

# Historic Preservation in Kentucky's 3rd Congressional District

Rep. John Yarmuth

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3<sup>rd</sup> District County: Jefferson

**National Historic Landmarks:** Kentucky has 30 National Historic Landmarks. National Historic Landmarks **in the 3<sup>rd</sup> District** are the **Belle of Louisville, Churchill Downs, Locust Grove, the Louisville Water Company Tower and Pumping Station, Mayor Andrew Broaddus, Old Bank of Louisville, U.S. Marine Hospital and Zachary Taylor House.**



**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. For fiscal year 2010, **Kentucky ranked 8<sup>th</sup> nationally utilizing Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits, with 27 successfully completed projects generating**

**investment of \$18,223,755.** For the same time period, Kentucky also ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in approved project proposals. **In the 3<sup>rd</sup> District**, from fiscal year 2008 through 2010, **11 projects** utilizing the federal rehabilitation tax credit have **generated an estimated capital investment of \$14,731,774.**

Since the Kentucky Historic Preservation Tax Credit was implemented in 2005, **425 historic rehabilitation projects** have been reviewed representing a **private investment \$341,614,364** in historic rehabilitation in Kentucky. This includes 128 commercial projects completed plus another 130 proposed, and 129 owner-occupied residential projects completed with another 38 proposed. **In the 3<sup>rd</sup> District, 54 projects have been awarded \$5,723,089 in state historic rehabilitation tax credits since the program began, from \$96,466,201 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. More than 100 Kentucky communities have participated in the program. 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** representing:

- **1,047 net jobs** in Main Street districts
- **341 new businesses** created
- **398 downtown buildings** rehabilitated

This investment includes:

- \$113,113,955 in public improvements, such as streetscape projects
- \$222,378,904 in private investment
- 61,878 volunteer hours committed by board members and community supporters!

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



**In the 3<sup>rd</sup> District, Downtown Louisville and Jeffersontown** have local Main Street programs.



**Preserve America Communities:** With a total of 73, Kentucky has more designated *Preserve America Communities* than any other state.

Designated communities in the **3<sup>rd</sup> District** are **Anchorage, Historic Portland, and West Main Street Preservation District.** Since 2006, **11**

**Kentucky Preserve America projects have received \$735,770 in grants that require a dollar-for-dollar match, a total investment of more than \$1.4**

**million.** In the **3<sup>rd</sup> District**, a **Preserve America grant to the Portland Neighborhood for \$150,000** is being used to create a set of interpretive master plans for Portland Wharf Park and link it with key neighborhood historic sites along the way.

**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. Since 1999, **nine grants have been awarded to 3<sup>rd</sup> District** projects **totaling \$2,906,939**, which through matching dollars has resulted in **additional investment of more than \$3 million in community projects.**

**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 **3<sup>rd</sup> District** include **Anchorage, Louisville Metro Government and Middletown.**

**2010-11 Federal Survey and Planning Grants:** In 2010, the Heritage Council accepted applications for Federal Survey and Planning Grants, through which \$90,000 in federal money from the National Historic Preservation Fund was made available as subgrants to local governments, universities and nonprofit organizations. Grants were offered for priority activities meeting goals outlined in the 2010-14 Kentucky State Historic Preservation Plan. Thirty-one applications were received with requests totaling \$252,000. In the **3<sup>rd</sup> District**, a Survey and Planning Grant to the Falls of the Ohio Archaeological Society in partnership with Corn Island Archaeology LLC **received a grant totaling \$7,900** to perform archaeological testing and artifact analysis, and create materials for public interpretation at the Conrad-Seaton House in Jeffersontown.

**Site Identification:** In 2010, the Site Identification Program assisted with **adding 27 Kentucky sites and historic districts to the National Register of Historic Places**, including in the **3<sup>rd</sup> District** Arcadia Apartments, St. Bartholomew Parish School, the William Dodd House and Whiskey Row Historic District. The National Park Service is currently reviewing listing of McBride's Harrods Creek Landing, the Miller Paper Company Buildings and Most Blessed Sacrament School in Jefferson County. 2010 has also been a productive year for the survey section, with 2,215 sites entered into the database and 224 site checks completed, 27 Landmark Certificates issued and 2,459 survey forms reviewed and logged. Highlights of the survey forms received this year include **more than 500 forms from the Ohio River Bridges mitigation survey project** and nearly 300 forms for Strathmore Village, a 20<sup>th</sup> Century suburban development outside Louisville. Since its inception, the Heritage Council has utilized field work to conduct an ongoing survey of historic sites in all 120 Kentucky counties, and today the database consists of more than 85,000 entries.

**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. Specific sites identified in the **3<sup>rd</sup> District** include **Whiskey Row**, along the 100 Block of West Main Street.

**Ida Lee Willis Memorial Foundation Preservation Awards:** Presented annually to recognize excellence in historic preservation projects and efforts. Projects recognized from the **3<sup>rd</sup> District** in recent years include the **Henry Clay Hotel, Howard-Hardy House, Old Heywood School, Louisville Glassworks Lofts** and **St. Cecilia Senior Apartments.**

The Kentucky Heritage Council / Preservation Kentucky **Annual Student Photo-Essay Competition** is currently underway and in its 13<sup>th</sup> year. Winning entries in recent years from the **3<sup>rd</sup> District** have highlighted the **Conrail Railroad Bridge** and **Fern Creek High School.**



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