National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

Historic Resources of Greenup, Kentucky (Partial Inventory) historic

and/or common

city, town

2.	Loca	ation							
street	& number	Greenup,	Kentuc	kу				not for pubil	cation
city, to	own			vicir	nity of				
state	Kentu	cky	code	021	county	Greenup	·	code	089
3.	Clas	sification							
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5.	Loca	ation of L	egal	Desc	ripti	on			
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street	& number								
city, te	own	Greenup					state	Kentucky	
6.	Repi	resentatio	on in	Exis	ting	Surveys	5		
title	Ky. Hi	storic Resour	ces	h	as this pro	perty been dete	rmined el	$(Gp_{\overline{X}}G - g)$ igible? <u>X</u> yes	13) s no
date	April	1987				federal	sta	te county_	local
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state

OMB No. 1024-0018 Expires 10-31-87

For NPS use only DEC 16 1987 received date entered JAN 27 1988'

Description

Condition

Condition		Check one
X_ excellent	deteriorated	unaltered
<u> </u>	ruins	_X_ altered
X fair	unexposed	

Check one X_ original site __ moved date _

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Overview

The Historic Resources of Greenup, Kentucky (Partial Inventory) contains eight individual nominations composed of ten contributing buildings, two non-contributing buildings, one contributing structure, and two noncontributing structures. The nomination also contains the following three residential districts: the Front Street District with six contributing buildings, three contributing structures, four non-contributing structures, and one contributing object; the South Greenup District with five contributing buildings, three contributing structures, and four non-contributing structures; and the West Main Street District with eight contributing buildings, one non-contributing building, one contributing structure, and five non-contributing structures. The buildings and structures documented date from 1840 to 1916, a period covering the town's most significant development, and demonstrate local interpretations of national styles such as Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Italianate, Queen Anne, and Classical Revival.

The locations of the individual nominations and the districts are shown in Figure 1. The locations of the contributing and non-contributing elements in the districts are shown in Figure 2.

Greenup is the county seat of Greenup County and is located on the Ohio River in the northeastern section of Kentucky. The town is approximately twelve miles west of Ashland, Kentucky, the major city in the region. In an area where oil refineries, steel mills, and power plants often dominate the Ohio River frontage, the town of Greenup has retained a unique visual relationship with the river, its immediate environs and vistas unsullied by industrial development. The main part of the town of Greenup is surrounded on three sides by water: the Little Sandy River on the west, the Ohio River on the north, and Town Branch on the east. Main Street and the other east-west streets of Greenup parallel the Ohio River. The intersections with the northsouth streets open up vistas to the Ohio River. The north side of the courthouse square is on the river bank. A late-nineteenth century map of Greenup shows a public wharf at the foot of Harrison Street. Because of its location on a bluff approximately fifteen feet above the normal elevation of the river, the town of Greenup has not needed a flood wall. Flood walls have been built to protect other towns along the Ohio River, but have also obscured their views.

Main Street in Greenup was once a section of the major highway in northeastern Kentucky which connected Ashland, Kentucky to Portsmouth,Ohio. In 1970's, a new four-lane highway was built south of Greenup. Most of the recent commercial construction has occurred along the new highway which virtually has eliminated through-traffic from downtown Greenup. The major intersections in the downtown are governed by stop signs instead of traffic lights.

8. Significance



Specific dates 1840-1916

Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Multiple Resources Area nomination for Greenup, Kentucky contains buildings and structures significant for the period from 1840 to 1916. These buildings and structures meet National Register criteria B and C in association with the themes of architecture, engineering, and politics.

Despite the fact that the town of Greenup is located in an area of the state where traditional building patterns seem to have prevailed, Greenup's location on the Ohio River at the mouth of the Little Sandy and its natural resources, especially iron, interacted through the nineteenth century to expose some of the citizens of Greenup to national trends in architectural styles. Thus, the town of Greenup has a remarkable collection of Greek Revival, Italianate, Gothic Revival, Queen Anne, and Classical Revival styles exhibited on residences, churches, and commercial buildings.

John C, Kouns, a tavern owner and ferry keeper, used the Greek Revival style on two of his residences, the Kouns-Womack House in the Front Street District, and the Kouns-Hoffman House (Gp-G-5). Kouns also had a distinguished career in both local and state politics as a sheriff and state senator. His travels to the legislature and business contacts along the river made him aware of the architectural Kouns' son William S. Kouns applied the Greek Revival elements style. to the somewhat revolutionary octagonal house form (Gp-G-4) in the South Greenup District. There were fewer than one thousand of these octagonal houses built in the nation during the nineteenth century. Another example of the Greek Revival style is the Worthington House (Gp-G-15) which is notable for its entrance treatment, interior woodwork and unusual cornice with brick corbelling. The Greenup Masonic Lodge (Gp-G-10) used the Greek pilasters and wide cornice with the overhanging roof eaves and brackets from the Italianate style to make the institution up to date when it was finished in 1867.

While the Civil War did not involve the town of Greenup directly in any battles, it served as the springboard for the political career of one of Greenup's lawyers, William Jackson Worthington (Gp-G-15), who served as a state representative (1884-86) and 1902-06), state senator (1865-69), and Lt. Governor (1895-99). The end of the Civil War also signaled the beginning of several decades of rapid industrialization for the nation, thus enhancing the value of Greenup's mineral deposits. Railroad construction was initiated to facilitate the flow of pig iron from the blast furnaces in the interior of Greenup County to the Ohio River. Rail and water connections as well as mass production increased the opportunities to order stock architectural ornament characteristic of the Queen Anne, Stick, Gothic

9. Major Bibliographical References

Nina Mitchell Biggs. <u>History of Greenup County</u>. Dorothy Kendall Griffith. "Come with Us and Rediscover Historic Old Greenup, Kentucky". Elmer G. Sulzer. <u>The Ghost Railroads of Kentucky</u>.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____ See districts and individual forms

Quadrangle name _____ Greenup

Quadrangle scale <u>1:24000</u>

UT M References

A Zone	Easting	Northing	B Zone	Easting	Northing
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Verbal boundary description and justification

See districts and individual forms.

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organization H -	Powell and	Co., Inc.		7 / 1 5 / 8 7 date	
street & number	Suite 201	2230 Idle	Hour Cente	r telephone (606) 266-5	5351
ty or town Lea	xington			state KY 40502	_
12. Stat	te Histo	ric Pres	ervatio	n Officer Certif	ication
The evaluated sign	nificance of this pr	operty within the	e state is:		
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Multiple Resources of Greenup, Kentucky Section number __4 Page __1

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

Site Number	Owner and Address	Property Owned
GpG-5	William Keeney 208 Jefferson Greenup, Ky. 41144	John C. Kouns House 208 Jefferson
G p G – 6	James A. Kinner 404 Harrison Greenup, Ky. 41144	Warnock House 404 Harrison
GpG-10	Mrs. Sam Leslie P. O. Box Greenup, Ky. 41144	Greenup Masonic Lodge 314 Main St.
GpG-11	David Welsh Greenup Christian Church 611 Main Street Greenup, Ky. 41144	Greenup Christian Church Main Street
GpG-12	Julian Hammond Greenup First United Methodist Church 611 Main Street Greenup, Ky. 41144	ME Church South 611 Main Street
GpG-13	J. A. Brown, Head Engineer Ky. Dept. of Transportation P. O. Box 347 Flemingsburg, Ky. 41041	KY 2541 Bridge Little Sandy River
GpG-14	Edward Riggs 1023 Riverside Drive Greenup, Ky. 41144	McKee House 1023 Riverside Drive
GpG-15	Mrs. Sam Leslie P. O. Box Greenup, Ky. 41144	Col. Worthington House US 23

NPS Form 10-900-a OMB No. 1024-0018 (3-82) Expires 10-31-87 **United States Department of the Interior National Park Service National Register of Historic Places Inventory**—Nomination Form Historic Resources of Greenup. **Continuation sheet** Item number Page 7 Kentucky 2

In contrast to other communities near Ashland which have lost their commercial districts and become almost entirely residential, Greenup has retained a distinctive town center anchored by the courthouse The courthouse occupies a rectangular space bound by Main square. Street on the south, Harrison Street on the east, Washington Street on the west, and the Ohio River on the north. The courthouse itself, composed of sandstone, was built by the Works Progress Administration during the 1930's. The courthouse unfortunately does not meet National Register criteria due the size of the recent additions of a jail and police station which overwhelm the east, north, and west facades of the original building. The businesses located on the streets surrounding the courthouse square are housed in two-story brick buildings which date from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Except for the Greenup Masonic Lodge (Gp-G 10), the commercial buildings in the vicinity of the square lack distinctive de-They are well-maintined and occupied, but have been extailing. tensively remodelled by the addition of stucco, aluminum, plate glass and new brick.

The streets surrounding the square are forty feet wide with sidewalks, curbs, and gutters. They convey a sense of spaciousness. One block from the commercial core, the streets, except for East Main, become residential in character and are randomly shaded by mature trees. Most of the nineteenth century residences were built of frame and clad in weatherboarding. Intact groupings of houses demonstrating an awareness of popular national styles can be seen in the following areas which are being nominated as districts: West Main Street in the vicinity of Cedar and Chestnut; Front Street in the vicinity of Laurel and Hickory; and South Greenup in the vicinity of Washington and Laurel.

Greenup was named for Christopher Greenup (1750-1818) who was one of the first representatives to be elected to the United States Congress from the state of Kentucky. He served in Congress from 1792 to 1797 and was elected governor of Kentucky in 1804. The town of Greenup was known as Greenupsburg when it was established in 1803 and officially incorporated in 1818. To eliminate confusion in the mails because of Greenupsburg's similarity in name to Greensburg in Green County, Kentucky, the name Greenupsburg was changed by an act of the state legislature to Greenup in 1872. The town of Greenup now has a population of 1,386.

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Historic Resources of Greenup, Kentucky
Continuation sheet Item number



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Survey

Documentation of Greenup's historic resources began in 1951 with the work of Nina Mitchell Biggs and Mabel Lee MacKoy who wrote <u>History of Greenup County, Kentucky</u>. The authors devoted time to descriptions of the early courthouse, development of the town plat, and information about the homes of notable citizens. From 1967 to 1976, Roy W. Reynolds, Annelle McMullen Lowdenback, and others completed Kentucky Resource Forms on nine buildings for the Kentucky Heritage Council. Dorothy Kendall Griffith compiled deed research and photographs of historic buildings in Greenup for a publication entitled "Come with Us and Rediscover Historic, Old Greenup, Kentucky" which was published by the Greenup Woman's Club in 1983.

In 1986, the Greenup for Beautification Committtee received a matching grant from the Kentucky Heritage Council to complete the survey of the town of Greenup and to do a Multiple Resource Area nomination. Booker and Associates of Lexington, Kentucky managed the grant in conjunction with their work on the downtown revitalization of Greenup under an Appalachian Regional Commission planning grant. Helen Powell was hired to do the field work and the National Register Twenty-one buildings were added to the survey of Greenup. nomination. Robert M. Polsgrove of the Kentucky Heritage Council assisted in determining the eligibility of individual properties and selection of district boundaries. Volunteers from the community donated their time to match the grant. Additional information about the individual nominations and districts was gained through on-site evaluations of the buildings, review of the records of the Greenup Public Library, and examination of the Sanborn Insurance Maps for Greenup in the Margaret King Library at the University of Kentucky. Prior to the initiation of the current project, there were no buildings or structures within the city limits of Greenup listed on the National Register.

The nomination for the Historic Resources of Greenup, Kentucky, Partial Inventory, is primarily architectural in emphasis. It documents most properties significant for architectural reasons or criterion C. Buildings dating after c. 1937 are not nominated unless they represent obviously outstanding examples of recognizeable styles since there exists limited context within which the more common recent styles can be evaluated. Although the area's major historical themes, such as politics are represented by buildings and sites nominated under criterion B, the potential exists for identifying other such series of events or persons associated with these events and evaluating and nominating properties significant in their connections to them. Archeological and other resources potentially eligible for their ability to convey information (criterion D) have not been evaluated and are not included in this inventory. The documentation for individual properties nominated here does not necessarily include all of the areas in which any given property may be significant.

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Architecture and History of Greenup

Greenup,or Greenupsburg, was attractive to late eighteenth and early nineteenth century settlers because of its location on the Ohio River adjacent to the mouth of the Little Sandy River. The area near the present site of Greenup was originally part of land grants awarded to Jesse Boone, John Hockaday, James Howe, and Major Andrew Hood. Jesse Boone, the brother of Daniel Boone, was active in the organization of the town of Greenup and the county court system. Virtually nothing remains from the settlement period of Greenup's history due to recurrent flooding and subsequent redevelopment. Portions of a log house thought to have been owned by Jesse Boone have been moved from the original location on Town Branch and reassembled in the Greenup County Park on East Main Street as a memorial to the early pioneers.

As the natural resources including coal, iron, timber, and water were developed in the county, the town of Greenup, with its location at the mouth of the Little Sandy River, became a logical shipping point. In 1818, the first pig iron blast furnace was established at Argillite, a community on the Little Sandy River in the central part of Greenup County. By 1850, there were three other furnaces in the vicinity of the Little Sandy River including Raccoon (1833), Hunnewell (1845), and Laurel (1849). A total of fifteen blast furnaces were producing pig iron in Greenup County between 1818 and 1856. See Figure 3 for the names and locations of the iron furnaces.

The Ohio River provided the means to transport the coal, iron, and timber to markets. There were a number of warehouses located along the river front to store the local products which were traded for merchandise from large river cities like Pittsburgh. Ιn 1827, Major John C. Kouns, a veteran of the War of 1812, established a tavern called the Kouns House on Front Street less than a block east of the courthouse. Major Kouns provided food, entertainment, and lodging to people who came to Greenup to buy and sell goods. His tavern was also a popular destination for the lawyers from Maysville and other towns along the river who came to Greenup for the sessions of the circuit court. Major Kouns' business must have been successful, for his name appears on many of the land transactions recorded for this period in the Greenup County Courthouse. Active politically, Kouns was appointed the ferry-keeper on the Ohio River and served terms as sheriff and state senator.

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 Image: States Department of the Interior

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 Interior

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The brick tavern or Kouns House was torn down in the 1970's. but two houses which Major Kouns built and lived in are still standing. The first residence or the Kouns-Womack House (Gp-G-21) is included in the Front Street District. The Kouns-Womack House was built circa 1840 of brick on the central passage plan. Major Kouns demonstrated an awareness of the Greek Revival style, popular nationally during this period, in his use of pilasters and sidelights to decorate the central doorway. Major Kouns' second residence, the Kouns-Hoffman House (Gp-G-5) on Jefferson Street, nominated here as an individual, also has a three-bay brick facade and a central passage plan, but is two stories and presents a more dramatic expression of the Greek Revival style in the stone lintels over the windows, wide cornice, returns on the gables, and doorway treatment with transom, sidelights, and pilasters.

During the same period, the Colonel William J. Worthington House (GP-G-15) was built south of the main section of town. The Worthington House is a two-story, five bay brick residence with a central passage plan. The Worthington House also has stone lintels over the windows and a central doorway with sidelights and a transom, similar to the one on the Kouns-Hoffman House. An unusual feature of the Worthington House is the brick corbelling found in the wide cornice which has been painted white to contrast with the red brick of the portions of the west, north, and east facades which can be seen from the road. The south facade and the east facade of the ell which are not visible from the road are painted white.

Both the Kouns-Hoffman House and the Worthington House no longer have their original front porches. On the Kouns-Hoffman House, the present porch dates from the early twentieth century and is a curved wrap-around structure which covers most of the north and west facades. The dentils in the porch cornice and the Tuscan columns supporting the roof are elements from the Classical Revival style. The porch on the Worthington House is less than twenty years old, but also alludes to the Classical Revival style through the use of Tuscan columns.

In Greenup, the period preceding the Civil War was important in the establishment of social and religious institutions. The Greenup Masonic Lodge was chartered in 1827, but met in the county courthouse until the construction of the lodge building in 1867 (Gp-G-10). For their building, which is sited on a prominent corner on Main Street across from the courthouse, the lodge members chose to use elements from both the Greek Revival and Italianate styles. The brick walls of the rectangular building are divided into three bays by three-story brick pilasters which have stone bases and capitals, stylistic elements which refer to the Greek Revival. The influence of the Italianate style can be seen in the low hip roof with overhanging eaves and S-shaped brackets. Despite modernization of the first story, the second and third stories still convey a sense of the two nineteenth century styles. NPS Form 10-900-a (3-82)

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John C. Kouns and his wife donated a lot on Main Street In 1845. for the site of the Methodist Episcopal Church South (Gp-G-12). Shortly thereafter, a rectangular, one and one-half story brick building was constructed. The gable end faced the street and contained two doors. The long axis of the building had three rectangular windows. The windows and doorways were changed in 1876 when the church was substantially remodeled. A three-story entry tower was built on the southeast corner, two doors in the gable end bricked up, a lancet window cut in the center of the gable end, and the rectangular windows given a gothic point. The membership of the church had built the orginal building in the Greek Revival style popular in the mid-nineteenth century, but then updated the doors, windows, and overall profile of the church to Gothic Revival when they remodeled in the late nineteenth century.

In 1859, John C. Kouns also contributed a lot to the Northern Presbyterian Church (Gp-G-2) which is included in the West Main Street District. The original rectangular brick church had its gable end to the street and a three bay main facade which consisted of a central door flanked on each side by a single window. As in the case of the Methodist Episcopal Church South (Gp-G-12), the three windows on the long axis of the building were rectangular in Other ornamentation on the orginal building included gable shape. returns. In 1912, a brick vestibule was added to cover the central door. The vestibule was trimmed with stone and a three-part Gothic window placed in the center of the wall on Main Street. The rectangular windows along the long axis were not changed, but the Gothic arch was repeated in the supports for the wood porches on each side of the vestibule.

The Greek Revival style was also used to ornament a house plan that is unusual in both Greenup and the nation as a whole. Dr. William S. Kouns, son of John C. Kouns, built a weatherboarded house in an octagonal shape in 1856. The house (Gp-G-4) is located on Laurel Street and is included in the South Greenup District. Dr. Kouns may have been inspired by Orson S. Fowler's <u>A House for All or the Gravel Wall and the Octagonal Mode of</u> <u>Building</u> published in 1848 which lauded the healthful features of the octagonal form. The William S. Kouns House is two stories with a simple entablature around the doorway which is covered by a single bay flat-roofed porch. Below the polygonal roof there is a wide cornice ornamented by dentils.

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Historic Resources of Greenup, Kentucky

The rapid industrialization of the nation in the mid-nineteenth century made Greenup County's iron resources more valuable. In 1845, the East Kentucky Railway was established to facilitate the movement of the pig iron from the furnaces in the interior of the county to the Ohio River. The railway system was expanded in 1865 with the establishment of the Kentucky Improvement Company which laid track to Hunnewell and Argillite. The East Kentucky Railway took over the Kentucky Improvement Company in 1870 and extended the railroad to Carter County.

An area called Riverton located east of Greenup and Town Branch was developed by the East Kentucky Railway to provide a point at which to transfer the cargo from the trains to barges on the Ohio River. Riverton also contained a depot, shop, railroad office, and turn table to turn the trains around for their return trip to the furnaces. The area on each side of the railroad spur in Riverton was platted into six streets and several hundred lots. (See Figure 4 for a map of Riverton). Few houses were built as a result of the railroad's development of the area. Only three houses dating from the late nineteenth century or early twentieth century remain standing. One of these houses is the McKee House (Gp-G-14). The railroad tracks, turn table, depot, and loading wharf are gone. Most of the houses in the area originally developed as Riverton date from the 1950's and 1960's.

The extensive timbering which occurred at the same time as the railroad expansion perhaps accounts for the predominance of wood construction over brick in Greenup. In the last quarter of the nineteenth century, the T-plan became very popular for the arrangement of rooms in houses in Greenup. Owners chose to ornament the T-plans in a variety of styles. John McKee who came to Greenup as a conductor on the East Kentucky Railway, seems to have used stock detailing for the bargeboards, finials, and porches which decorate his house (Gp-G-14) in the Gothic Revival style. Another weatherboarded residence built during the same era shows a more eclectic approach by a combination of custom and stock detailing. The Warnock House (Gp-G-6), also a two-story T-plan, exemplifies the Stick style with its steeply pitched roof, flared eaves, roof gable, and cross bracing. Around the windows, however, there is horizontal and vertical banding with circular motifs in the upper corners which is unusual and seems to be local in origin; it appears on numerous other mid-nineteenth century Greenup houses, including the Darlington House (Gp-G-24), Warnock-Kinner House (Gp-G-26), both in the West Main Street District, and the

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Matthew Warnock House in the South Greenup District.

At first ferry keepers and then bridges allowed Greenup to expand to the east and west over the Little Sandy River and the Town Branch. In 1880, the German families who were brought in to work in the furnaces and saw mills established a neighborhood east of Town Branch which came to be known as "Over the Rhine". What architectural fabric that is still visible on their houses does not exhibit any distinct cultural influences. Extensive redevelopment, vacant lots, and modern intrusions have made the area ineligible for the National Register.

On the west end of town, a wood bridge was built in the 1830's across the Little Sandy River to provide access to west. The flood of 1883 severely damaged the wood bridge and it was replaced in 1884 by an iron bridge built by the King Bridge Company. The one-lane, multi-span, Pratt through-truss bridge (Gp-G-13) still serves both the pedestrian and vehicular traffic travelling on the west end of Main Street.

At the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century, the builders of the St. Lawrence Catholic Church (Gp-G-23) on Laurel Street and the Greenup Christian Church (Gp-G-11) on Main Street chose the Classical Revival style to ornament their rectangular buildings. The St. Lawrence Catholic Church built in 1890 is in the South Greenup District and the Greenup Christian Church built in 1916 is being nominated individually. Both churches have shallow pedimented porticos above their double-door central entrances. The Greenup Christian Church has fluted Doric columns and triglyphs in the portico frieze while the St. Lawrence Catholic Church has Corinthian columns. The St. Lawrence Catholic Church is weatherboarded while the Greenup Christian Church is built of brick with stone trim, but they both exhibit a preference for symmetry over the eclectic combinations of decorative elements popular after the Civil War.

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				Kentucky			

Revival, and Italianate styles. Some houses in Greenup seem to follow the pattern books of the day as in the case of the McKee House (Gp-G-14) while others demonstrate a more personal expression in the arrangement of the asymmetrical elements using both stock and custom detailing as can be seen in the Warnock House (Gp-G-6) and the Matthew Warnock House in the South Greenup District.

Church congregations were also sensitive to style. When the Methodist Episcopal Church South (Gp-G-12) and the Northern Presbyterian Church (Gp-G-2) updated their buildings in 1876 and 1912 respectively, they changed from the Greek Revival of the original buildings to the Gothic Revival which after the Civil War became increasingly popular for religious architecture. Two other churches, the St. Lawrence Catholic Church (Gp-G-23) built in 1890 and the Greenup Christian Church (Gp-G-11) built in 1916, reflect the return to symmetry and classical detailing which was becoming popular in the early twentieth century as a reaction to the multiple projections and wall surfaces of the late nineteenth century styles.

The theme of engineering is imporatant in KY 2541 bridge (Gp-G-13) built in 1884. The multiple span, iron bridge conatins the Pratt through-truss and is one of the few bridges of its kind still standing in the state.

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Section number _____ Page _ Multiple Resource Area Thematic Group Greenup MRA Name Greenup County, Kentucky State Nomination/Type of Review Date/Signature SWERE AND SHOT ME Cover Keeper Keeper 1. Front Street District Attest Keeper Greenup Christian Church 2. 112 Attest / Keeper Patrick Andres 3. Greenup Masonic Lodge Attest anterfamilian Marta Kouns--Hoffman House Keeper Attest Keeper 5. KY 2541 Bridge Attest Zalutiantina Karta/ Keeper attick 6. McKee House Attest Keeper Tieb Andus 7. Methodist Episcopal Church South Attest Reeper / Keeper 8. South Greenup District Attest / Keeper 9. Warnock House Attest 10. West Main Street District Monthe Rovier & Keeper Attest

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018 12/16/87

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Sectio	n number Page		
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Nomina	ation/Type of Review	Date/Signature	2
11.	Worthington, Col., House	Attest	27/88
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