



Historic Preservation in Kentucky's 2nd Congressional District

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

Rep. Brett Guthrie – March 2012

2nd District Counties: Barren, Boyle, Breckinridge, Bullitt, Butler, Daviess, Edmonson, Garrard, Grayson, Hancock, Hardin, Hart, Jessamine (part), Larue, Marion, Meade, Mercer, Nelson, Spencer (part), Warren and Washington.

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 2nd District, 38 projects have been awarded \$1,363,701** in Kentucky historic rehabilitation tax credits since 2005, from **\$15,434,148 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 2nd District, Bardstown, Bowling Green, Cloverport, Danville, Elizabethtown, Harrodsburg, Irvington, Mt. Washington, Munfordville, Perryville, Springfield and Wilmore.**

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 | 2nd District: | 116 net jobs in Main Street districts |
| • 311 new businesses created | | 54 new businesses created |
| • 107 new housing units in downtowns | | 2 new housing units in downtowns |
| • 314 downtown buildings rehabilitated | | 46 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.



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 2nd District: 7,998 sites have been surveyed, 4,569 archaeological sites have been identified, and 3,429 properties are listed in the National Register including 77 districts. Eight National Register sites were added in 2011: North Main Street Historic District, and Lexington and Cane Run Historic District in Harrodsburg; Baldwin's Tourist Court, Kurtz Restaurant/Parkview Motel-Office, Old Kentucky Home Motel and Wilson Motel, Bardstown; Hardcastle Store in Warren County; and the Springfield Main Street District.



Hardcastle Store

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 2nd District**, National Historic Landmarks are the Green River Shell Middens Archaeological District in Butler County, Jacobs Hall at the Kentucky School for the Deaf, Dr. Ephraim McDowell House in Danville, Perryville Battlefield and Shaker Village at Pleasant Hill. Other sites with national significance include the **Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site** and **Mammoth Cave National Park**

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, in addition to the Holt House, grants have been awarded in the **2nd District** to four other projects totaling public-private investment of nearly \$2 million in community preservation.

2nd District Highlight: Preservation of the **Judge Joseph Holt House** will kick into high gear this spring with the recent announcement of a \$500,000 federal Transportation Enhancement grant, which will be paired with a \$150,000 Save America's Treasures earmark from Congressman Guthrie. These funds will go toward the first phase of rehabilitation including the roof, gutters, windows and other exterior features. A nonprofit committee of the Breckinridge County Historical Society, Friends of the Holt House will sponsor its first public fundraiser March 8 with a kickoff announcing a 400 Friends initiative, challenging 400 supporters to pledge \$100 each to raise at least \$40,000 by late September.



Explore and Enjoy Our Heritage

PRESERVE AMERICA: With a total of 74, **Kentucky has more Preserve America designations than any other state**. **In the 2nd District**, these include Bardstown, Bowling Green, Cloverport, Danville, Elizabethtown, Glasgow, Greensburg, Harrodsburg, Hart County, Hodgenville, Horse Cave, Munfordville, Perryville, Springfield and West Point. 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**. This includes, **in the 2nd District**, \$42,000 public-private investment for the Hidden River Cave Trail, \$146,900 for the Interpretation of Historic Bowling Green and \$105,776 for Rural Heritage Development Initiative Guidelines in partnership with the city of Bardstown.

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 2nd District**, **Bardstown, Bowling Green, Danville, Horse Cave and Owensboro**. For FY 2011-12, eight CLGs (including Bardstown, Danville and Horse Cave) 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 2nd District** in recent years include the **Landmark Association of Bowling Green and Warren County**; the **Hardin County Museum, Helm Cemetery and Sarah Bush Lincoln Memorial** in Hardin County; the **Lincoln Museum, Lincoln Square, Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site and Lincoln Boyhood Home** in Larue County; and the **Historic Washington County Courthouse, Lincoln Homestead State Park and Mordecai Lincoln House** in Washington County.