

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JAN 29 1980

DATE ENTERED

APR 1 1980

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

*Expanded*  
Main Street District, 316-328 Block

AND/OR COMMON

Old Bank of Louisville, Main Street District

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

316, 320, 324, 328 West Main Street

\_\_NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Louisville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

\_\_ VICINITY OF

3 and 4

STATE

Kentucky

CODE

021

COUNTY

Jefferson

CODE

111

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

 DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

 PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

 IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

 OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

 YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO

## PRESENT USE

 AGRICULTURE MUSEUM COMMERCIAL PARK EDUCATIONAL PRIVATE RESIDENCE ENTERTAINMENT RELIGIOUS GOVERNMENT SCIENTIFIC INDUSTRIAL TRANSPORTATION MILITARY OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Actor's Theatre

STREET &amp; NUMBER

316-320 West Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Louisville

\_\_ VICINITY OF

Kentucky

STATE

40202

(continued)

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Jefferson County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

517 West Jefferson Street

CITY, TOWN

Louisville, Kentucky 40202

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Kentucky Survey of Historic Sites

DATE

1978

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

West Main Street grew to be the principal street in Louisville early in the nineteenth century. The street contains one of the finest cast-iron warehouse districts in the country. The 500, 600, 700 and 800 blocks form a contiguous district. The 400 block is totally new construction, separating the structures visually though not historically from similar architectural components. Four structures in the 300 block of Main, Nos. 316 - 330, should be considered as a small district. Number 300 West Main, one of Louisville's finest Richardsonian Romanesque structures, is separated from these buildings by a parking lot and has been nominated individually.

The Actors Theatre Complex, at 316-320 West Main Street, contains two structures. On the west side of the site is the building constructed for the Bank of Louisville during the years 1835 to 1837. It now serves as the lobby for Actors Theatre. On the east side of the bank building is a four-story brick structure formerly a commercial building, now adapted for use by Actors Theatre.

The Bank of Louisville is a handsome Greek Revival structure, built of brick and limestone. The facade contains two fluted Doric columns "in antis," set between massive battered walls. A three-course architrave and extended stone course make up the simple entablature. A row of dentils underscores the extended cornice.

The roof is unpedimented, but culminates in a metal acroterion with a large, fan-like anthemion. Stylized honeysuckle vines loop and curl beneath and to each side. This anthemion and vine motif is repeated in the balteus of the column capitals.

Within the portico are white-painted doors of Greek Revival style. The single panels contain carved trim similar to the roof ornament, and the pediment above the door is topped with a similar stylized design. A large, multi-paned window is above the doorway and at either side is a narrow vertical window having 15 panes. The inner side walls of the porch have niches containing large stone urns, not original.

The building on the east side of the site is a four-story, brick structure with trim now painted dark brown. The first story contains large, plate-glass windows separated by pilasters.

The facade above the first story contains six bays on each story. These windows are composed of two vertical sections, each section having three panes, with a half-circle top pane which has a tracery design. The windows on the second story are slightly taller than those on the third and fourth stories. All windows have round-arched tops. Above the windows are arched moldings with carved pendent supports and an acanthus-like ornament at the top of each arch.

There is a brick course above the fourth story. The extended roof cornice has a row of dentils beneath it, interspersed with large, carved brackets.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

## SPECIFIC DATES

## BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Main Street has been a part of the urban center of Louisville for two hundred years. The area has served many purposes including the residential, commercial and financial facets of the community. Louisville's growth as the eighteenth largest city in the country by the 1890's was due to its burgeoning development as a commercial center. The wealth of this commercial community was reflected in the finely ornamented cast-iron and masonry structures which lined Main Street for over ten blocks. Louisville's Main Street today survives as one of the finest and most varied nineteenth century commercial districts in the United States. The 300 block of Main has been isolated from the more architecturally compact areas by new construction. The structures of 316-330 West Main do form an important visual continuation of the commercial architecture and are one of the most unique composites of nineteenth century architecture on Main Street.

Number 320 West Main is the Old Bank of Louisville designed by New Orleans architect, James Dakin in 1837. The structure, a National Historic Landmark, has been called one of the least archeological designs of Greek Revival in the country.

The brick structure to the east of the bank building, Number 316 and Number 328 are among the few structures on Main Street which represent the architectural development of the 1860's. The most prominent features on both structures are the richly decorated arched terra-cotta lintels. Number 316 was built by Joshua Bowles and housed a leather goods company, Mooney, Mantel and Cowan and later a carpeting firm, J.G. Mathers. Number 328 housed McKnight Carpet in the 1860's.

Number 324 was designed by the prominent local architect C.J. Clarke (Inland Architect and Builder, February 1886). Clarke was responsible for the design of the Carter Dry Goods Building in the 700 block of West Main Street, Levy Brothers Store (National Register, Mar., 1978) and the old Louisville Medical School (National Register, July, 1975). This structure exemplifies the vigor and richness of decoration found in Louisville's Victorian architecture of the 1880's.

Numbers 316-330 West Main Street form a cohesive but diverse architectural composite of Louisville's architectural and historical heritage.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission. "West Main Street, 300 Block, Designation Report," typewritten, 1977.

Inland Architect and News Record. February, 1886, p.13.

**UTM NOT VERIFIED**

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

**ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

QUADRANGLE NAME New Albany, Ind.-Ky.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 608 860 4234 770

B               

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C               

D               

E               

F               

G               

H               

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

see continuation street

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

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marty Hedgepeth Research Director

7/20/9

ORGANIZATION

Louisville Landmarks Commission

502-587 -3501

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

727 West Main Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Louisville

STATE

Kentucky

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE   

LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Cedric W. Gullett*

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 9-80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*W. Ray Luce*  
FOR KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 4/1/80

ATTEST: *Kristin O'Connell*  
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 3/18/80

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Old Bank of Louisville, Main Street District

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

ITEM NUMBER 4 PAGE 2

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324-330 West Main Street - owner: Hubbuch of Kentucky ✓  
324 West Main Street  
Louisville, KY 40202

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old Bank of Louisville  
West Main Street District  
ITEM NUMBER 6

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**CONTINUATION SHEET**

National Register of Historic Places  
National Historic Landmark  
Old Bank of Louisville  
320 West Main Street  
Louisville, Kentucky  
entered August, 1971

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Old Bank of Louisville, Main Street District  
**CONTINUATION SHEET** ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

The architect of this building is not as yet known. It is of the Victorian style common to many commercial buildings on Main Street.

Number 324 West Main Street is the site of Hubbuch in Kentucky. The firm actually occupies two adjacent structures which are utilized as showrooms and company offices. They have been visually unified at the street level by some remodeling.

The structure to the east (no. 324) is a five-story, masonry and cast-iron warehouse constructed in 1886 for the carpet wholesale firm of William H. McKnight. The first story is composed of cast-iron supports with brick infill. Two tiers of partly fluted square, cast-iron column/capital/cornice ensembles set within a framework of two, two-story brick pilasters with Ionic capitals comprises the second and third stories. These brick pilasters support a wide third story cornice which spans the facade, dividing the upper stories. The fourth and fifth stories are similarly constructed with a cast-iron inner grid, and enframing brick pilasters, here with incised patterns. An egg and dart motif marks the upper horizontal of the fifth floor grid. Crowning the structure is a sculptural roofline cornice with shell motifs and a large pair of brackets.

Several sources, which include a building report in the Inland Architect and Builder, of February, 1886, and Young E. Allison's The City of Louisville and a Glimpse of Kentucky, published in 1887, mention esteemed local architect Charles J. Clarke in connection with the construction of number 324.

Hubbuch's western structure is a three-story, storefront, commercial edifice which dates stylistically from the late 1860's to the middle 1870's.

The building has a symmetrical design. The ground floor has been remodeled, similarly to that of the adjacent structure to the east. The upper stories have six, segmentally arched windows with curved caps and brackets. Attic level vents and corner quoining (in addition to the use of stone) make number 328 quite similar to the Andrewartha designed structures at number 123 and number 124-127 West Main Street, built in 1869-70, and 1868-69.

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Old Bank of Louisville, Main Street District

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Scully, Arthur, Jr. James Dakin, Architect. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press. 1973.

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Beginning at a point approximately 175' west of the southwest corner of Third and Main Streets, the line proceeds south for approximately 210' along the east property line of Block 14E Lot 231 (316 West Main) thence west approximately 115'9" along the south property lines of Block 14E Lots 227, 228, 229, 230, 231 (316-326 West Main), thence north approximately 85' along the west property line of Block 14E Lot 226, thence west approximately 17'6" along the south property line of Block 14E Lot 226 (328 West Main), thence north approximately 134' along the south side of West Main to the point of origin.

All block and lot numbers refer to the Jefferson County Plat Book)



Old Bank of Louisville  
Main Street District  
Sanborn Map Co. (1972)  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Map 2. Sanborn Map JAN 29 1980

MAIN

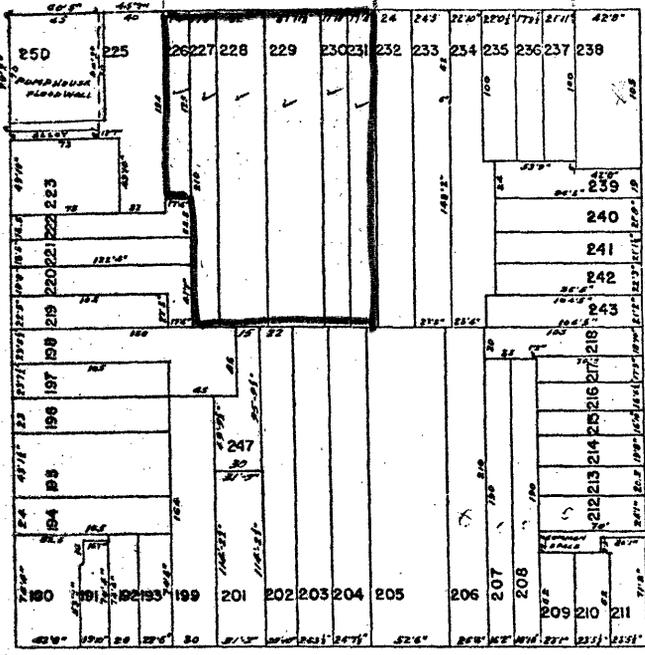
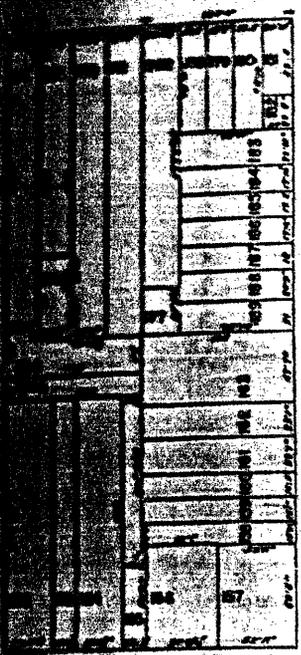
ST. 90'

A

Scale 1" = 60'

ST. 60'

ST. 60'

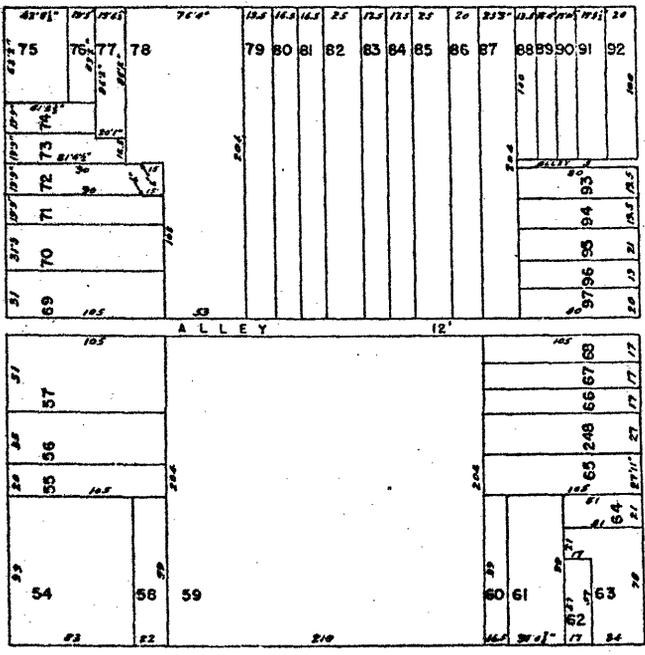
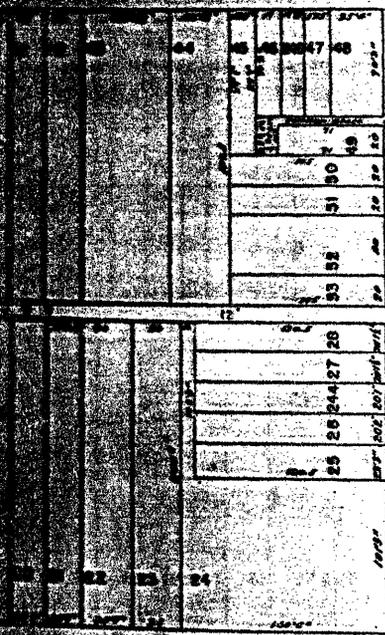


MARKET

ST. 90'

4 TH

3 RD



ST. 90'

old Bank of Louisville  
West Main Street District  
Louisville, Jefferson, Kentucky  
Jefferson County Real Estate Atlas

Map 3.

JAN 29 1980

APR 1 1980