



Historic Preservation in Kentucky's 1st Congressional District

Programs of the Kentucky Heritage Council – www.heritage.ky.gov

Rep. Ed Whitfield – March 2012

1st District Counties: Adair, Allen, Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Casey, Christian, Clinton, Crittenden, Cumberland, Fulton, Graves, Henderson, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Logan, Lyon, Marion, Marshall, McCracken, McLean, Metcalfe, Monroe, Muhlenberg, Ohio, Russell, Simpson, Taylor, Todd, Trigg, Union, Washington (part) and Webster

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. In 2011, Kentucky ranked 7th nationally utilizing Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits, **with 28 successfully completed projects generating investment of \$19,637,125**. For the same time period, Kentucky also ranked 7th in approved project proposals.



Since the Kentucky Historic Preservation Tax Credit was implemented in 2005, to date, **530 historic rehabilitation projects** have been reviewed **representing private investment of \$447,185,207** statewide. This includes 165 commercial projects completed plus another 142 proposed, 149 owner-occupied residential projects completed with another 48 proposed, and 21 non-profit projects completed with another 13 proposed. **In the 1st District, 13 projects have been awarded \$240,594** in Kentucky historic rehabilitation tax credits since 2005, from **\$2,228,817 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, focusing on historic preservation as a means to support economic development by leveraging local historic, cultural and architectural assets in the central business district. More than 70 communities actively participate, including, **in the 1st District, Benton, Cadiz, Campbellsville, Dawson Springs, Guthrie, Henderson, Hopkinsville, Lebanon, Madisonville, Marion, Murray, Paducah, Princeton, Russellville and Scottsville**. In 2010, the National Trust for Historic Preservation named Paducah a Great American Main Street, and in 2011 the community was named one of the National Trust's Dozen Distinctive Destinations.

In 2011, Kentucky Main Street programs **reported more than \$177 million invested in downtowns**, representing:

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| • 481 net jobs in Main Street districts | 1st District: | 102 net jobs in Main Street districts |
| • 311 new businesses created | | 65 new businesses created |
| • 107 new housing units in downtowns | | 8 new housing units in downtowns |
| • 314 downtown buildings rehabilitated | | 112 downtown buildings rehabilitated |

Totaling \$177,605,154, this includes:

- \$120,649,724 in public investment, and \$56,955,430 in private investment
- 88,594 volunteer hours committed by board members and community supporters!

Over three decades, **Kentucky can document \$3.6 billion in public-private investment** throughout the Commonwealth through the Kentucky Main Street and Renaissance on Main programs.



1st District Highlight: The Western Kentucky Lakes Region and the communities of Princeton, Dawson Springs and Eddyville/Kuttawa have been selected to host the **2012 Kentucky Historic Preservation Conference September 20-22**, with the theme ***Our Towns: Partnering Regionally, Preserving Locally***. Co-sponsored by the Kentucky Heritage Council and the statewide nonprofit Preservation Kentucky Inc., the biennial conference will be presented in partnership with the city of Princeton, Princeton Main Street/Renaissance on Main, Princeton Tourism Commission, Lyon County Tourism, and the Dawson Springs Main Street and Preservation Program, with assistance from many other local organizations.

SITE IDENTIFICATION: The Kentucky **Historic Resources Inventory** is the permanent written and photographic record of Kentucky's historic places – including houses, barns, outbuildings, commercial buildings and landscape features such as rock fences – documented through extensive research and fieldwork. **In 2011, this registry topped 90,000 entries.** Data collected provides the foundation for many Kentucky Heritage Council programs including the National Register and Kentucky Main Street Program, as well as for communities in the development of preservation plans and for publication of local architectural and cultural histories.

The **National Register of Historic Places** is the nation's official list of historic and archaeological resources deemed worthy of preservation. **Kentucky has the 4th highest number** of listings in the nation – more than 3,200 districts, sites and structures incorporating 42,000 historic features. Sites listed in or eligible for the National Register can qualify for tax credits and other state and federal incentives for historic rehabilitation.

In the 1st District: 7,067 sites have been surveyed, 7,007 archaeological sites have been identified, and 2,710 properties are listed in the **National Register** including 52 districts. Seven National Register sites were added in 2011: Caldwell House in Taylor County, Guthrie Historic District, Hart House in Henderson, Livingston County Courthouse, Mayfield Light and Water Company, Murray Women's Club Clubhouse, and Union Station School in McCracken County.



Mayfield Light and Water

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS: Kentucky has **30 National Historic Landmarks**, which are nationally significant historic places designated by the Secretary of the Interior because they possess exceptional value or quality illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States. Today, fewer than 2,500 historic places bear this national distinction. **In the 1st District,** National Historic Landmarks are Burke's Distillery in Loretto, Indian Knoll in Ohio County, and Green River Shell Middens Archaeological District in Henderson, McClean, Muhlenberg and Ohio counties.

SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES: Kentucky has received more than \$6 million in SAT funds for 26 projects, generating an additional \$6.3 million in matching funds and a **total investment of \$12.4 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 in 2010 through federal stimulus funds averaged \$233,839 per job created. Since 2000, grants have been awarded in the **1st District** to the River Heritage Museum, city of Paducah Archives and Hotel Metropolitan totaling \$1.6 million of public-private investment in community preservation.



PRESERVE AMERICA: With a total of 74, **Kentucky has more Preserve America designations than any other state.** **In the 1st District,** these include Cadiz, Campbellsville, Dawson Springs, Franklin, Henderson, Hopkinsville, Lebanon, Liberty, Madisonville, Murray, Paducah, Princeton, Russellville and Scottsville. Since 2006, 11 Kentucky Preserve America projects have received \$735,770 in grants that require at least a dollar-for-dollar match, **a total investment of more than \$1.7 million statewide.** **In the 1st District,** a total of \$150,000 has been invested in Paducah to create a Renaissance Area Master Plan to assist in the continuing development of arts-oriented neighborhoods throughout downtown.

CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (CLGs): Coordinated by the National Park Service, the Certified Local Government program designates local city and county governments that enact local historic preservation ordinances, recognizing **that these Kentucky communities are dedicated to historic preservation as a public policy** and actively protect their historic places. Kentucky currently has 22 participating communities including, **in the 1st District,** **Campbellsville, Dawson Springs, Hopkinsville and Paducah.** For FY 2011-12, eight CLGs (including Campbellsville and Paducah) were awarded grants totaling \$80,520 with a local match of \$53,680, generating an additional \$134,200 of investment.

IDA LEE WILLIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION PRESERVATION AWARDS: Presented annually to recognize excellence in historic preservation projects and individual efforts, projects recognized **from the 1st District** in recent years include the **Murray Main Street Program, River Heritage Museum** in Paducah, **St. Stephen Catholic Church** in Lyon County and **Cadiz City Hall.**