

# Historic Preservation in Kentucky's 4th Congressional District

Rep. Geoff Davis

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**4th District Counties:** Bath (pt), Boone, Boyd, Bracken, Campbell, Carroll, Carter, Elliott, Fleming, Gallatin, Grant, Greenup, Harrison, Henry, Kenton, Lewis, Mason, Nicholas, Oldham, Owen, Pendleton, Robertson, Scott (pt) & Trimble

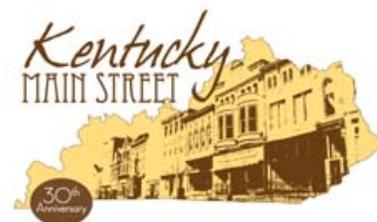
**National Historic Landmarks:** Kentucky has 30 National Historic Landmarks. National Historic Landmarks **in the 4<sup>th</sup> District** are the **Daniel C. Beard Boyhood Home** and **Roebling Suspension Bridge**. Other sites with national significance include the Goddard and Johnson Creek covered bridges.



**Historic Preservation Tax Credits:** Kentucky has been a national leader in the use of historic rehabilitation tax credits, for historic commercial and residential buildings listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Since the Kentucky Historic Preservation Tax Credit was implemented in 2005, **214 projects have been awarded \$9,270,604 in tax credits from \$141,906,256 invested** in rehabilitation projects throughout the

Commonwealth. **In the 4<sup>th</sup> District, 55 projects have been awarded \$1,234,442 in tax credits from \$24,154,944 invested** in rehabilitation. For the same time period, 99 projects across the state that utilized Federal Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Structures were **awarded \$31,455,018 in federal tax credits from \$157,275,091 invested** in rehabilitation.

**Kentucky Main Street Program:** Established in 1979, the Kentucky Main Street Program is the oldest statewide downtown revitalization program in the nation. Nearly 100 Kentucky communities currently participate. In 2009, Kentucky Main Street and Renaissance on Main programs **reported more than \$335 million invested in downtowns through these programs and combined public-private investment.**



For the **4<sup>th</sup> District ALONE** this represents:

- **72 net jobs** in Main Street districts
- **56 new businesses** created
- **46 downtown buildings** rehabilitated

This investment includes:

- \$21,833,535 in public improvements, such as streetscape projects
- \$2,110,508 in private investment
- 7,066 volunteer hours committed by board members and community supporters!

Since the program began, **more than \$3.5 billion has been reinvested in Kentucky!**

**4th District cities** with participating Main Street programs are **Ashland, Augusta, Bellevue, Carrollton, Covington, Dayton, Falmouth, Flemingsburg, Ft. Thomas, Grayson, LaGrange, Ludlow, Maysville, Morehead, New Castle, Newport, Olive Hill, Vanceburg and Warsaw.**



**Preserve America Communities:** With a total of 73, Kentucky has more designated *Preserve America Communities* than any other state. Designated communities in the **4<sup>th</sup> District** are **Ashland, Bellevue, Boone County, Carrollton, Covington, Dayton, Erlanger, Flemingsburg, Fort Thomas, LaGrange, Maysville, Morehead, New Castle, Newport, Rabbit Hash and Warsaw.** Since 2006, **10 Kentucky Preserve America projects have received \$705,350** in grants that require a dollar-for-dollar match, a **total investment of**

**more than \$1.4 million.** In the **4<sup>th</sup> District, two Preserve America grants totaling \$152,500** are being used to create a cultural heritage tour program in Covington and pay for informational signage and wayfinding in the Burlington Historic District.

**Save America's Treasures:** Kentucky has received **\$6.3 million in SAT funds for 24 projects, generating an additional \$7.8 million in matching funds and a total investment of \$14 million.** Of these, it has been quantified that **17 projects created 171 jobs for a total investment of \$21,536 per job**, compared with statistics showing that jobs generated in Kentucky through federal stimulus funds have averaged \$233,839 per job created. In the **4<sup>th</sup> District**, the **Behringer-Crawford Museum in Covington received an SAT grant in 2005 totaling \$98,611.**

**Certified Local Governments (CLGs):** This program, coordinated by the National Park Service, designates local governments (cities and counties) that enact local historic preservation ordinances. CLG designation recognizes that these Kentucky communities are dedicated to historic preservation as a public policy and are actively protecting their historic places. CLGs in the **4<sup>th</sup> District** include **Bellevue, Boone County, Covington, LaGrange, Maysville and Newport.**

**Rosenwald Schools:** The Rosenwald rural school building program was a major effort to improve the quality of public education for African Americans in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century South. The **Mayslick School in Mason County** is one of 158 Rosenwald schools known to have been built in Kentucky. The local community has been awarded a grant from Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation, in partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, to restore this Rosenwald School.

**African American Heritage Sites:** The Kentucky African American Heritage Commission works to identify and preserve sites that tell the story of slavery, the Underground Railroad, the Civil War, and education and civil rights. Many architecturally significant buildings and museums in the **4<sup>th</sup> District** preserve and promote local African American heritage, including the **Lincoln Grant School** in Covington, **Southgate Street School** in Newport and the **Bierbower House** and **Harriett Beecher Stowe Museum** in Maysville.

 **Lincoln Bicentennial and key Civil War Sites:** On February 12, 2010, Kentucky officially transitioned from a two-year celebration of the bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth in Kentucky to the beginning of planning a Civil War Sesquicentennial commemoration. Key sites to be highlighted in the **4<sup>th</sup> District** include **Behringer-Crawford Museum** in Covington and the **Harriett Beecher Stowe Slavery to Freedom Museum** in Historic Washington. As part of the Lincoln Bicentennial, the Kentucky Heritage Council spearheaded redevelopment of the Kentucky Lincoln Heritage Trail, [www.kylincolntrail.com](http://www.kylincolntrail.com).

**Most Endangered:** The statewide, non-profit organization Preservation Kentucky issues an annual *Most Endangered List*, which spotlights irreplaceable historic architectural, cultural and archeological resources in Kentucky that are in imminent danger of being damaged or destroyed. In recent years this list has included **metal truss bridges, tobacco barns, WPA schools, rural cemeteries, and historic downtowns** located throughout the state.

**Ida Lee Willis Memorial Foundation Preservation Awards:** Presented annually to recognize excellence in historic preservation projects and efforts, projects recognized from the **4<sup>th</sup> District** in recent years include the **Carnegie Visual and Performing Arts Center** and **Odd Fellows Hall** in Covington, the **John Dale House** in Shelby County and **Johnson Creek Covered Bridge**.

The Kentucky Heritage Council / Preservation Kentucky **Annual Student Photo-Essay Competition** is currently underway and in its 12<sup>th</sup> year. Winning entries in recent years from the **4<sup>th</sup> District** have highlighted **Rabbit Hash**, the **Himes General Store** in Tollesboro, **Midway Café**, **Ft. Thomas Armory**, **Westwood Gymnasium** in Newport and the **Marianne Theater** in Bellevue.



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