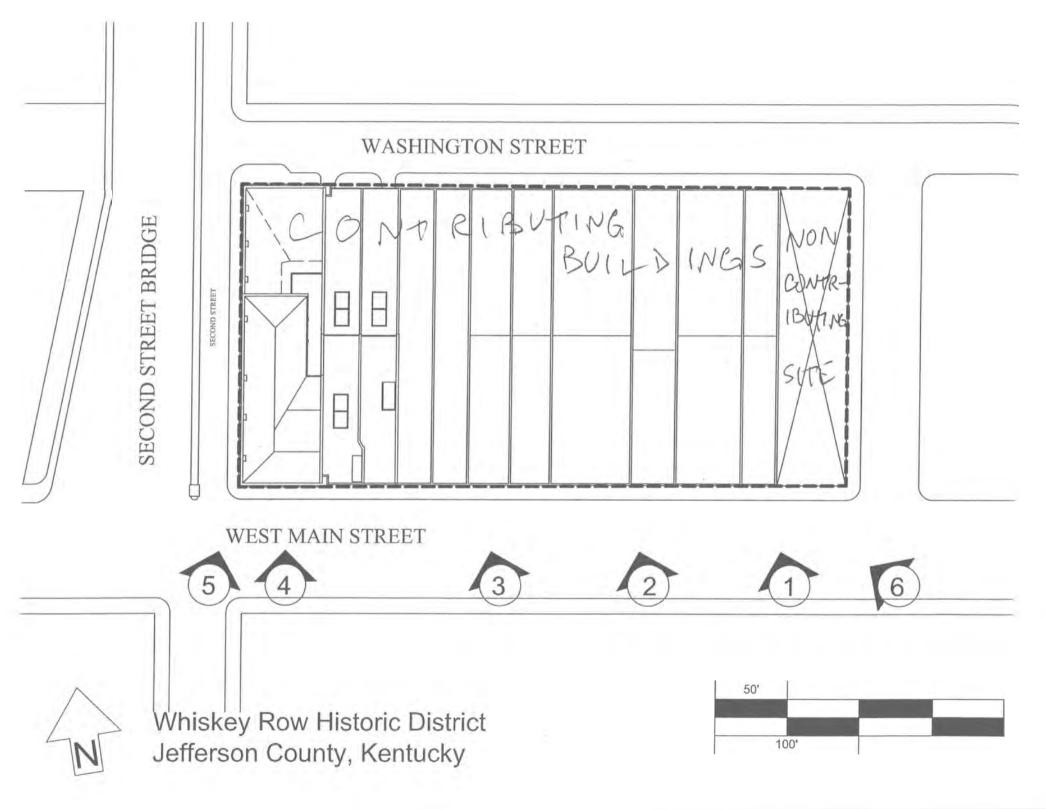
View of the center buildings (117 - 123), camera facing north Photo #3:

View of the west buildings (123 - 131), camera facing north Photo #4:

View of entire district, taken from Main Street, camera facing northeast. Photo #5:

Photo #6: Description: Elevated view of entire district, illustrating lost building at 101 West Main,

camera facing northwest.















Missing Core Documentation

Property Name Whiskey Row Historic District	County, State Jefferson County, KY	Reference Number 89000385
The following Core Docum	entation is missing	from this entry:
Nomination Form		
Photographs		

X USGS Map

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION	
PROPERTY Whiskey Row Historic District NAME:	
MULTIPLE NAME:	
STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Jefferson	
DATE RECEIVED: 5/10/10 DATE OF PENDIDATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:	
REFERENCE NUMBER: 89000385	
NOMINATOR: STATE	
REASONS FOR REVIEW:	
APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGR REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIO	RAM UNAPPROVED: N
COMMENT WAIVER: N	
ACCEPTRETURNREJECT	DATE
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS: Entered in The National Register of Historic Places	
RECOM. / CRITERIA (CCCIA) REVIEWER DISCIPLINE DISCIPLINE DATE 6-4	slory
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see atta	ached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the

nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2017

	Name of Pro	perty	
	County and	State	
ımber Page	Name of m	Name of multiple property listing (if applicable	
SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING I	RECORD		
NRIS Reference Number: 89000385	Date Listed:	3/13/2017	
Property Name: Whiskey Row Historic District (AD)			
County: Jefferson This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Planomination documentation subject to the following exception notwithstanding the National Park Service certification includes the National Park Service	ns, exclusion led in the no	s, or amendments, mination documentation	
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DISTRIBUTION: National Register property file/Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



1. Name of Proper	ty			911		
historic name	Whiskey Row Historic D	istrict (Additional E	ocumentation)			
other names/site num	ber JFCD-2					
Related Multiple Prope						
2. Location						
street & number				NA not for publication		
Street & Humber	105 West Main Street		The state of the s			
city or town	Louisville			NA vicinity		
state Kentucky	code KY cou	unty Jefferson	code111	zip code 40202		
3. State/Federal Aç	gency Certification					
As the designated at	uthority under the National Hi	istoric Preservation A	ct, as amended.			
I hereby certify that the	nis nomination requ in the National Register of I	est for determination	of eligibility meets	s the documentation standards for ral and professional requirements set		
	operty meets does		Register Criteria	. I recommend that this property be		
	statewideX_loca	24				
Applicable National Re	egister Criteria:					
A 1	3 C D					
Cit	2		1-25-17			
Signature of certifying	g official/Title Craig Potts/S	ВНРО	Dat	de .		
	Council/State Historic Pre					
	ncy/bureau or Tribal Govern					
In my opinion, the pro	operty meets does r	not meet the National	Register criteria.			
Signature of comme	nting official		Date	-		
Title		State or Federal agen	cv/hureau or Trib	al Government		
			- j. war oud or 1110			
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I hereby certify that this pr		3.10	malayard will albeit a few the se	Managed Bardana		
entered in the Na	ational Register digible for the National Register	1	mined eligible for the wed from the Nationa	1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1		
other (explain:)	D Ausphu - Sec SLP		ved from the Nationa	i Register		
And Mels	42		3-13-2017			
Signature of the Keeper			Date of Action			

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Whiskey Row Historic District (Additional Documentation)

Name of Property
Jefferson County, Kentucky

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

This documentation amends the National Register listing for the Whiskey Row Historic District in Louisville, Kentucky, by demonstrating the property's significance in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) history. The Whiskey Row Historic District was listed in the National Register in 2010. New research has determined that The Downtowner, a popular gay bar, occupied the building at 105 West Main Street from 1975-89. This documentation recounts the history of The Downtowner and its significance in the history of gay and lesbian life in Louisville in the two decades following the Stonewall uprising of 1969. It extends the period of significance to 1989 to reflect the district's association with The Downtowner and the bar's social and cultural significance.

This amendment was prepared under contract with the Fairness Campaign of Louisville, a 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to equality for LGBTQ people, using funds awarded by the Kentucky Heritage Council. It is part of the Kentucky LGBTQ Historic Context Study carried out by Dr. Catherine Fosl of the University of Louisville.

Gay and Lesbians in Louisville, Kentucky, 1970 – 1991

Historians generally view the Stonewall uprising during the summer of 1969 as the beginning of the modern gay rights movement. Early on the morning of June 28, 1969, a police raid on the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in Greenwich Village, triggered violence and civil unrest. Several nights of public protests followed. Activists soon founded the Gay Liberation Front and the Gay Activists Alliance, groups dedicated to securing gay rights. As news of the Stonewall incident spread, activists in communities across the nation established similar organizations. All sought to increase acceptance of same-sex relationships and to end widespread discrimination and harassment of LGBTQ people. By the summer of 1970, at least 1,500 such groups had been formed, and by the second anniversary of the Stonewall uprising, the number had reached 2,500.²

Organizations founded in the wake of the Stonewall uprising adopted new tactics and strategies in their efforts to promote acceptance of gays and lesbians. Previously, "homophile" organizations such as the Mattachine Society and the Daughters of Bilitis had focused on challenging the prevailing view of gays and lesbians as sick and perverted. Homophile groups fostered greater awareness, sought to humanize gay and lesbians, and challenged discrimination. Their efforts increased visibility and took steps toward creating acceptance of same-sex relationships. Homophile groups, however, also found their efforts thwarted by the conformity of Cold War-era American culture, tendencies to conflate homosexuality with communism, and widespread intolerance. By the end of the 1960s, many activists had grown weary of persistent social condemnation and believed that more aggressive actions to secure legal protections

¹ The buildings at 105 and 107-109 West Main Street were listed in the National Register as J. T. S. Brown and Son's Complex in 1998. These properties became contributing resources to the Whiskey Row Historic District when the latter property was listed in 2010. See J. T. S. Brown and Son's Complex (Jefferson Co., KY), National Register of Historic Places nomination, Kentucky Heritage Council, Frankfort, KY.

² Vicki L. Eaklor, *Queer America: A People's GLBT History of the 20th Century* (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2008), 123-27; John D'Emilio, *Sexual Politics, Sexual Communities* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1998), 233-39. Note also that the language used in this document to describe lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ) people and movements is consistent with that used in the time periods under discussion.

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Whiskey Row Historic District (Additional Documentation)

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and end ostracism would be necessary to achieve gay liberation. Part of that push came from the desire to broaden the horizon of social acceptance beyond the lively gay bar subculture that had become an important base for gay community-building in the postwar years, but one that still kept LGBTQ people marginalized.³

In Louisville, Kentucky, the formation of the Louisville Gay Liberation Front (LGLF) placed local gays and lesbians in the vanguard of the national gay rights movement. Impetus came not from the Stonewall uprising but, rather, from Tracy Knight and Marjorie Jones, a lesbian couple that historian James T. Sears has dubbed the "First Ladies of Gay Liberation." On July 6, 1970, Knight and Jones applied for a marriage license at the Jefferson County Clerk's office in downtown Louisville. Their actions appear to have made them the first lesbian couple in the nation to seek the legal status of marriage. In seeking a marriage license, Knight and Jones shocked many in Louisville, which Sears has described as a place where women "had learned to conform to social mores and subordinate their well-being to men – straight or gay." Jones and Knight wished to marry because of their love for one another, but they also recognized that applying for a marriage license would make a statement about gay rights. Jones and Knight received encouragement and support from David Kaplan, an attorney who had previously represented Jones and saw the couple as a potential test case for gay and lesbian rights. Society of the statement and support from David Kaplan, an attorney who had previously represented Jones and saw the couple as a potential test case for gay and lesbian rights.

Three days later, on July 9, thirteen women and seven men met in an apartment on Belgravia Court, in the Old Louisville neighborhood, to establish the LGLF. Led by lesbian activist Lynn Pfuhl and "drag queen" Mike Randall, the LGLF dedicated itself to supporting Knight and Jones's campaign to marry and bringing attention to oppression of gays and lesbians. "Consciousness-raising" became the organization's main priority. LGLF members spoke to regional universities and civil groups about gay life, established a telephone hotline for persons struggling with their sexuality, and arranged for the University of Louisville to offer a "gay studies" class. The latter effort proved controversial but nonetheless created a forum for open discussion and investigation of sexuality and same-sex relationships. Like other organizations of the post-Stonewall era, the LGLF made equality a central aim. No longer content merely to promote acceptance of gays and lesbians, it sought to achieve visibility as well as equal rights and legal protections for gays and lesbians.

Not all gays and lesbians supported the LGLF. Some gay bars banned the group, even for the purpose of

³ D'Emilio, Sexual Politics, Sexual Communities, chaps. 4-7; Ealkor, Queer America, 96-97.

⁴ James T. Sears, *Rebels, Rubyfruit, and Rhinestones: Queering Space in the Stonewall South* (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2001), 59-62. Knight and Jones were pseudonyms used by the plaintiffs in the ensuing lawsuit. ⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Catherine Fosl, "It could be Dangerous!': Gay Liberation and Gay Marriage in Louisville, Kentucky, 1970," *Ohio Valley History* 12, no. 1 (2012): 45-64.

⁷ Fosl, "It Could Be Dangerous!," 53. On the gay studies course, see especially Dr. Edwin Segal, Oral History Interview with Wes Cunningham, Louisville, Kentucky, November 11, 2015, copy in Kentucky LGBTQ Heritage initiative files, Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research, William Ekstrom Library, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY (hereafter referred to as KY LGBTQ Heritage files); David McGinty, "Gay Liberation?...U of L worried on possible reaction to class on homosexuality," *Louisville Times*, October 16, 1970, 1; Lynn Pfuhl interview with Catherine Fosl, Louisville, Kentucky, September 21, 2005, University of Louisville Oral History Center, William Ekstrom Library, Louisville, KY (hereafter Oral History Center).

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Whiskey Row Historic District (Additional Documentation)

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distributing leaflets. Members of the LGLF recall The Downtowner as an important gathering spot but also note that the bar staff once turned a water hose on LGLF members who staged a picket there to protest the ban on cross-dressing for non-entertainers. Some bar owners saw the gay rights crusade as a threat. "If people could go anywhere they wanted freely, then perhaps they wouldn't choose to come to gay bars anymore," they reasoned. Moreover, most gays and lesbians remained closeted, fearful, and wary of discrimination. In an era without legal protections for sexual orientation, acknowledging homoerotic feelings often meant public shame, loss of employment, rejection by friends and family members, and harassment.

The LGLF also met strong resistance from local authorities. In 1971, police raided a "Gay Lib" house that LGLF members had established at 1919 Bonnycastle Avenue, in Louisville's Highlands neighborhood. Police made thirty arrests, mostly for marijuana possession. The raid delivered a "killing blow" to the efforts of the LGLF. Some members of the organization immediately left town; others assumed a lower profile. The LGLF nonetheless remained committed to the cause of gay rights. As activist Lynn Pfuhl declared, "We are human beings. We are a legitimate segment of society and we want the same opportunity for happiness enjoyed by everyone else." In the aftermath of the Bonnycastle raid, the LGLF scaled back its efforts and adopted a less militant profile.

By the early 1970s, gay bars had for years played a crucial role in providing forums for organizing, strategizing, and planning. As historians such as Allan Bérubé have noted, gay bars served as anchors of gay culture. Bars offered opportunities for gay men and women to find acceptance, love, support, friendships, and spiritual and emotional sustenance. Gay bars provided spaces of freedom and relief from intolerance and shame. In Louisville, bars that catered to gays and lesbians developed soon after World War II. In 1947, the Beaux Arts, a cocktail lounge located on the ground floor of the Henry Clay hotel, became popular with gay men. Gordon's Restaurant and Bar, which later became known as Gordon's Golden Horse, opened in 1948 in the 600 block of South Fourth Street. In 1954, Nolan's Cocktail Lounge opened at 320 West Chestnut Street. Like the Beaux Arts, Gordon's and Nolan's accommodated a gay clientele. By the mid-1950s, these three "mixed bars"—establishments that had both heterosexual and gay patronage—operated in the heart of the city's theater district, close to bars, restaurants, and evening entertainment venues.

In 1957, Sam Meyer Downtowner opened at 320 West Chestnut, in the space formerly occupied by

⁸ Pfuhl interview; David Williams, Interview with Micky Schickel, August 2001, transcript, "Gay Liberation Front – Louisville – 1970s," Folder 1, Williams-Nichols Collection, William Ekstrom Library, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY (hereafter Williams-Nichols Collection). Note that these incidents refer to The [Old] Downtowner on Chestnut Street, not the newer location that is the focus of this amendment.

⁹ *Advocate*, January 5, 1972, vol. 76, 13, copy in "Gay Liberation Front – Louisville – 1970's," Folder 1, Williams-Nichols Collection; Pfuhl interview; Schickel interview; David Williams, "Gay Men," in *The Louisville p*, ed. John E. Kleber (Lexington, KY: University Press of Kentucky, 2001), p. 332-333.

¹⁰ The quote is from an article Pfuhl published in *Free Press of Louisville*, a radical weekly newspaper. It appears in Fosl, "'It could be Dangerous!" 50.

¹¹ Allan Bérubé, "The History of Gay Bathhouses," in *Policing Public Sex: Queer Politics and the Future of AIDS Activism*, ed. Dangerous Bedfellows et al. (Boston: South End Press, 1996), 188.

^{12 &}quot;Restaurant, Bar to Open on Fourth," Courier-Journal, March 3, 1948, p.10.

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Nolan's Cocktail Lounge. Evolving into one of the first openly gay bars in Louisville, "The Downtowner," as it became commonly known, represented a new step toward gay liberation. Within about a decade it established itself as the most popular gathering spot in the city for gays and lesbians. It remained open far longer than either the Beaux Arts, which closed in 1955, or Gordon's, which operated until about 1965. Thereafter, The Downtowner became Louisville's leading gay establishment.

In February 1974, a fire of mysterious circumstance destroyed The Downtowner and two other businesses that occupied the same building. In the aftermath, The Downtowner's longtime bartendermanager, George Stinson, bought the name and signage and revived the bar in a new location. In 1975, The New Downtowner opened at 105 West Main Street, about six blocks northeast of its original location. He new venue provided more space and greater visibility. By the mid-1970s, large portions of downtown Louisville had become depopulated as a result of suburbanization. Former whiskey warehouses and office buildings on Main Street offered large spaces at low rents. The Downtowner largely retained its existing clientele but also sought to attract new patrons after it began to face competition from other bars. The Badlands Territory, or "Badlands," another gay bar, had opened at 116 East Main Street in May 1973. In 1976, Mother's Brew, a lesbian bar, opened at 204 West Main Street. At 105 West Main Street, The Downtowner initially occupied half of the first floor. Patrons entering found a large bar made of oak and stained glass on the left and a narrow hallway leading to a theater in the rear. The theater had a small stage and cabaret-style seating. Racy performances drew large crowds. In the rear occupied half of the first floor.

As fads came and went and The Downtowner became more established, it expanded into adjoining spaces. When *Saturday Night Fever* became the biggest film of 1977, The Downtowner installed a lighted dance floor in a small space behind the bar. It proved immensely popular for a time, despite crowded conditions. Later, The Downtowner's owners, George Stinson and Ed Lewis, took over part of the second floor of the building, where they created a bar called "The Loft," more of "a 'butch' type of bar," according to one patron. ¹⁶ The first floor continued hosting drag shows and maintained a typical nightclub atmosphere. In the basement of the building, a lesbian lounge called Lady's Choice opened. It did poorly, however, and was not open for long. ¹⁷

¹³ Michael Lindenberger, "The Vanishing Terrain of Gay America: A writer returns to the city where he was raised – and exiled – to find what was lost when gay life entered the mainstream," *The New Republic*, June 23, 2015, accessed June 7, 2016, https://newrepublic.com/article/122089/vanishing-terrain-gay-america; "3 Chestnut Street Buildings Damaged in Early Morning Blaze," *Courier-Journal*, Feb. 6, 1974, B3.

¹⁴ Kleber, Encyclopedia of Louisville, 861.

¹⁵ Kathie D. Williams, "Louisville's Lesbian Feminist Union: A Study in Community Building," in *Carryin' On in the Lesbian and Gay South*, ed. John Howard (New York: New York University Press, 1997), 229; David Williams, email to Daniel Vivian, April 12, 2016, copy in KY LGBTQ Heritage files; Jiahui Hui, "Long-Running Lou Gay Club's Roots Run to 70s," *Courier-Journal*, July 15, 2016, http://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/history/river-city-retro/2016/07/15/long-running-lou-gay-clubs-roots-run-70s/86870032/ (accessed July 30, 2016).

¹⁶ Anonymous interview conducted by Wes Cunningham as part of research for this project. Recording and notes in possession of KY LGBTQ Heritage files.

¹⁷ N. David Williams, correspondence with Jim "Ms. Bird" Wilthers, Bars (Louisville Only), Folder 1, Williams-Nichols Collection; David Williams, email to Daniel Vivian, April 12, 2016, copy in KY LGBTQ Heritage files.

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By about 1980, "a 'Downtowner crowd' had emerged – effeminate young men, liberated macho men, black gays and lesbians, bull dykes and femmes, drag queens and bitch queens, tourists, and even a few curious heterosexuals." The bar's location spoke volumes about the status of gays in society and the condition of downtown. Like many American cities, downtown Louisville became desolate after regular business hours. Greg Bourke recalls that the depopulation of downtown, particularly the lack of a developed entertainment center, allowed patrons of gay bars to feel safe. Although he remembers "when you were gay in those days you were always looking over your shoulder," Bourke never felt threatened going to and leaving downtown bars. Two other gay men recall that "the urban area was more anonymous," that "there wasn't anything going on downtown at night," and "if you were downtown, anybody that you worked with would never see you." Anonymity remained important for gays and lesbians in an era before legal protections and widespread public acceptance. The location of The Downtowner and other popular gay and lesbian bars nearby satisfied that need.

Many gays and lesbians recall The Downtowner as crucial to finding acceptance and belonging. Reva Devereaux, a cross-dressing performer who appeared regularly at The Downtowner starting in the late 1970s, recalls the bar as providing a kind of "home and family" not available elsewhere. Discovering The Downtowner and the stage it offered brought a kind of liberation. As Devereaux recalled during a 2016 interview, "that's the day I felt like I was born."

As The Downtowner became a center of gay life and culture, Louisville gays and lesbians continued to seek equality. In 1974, Louisville became home to a congregation of the gay-friendly Metropolitan Community Church (MCC). MCC provided spiritual guidance and a supportive environment for gays and lesbians of faith. In 1978, realtor and gay activist Jack Kersey freely acknowledged his sexual orientation on a local TV station, a move signifying greater openness and acceptance.²²

During the 1980s, several events made gay rights more of a focus of public attention in Louisville. The case of Sam Dorr, a First National Lincoln Bank employee who was fired after admitting he was gay, called attention to discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Dorr had risen through the ranks to become a bank vice president. He had lived as a gay man for some time and participated in a local chapter of Integrity, a pro-gay advocacy group in the Episcopalian church. When Integrity joined forces with Dignity, its Catholic counterpart, Dorr was elected president of the new organization. Aware that the position would make his sexuality public, Dorr chose to take preemptive action by informing his boss. Initially, Dorr's supervisor appeared to receive the news without issue. Ten days later, however, on November 20, 1981, bank

¹⁹ Greg Bourke, Interview with Wes Cunningham, Louisville, Kentucky, January 31, 2016, copy in KY LGBTQ Heritage files.

 ¹⁸ David Williams, "The New Downtowner," March 9, 1986, Bars (Louisville Only), Folder 1, Williams-Nichols Collection.
 ¹⁹ Greg Bourke, Interview with Wes Cunningham, Louisville, Kentucky, January 31, 2016, copy in KY LGBTQ Heritage

²⁰ Anonymous interviews conducted by Wes Cunningham as part of research for this project. Recordings and notes in possession of KY LGBTQ Heritage files.

²¹ Reva Devereaux, in-person conversation with Catherine Fosl, Louisville, Kentucky, March 16, 2016. Devereaux, who is African American, also discussed feeling at ease in the club despite being in the minority. Notes of conversation in Fosl's possession.

²² "The Hidden History of Gay/Lesbian Louisville," n.a., n.d., circa 1990s, Williams-Nichols Collection; Lindenberger, "The Vanishing Terrain of Gay America."

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officials presented Dorr with an ultimatum: either resign from his position with Dignity/Integrity or leave the bank. A few days later, Dorr chose the latter. Bank officials initially told Dorr that they would "try to find him something else," which he took to mean a position without interaction with customers. When they did not follow through, Dorr considered legal action.²³

Since anti-discrimination laws did not offer protection on the basis of sexual orientation, the first attorney Dorr consulted said "his case would not last ten minutes in the court system." Dorr then sought the assistance of Oliver Barber, "a bulldog" of an attorney with a well-established reputation "for taking cases that were not necessarily popular." Barber took the case and filed suit on the basis of religious discrimination. The case went to trial in 1983, and the court quickly ruled in favor of the bank. Dorr immediately appealed and won, but the bank responded by requesting the trial be heard "en banc," meaning in front of all Sixth Circuit judges. Dorr and the bank then settled the case. ²⁴

Dorr's legal battles gave him status among Louisville gays and lesbians. In 1982, he and others formed Gays and Lesbians United for Equality (GLUE), "which served as an umbrella organization for all Louisville-area nonprofit groups that were supportive of gay rights." Dorr then helped organize a gay pride festival. By then, a lesbian newspaper called the *Lavender Letter* had also begun publication. Another called the *Lambda Louisville News*, catering to gay male readers, followed in 1983. A local cable access channel pioneered a gay and lesbian television program in June 1984. ²⁷

In 1983, the founding of the Greater Louisville Human Rights Coalition (GLHRC) established a more political counterpart to GLUE. GLHRC was founded "by lesbians and gay men already engaged in combating racism" and "began pressuring elected officials and public agencies to address discrimination against [gay and lesbian] persons in employment, housing, and public accommodations." The group aligned itself with other social justice causes and brought increased attention to gay rights. In 1986, GLHRC won its first victory by convincing the Louisville-Jefferson County Human Relations Commission to endorse the addition of sexual orientation as a protected category to local civil rights laws. GLHRC also joined groups, such as the Kentucky Rainbow Coalition and the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, in pushing for passage of a "local Hate Crimes Ordinance, which covered race, religion, ethnicity, and sexual orientation." In November 1991, the Louisville Board of Alderman passed, by a vote of 7 to 4, a law that included protection for sexual orientation, marking the first major victory for gay rights in both Louisville and in the state. ²⁸

In 1991, the establishment of the Fairness Campaign inaugurated a new era in the local crusade for gay

²³ Sam Dorr, oral history interview with Wes Cunningham, Louisville, Kentucky, November 20, 2015, copy in KY LGBTQ Heritage files; Williams, "Gay Men."

²⁴ Dorr interview.

²⁵ Marilyn Mote-Yale, "Lesbians," in Louisville Encyclopedia, 508.

²⁶ Dorr interview.

²⁷ Williams, "Gay Men," 332-333.

²⁸ Material and quotes in this paragraph come from Erlene Grise-Owens, Jeff Vessels and Larry W. Owens, "Organizing for Change: One City's Journey Toward Justice," *Journal of Gay & Lesbian Social Services* 16 (2004): 3-5, accessed March 14, 2016, http://dx.doi.org/10.1300/J041v16n03_01.

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rights. Born from various local civil rights groups such as GLHRC and the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, the Fairness Campaign grew out of the battle for the Hate Crimes Ordinance. The group, co-founded by Carla Wallace, Pam McMichael and others, initially focused on enlarging citywide protections by securing the passage of the a "Fairness Amendment, which would prohibit discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations in Louisville on the basis of sexual orientation."²⁹ Although the GLHRC had attempted to get a similar amendment passed in 1984, Fairness Campaign workers kept bringing up the matter repeatedly and lobbying community-wide for it in spite of a series of defeats by the Board of Alderman. ³⁰ Fairness leaders first sought to get the amendment passed in 1991. In a public hearing they "demonstrated the connection between gay rights and other basic civil rights activism," which "gave a face to the. . . movement and empowered [LGBTQ] people by allowing them to publicly tell their stories of discrimination."31 The organization lobbied local religious leaders and formed alliances with a variety of other social causes. They opened a headquarters in a noticeable location (on Frankfort Avenue), and they knocked on hundreds of doors to discuss the necessity of such protections. Eventually the hard work and increased visibility paid off. In 1999, following more defeats that only intensified supporters' momentum, "the Fairness Ordinance passed...forbidding sexual orientation and gender identity discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations."³² The Louisville ordinance became among a handful of the nation's first to include protections on the basis of gender identity.

The establishment of the Fairness Campaign occurred only a short while after The Downtowner closed in 1989. Stinson and Lewis subsequently opened a new bar called the Connection at 120 South Floyd Street. It offered five times more usable space than The Downtowner had.

Significance

In its fifteen years of operation at 105 West Main, The Downtowner became a leading institution – arguably *the* leading institution – for Louisville gays and lesbians. It proved more durable than any of the other bars of the 1970s and 1980s and attracted a clientele that included a broader cross-section of gays and lesbians than most of its competitors. To be sure, other bars played important roles. Mother's Brew, which was open from 1976-78, became a center of lesbian-feminist organizing. Badlands also attracted a strong following and remained popular after changing its name to Discovery in 1981. Several other bars also catered to gays and lesbians. Still, The Downtowner lasted longer and retained its popularity over time. Today it is well-remembered for its significant role in Kentucky's LGBTQ life. ³³

During the era when Louisville gays and lesbians took initial steps to secure equality, The Downtowner

²⁹ Marilyn Mote-Yale, "Lesbians," in *Louisville Encyclopedia*, 508.

³⁰ Ibid

³¹ Grise-Owens, "Organizing for Change," 5.

³² Ibid, 5-10.

³³ Hui, "Long-Running Lou Gay Club's Roots Run to 70s." Other gay bars of the 1980s included the City Bar on East Market Street, Murphy's on East Main Street, Trixie's and Alley Cats on West Main Street, the Mint Julep (later the Pub) on South Fourth Street, and Jack's Place. Two other bars, the Regal Queen and the Queen Bee, were located east of downtown.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Whiskey Row Historic District (Additional Documentation)

Name of Property
Jefferson County, Kentucky

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

provided a forum for solidarity, community, and organizing. Like other gay bars across the nation, The Downtowner gave members of a marginalized group opportunities to find love, support, friendship, acceptance, and temporary escape from oppression. As one of the first openly gay bars in Louisville, The Downtowner took a bold stance toward greater visibility. Its enduring role as a gathering place throughout the struggle for equality made it the best-known establishment of its kind in Louisville. Memories of The Downtowner figure prominently among gays and lesbians and demonstrate its significance. In the two decades between the upsurge of activism that followed the Stonewall uprising and the founding of the Fairness Campaign in 1991, The Downtowner served as the leading public face of LGBTQ people in Louisville.

Integrity

The Whiskey Row Historic District has changed dramatically since it was listed in the National Register in 2010. At the time of the listing, most of the buildings in the 100 block of West Main Street stood in dilapidated condition. In 2007, real estate developer Todd Blue had purchased 105-119 West Main Street with intentions of demolishing them and erecting new office buildings. When the 2008 recession hit, he revised his plans. The buildings sat vacant and deteriorating for several years. In January 2011, soon after newly elected Mayor Greg Fischer took office, Blue sued the City of Louisville for the right to demolish the buildings, reputedly with plans to create surface parking lots. The Fischer Administration sought to avoid court proceedings by agreeing to allow Blue to proceed with demolition, but the decision immediately prompted a public outcry. Citizens had long recognized the significance of the buildings in the 100 block of West Main Streets, and efforts to provide modest protections had resulted in the listing of the Whiskey Row Historic District in 2010 and designation as a local landmark in June of that year.³⁴

In response to the uproar, the Fischer Administration brokered a deal between Blue and a group of civic-minded investors who organized as Main Street Revitalization, LLC (MSR). Blue agreed to sell 107-119 West Main Street; MSR agreed to assess the condition of the five buildings it purchased and, if possible, rehabilitate them using the state and federal tax credits. The deal saved the several buildings from demolition and set planning for revitalization in motion.³⁵ The project proceeded smoothly until July 7, 2015, when workers using a torch in the basement of 111 West Main Street caused a fire that quickly spread through the entire complex. The blaze gutted 111, 113, and 115 West Main and left officials worried about structural failure. MSR immediately took steps to assess surviving structural elements and stabilized the facades of the three buildings.

³⁴ Historic Landmark Designation Report, 105-121 West Main Street, June 28, 2010, Metro Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission, Louisville, KY; Iron Quarter Block, 105-119 W. Main Street, Structural Stability Assessment, Jan. 29, 2010, Downtown Development Corporation, Louisville, KY; Phillip M. Bailey, "Iron (Quarter) Man," *Leo* (Louisville, KY), Feb. 9, 2011, http://www.leoweekly.com/2011/02/iron-quarter-man/ (accessed July 30, 2016); Sheldon Shafer, "Iron Quarter Demolition OK'd: Deal Provides Time to Salvage Facades," *Courier-Journal*, Feb. 1, 2011, B1.
³⁵ Sheldon Shafer, "Preservation Partners Spare Whiskey Row: Group With Ties to Distillery," *Courier-Journal*, May 10, 2011, A11.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Whiskey Row Historic District (Additional Documentation)

Name of Property
Jefferson County, Kentucky

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

In the aftermath of the fire, MSR announced plans to continue with the rehabilitation. Current plans call for 111 and 113 West Main Street to become a mixed-use complex with restaurants at ground level and office space and residential apartments above. Portions of this complex are scheduled to open in June 2017. Brown-Foreman Corporation, a leading manufacturer of distilled spirits, intends to open a distillery and visitor center for its Old Forrester brand bourbon in 115-117 West Main Street. It is slated to open late in 2017.³⁶

At present, 105 West Main Street is an empty lot paved by asphalt with the façade of the circa 1877 building that formerly stood on the site braced by I-beams and other structural reinforcements. The site is expected to remain in this condition for the foreseeable future. The 2011 agreement that saved 107-119 West Main Street and began redevelopment allowed Todd Blue to retain ownership of 105 and 103 West Main Street (the latter property had been vacant for some time), which form the eastern end of the block. Blue has long harbored plans to place a boutique hotel on the site. He has no immediate plans to proceed with construction, however. He instead intends to wait to see the results of the redevelopment of 115-117 and 111-113 West Main Street.

Thus, at present, the structure that The Downtowner occupied from 1975-1989 no longer exists; only its façade remains. While the parcel technically remains listed in the National Register as part of the Whiskey Row Historic District, it has likely lost integrity. It is possible that the façade will be refurbished and incorporated into new structure in the future, but, at the moment, it stands in isolation, without immediate plans.

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³⁶ Caitlin Bowling, "111 Whiskey Row Apartments Slated to Open in June 2017, Restaurants Later that Year," *Insider Louisville*, June 22, 2016, http://insiderlouisville.com/business/111-whiskey-row-apartments-slated-to-open-in-june-2017-restaurants-to-open-later-that-year/#utm_sguid=145584,8ec104bc-8f4e-739f-a5dc-22b24143c4db (accessed July 30, 2016); Gregory Hall and Sheldon Shafer, "Brown-Forman Puts Whiskey in Whiskey Row," *Courier-Journal*, Sept. 26, 2014, http://www.courier-journal.com/story/money/2014/09/25/whiskey-row-project-gains-tax-incentives/16202079/ (accessed July 30, 2016); Sheldon Shafer, "Whiskey Row Facades Saved for Now," *Courier-Journal*, July 7, 2015, http://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/local/centralwest/2015/07/07/louisville-whiskey-row-fire/29806889/ (accessed July 30, 2016); Stephen George, "Whiskey Row Developer Says Project Will Continue After Fire Guts Buildings," *Insider Louisville*, July 7, 2015, http://insiderlouisville.com/business/whiskey-row-developer-says-project-will-continue-fire-guts-buildings/ (accessed July 30, 2016).

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Whiskey Row Historic District
(Additional Documentation)

Name of Property
Jefferson County, Kentucky

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Whiskey Row Historic District (Additional Documentation)

Name of Property

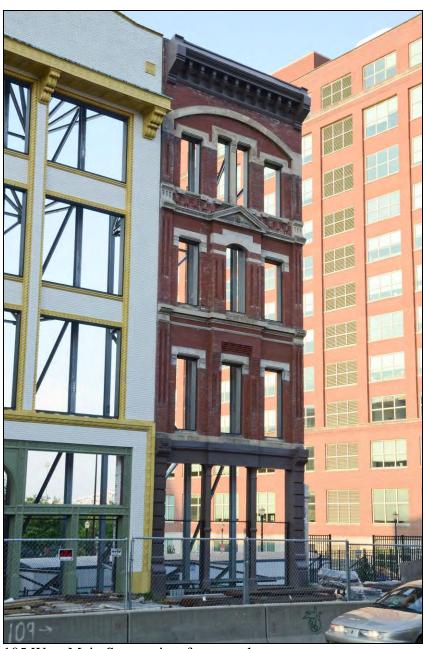
Jefferson County, Kentucky

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Photographs Showing Current Condition of 105 West Main Street and Adjoining Properties.

Photographer: Daniel Vivian
Date of Photographs: August 2016



105 West Main Street, view from southwest.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

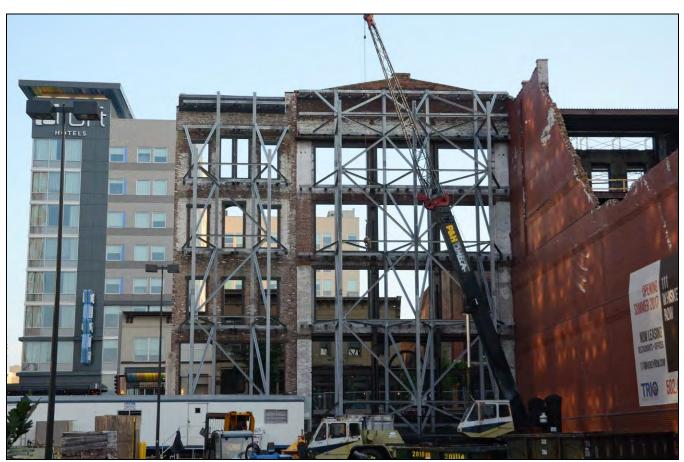
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Whiskey Row Historic District (Additional Documentation)

Name of Property
Jefferson County, Kentucky

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



103-109 West Main Street, view from north.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Whiskey Row Historic District (Additional Documentation)

Name of Property
Jefferson County, Kentucky

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



105-109 West Main Street, view from southeast.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Whiskey Row Historic District (Additional Documentation)

Name of Property
Jefferson County, Kentucky

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



105 West Main Street, view from southeast.



105 West Main Street, view from east.

National Register of Historic Places Memo to File

Correspondence

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

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

DETERMINED ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE KENTUCKY

DATE DETERMINED 5/19/89

Name Location

One Hundred West Main Street Historic District Jefferson County

Also Notified

Kentucky Heritage Council

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, DC

National Park Service, SERO

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)272-3504.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES DOE / OWNER OBJECTION EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

One Hundred We Jefferson Coun KENTUCKY resubmission nomination by person womer objection appeal		Historic Dis		Working No Fed. Reg. Date: Date Due: Action:ACRERERERE	APR 0 7 1989 5/22/89 CEPT 5/19/8	
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Nomination returned for:	technical correc	ctions cited below sons discussed below	ow			
1. Name						
2. Location						
3. Classification						
Category	Ownership Status Public Acquisition Accessible			Present Us	Present Use	
4. Owner of Property						
5. Location of Legal Desc	cription					
6. Representation in Exis	ting Surveys					
Has this property been de	termined eligible?	□ yes □	no			
7. Description						
Condition excellent good fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed		one saltered sered	origin origin	Check one original site moved date	
Describe the present and	original (if known) ph	ysical appearance				
summary paragraph completeness clarity alterations/integrity dates boundary selection						

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KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL The State Historic Preservation Office

March 30, 1989

APR 0 7 1989

NATIONAL REGISTER

Mr. Jerry Rogers, Keeper National Register of Historic Places National Park Service U. S. Department of the Interior 1100 L Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Mr. Rogers:

The following nomination to the National Register of Historic Places was approved at the state level by the Kentucky Historic Preservation Review Board on January 26, 1989. A majority of the owners in the district objected. Hence, as State Historic Preservation Officer, I recommend it be determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places according to 30 CFR 60.6(n).

Name & Location of Site

100 West Main Street Historic District Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky

Your early consideration of this request for a determination of eligibility will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

David L. Morgan, Director

Kentucky Heritage Council and State Historic Preservation Officer

and E. Maye

DLM:MP:bsc

Enclosures



KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL The State Historic Preservation Office

May 16, 1989

MAY 2 2 1989

NATIONAL REGISTER

Ms. Carol Shull National Register of Historic Places National Park Service U. S. Department of the Interior 1100 L Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Please find enclosed two pages which were inadvertently omitted from the submission of the 100 West Main Street Historic District nomination in Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky. Please forward these to Patrick Andrus who is reviewing the document, which is approaching the 45-day deadline for review.

Thank you for your attention and do not hesitate to contact me further.

Sincerely,

David L. Morgan, Director

Kentucky Heritage Council and State Historic Preservation Officer

DLM:mp

Enclosures



April 16, 2010

VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL

Mr. Mark Dennen
Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer
Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet
Kentucky Heritage Council
300 Washington Street
Frankfort, KY 40601

Re:

100 West Main Street Historic District Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky National Register ID 89000385

Dear Mr. Dennen:

Thank you for your letter dated March 19, 2010 regarding our properties located on the 100 West Main Street block in downtown Louisville. The Iron Quarter, LLC is the sole owner of the properties, and after consideration, must object to the proposed listing.

Todd L. Blue

Sincerely

Manager The Iron Quarter, LLC

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

) SS:

STATE-AT-LARGE

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Todd L. Blue, in his capacity as Manager of The Iron Quarter, LLC, this 16th day of April 2010.

My commission expires:

NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE-AT-LARGE, KENTUCKY

APR 20 2010

KY HERITAGE COOLEGU: 509 Louisville, KY 40201



STEVEN L. BESHEAR GOVERNOR

TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL NA

MAY 1 0 2010

MARCHETA SPARROW

SECRETARY

NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

RECEIVED 2280

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

May 7, 2010

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

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed is documentation requesting listing for the **Whiskey Row Historic District** (NR # 89000385) in Jefferson County, Kentucky. This property was determined eligible by the Keeper on May 19, 1989, as a majority of the owners at the time objected to the listing. Also at that time, the name of the property on the registration form was "100 West Main Street Historic District," and the DOE confirmation page gave the property's name as "One Hundred West Main Street Historic District." Note the requested name to list the District.

The current owners, none of which were owners of the district's property in 1989, all were notified approximately 40 days ago, with the same notification information as is sent to an owner according to 36 CFR 60.6, explaining the District's current status and telling them of this office's intent to list the district. We have received one letter of objection, and include it here. We are submitting new documentation on the district, and believe it retains sufficient integrity to remain eligible. Also enclosed is additional documentation, to update the Register's information on the District.

We appreciate your consideration of this resubmitted nomination.

Sincerely,

Mark Dennen, SMPO and

Executive Director Kentucky Heritage Council

MP/mp



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Additional Documentation					
Property Name:	Whiskey Row Historic District					
Multiple Name:						
State & County:	KENTUCKY, Jefferson					
Date Rece 1/27/20	[4] 프리크 - CONTROL - 스타이에서는 CONTROL - CONTROL					
Reference number:	AD89000385					
Nominator:	State					
Reason For Review						
XAccept	Return Reject3/13/2017 Date					
Abstract/Summary Comments:	Provides additional information related to LGBT community and their relationship with the district as a whole and one building in particular. The building in question, however, no longer exists and this AD is merely informational. It adds no substantive change to the district nomination – not new area of signficance, criterion, or period of significance.					
Recommendation/ Criteria	Accept AD					
ReviewerJim Ga	abbert Discipline Historian					
Telephone (202)3	54-2275 Date					
DOCUMENTATION	see attached comments : No see attached SLR:					
If a namination is re	turned to the nomination authority the nomination is no longer under consideration by the					

National Park Service.



MATTHEW G. BEVIN GOVERNOR

TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL

DON PARKINSON SECRETARY

THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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

January 13, 2017

CRAIG A. POTTS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

JAN 2 7 2017

Natl. Reg. of riistoric Places
National Park Service

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief National Register of Historic Places 1201 Eye St. NW 8th Floor Washington DC 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed are the nominations approved by the Review Board at their December 12, 2016 meeting. We submit these forms so the properties can be listed in the National Register:

Columbia Commercial District, Adair County, Kentucky
Bold House, Bracken County, Kentucky
Doyle Country Club, Campbell County, Kentucky
Bush Warehouse, Clark County, Kentucky
Haury Motor Company and Garage, Jefferson County, Kentucky
Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jefferson County, Kentucky
Paducah City Hall, McCracken County, Kentucky
Scearce-Roush House, Shelby County, Kentucky
Dobson House, Warren County, Kentucky (James Ingram Houses MPS)
Old Taylor Distillery, Woodford County, Kentucky

We enclose documentation for three previously listed properties:

- new information for the **Downtowner**, one property within the **Whiskey Row Historic District**, Jefferson County KY (NRIS 89000305). The form documents the Downtowner's role in Louisville's LGBTQ past.
 - Waveland (Boundary Increase and Name Change), Jessamine County. This property was listed under the name Craig Ashurst House (NRIS 84001587). The new area recognizes a resource called a Woodland Pasture.
 - Rowan County Courthouse (Boundary Increase), Rowan County, Kentucky. This new nomination adds
 additional acreage on the courthouse square that was omitted from the first listing (NRIS 83002862).

We thank you for your assistance in listing these properties.

Sincerely,

Craig A. Potts
Executive Director and
State Historic Preservation Officer

