

Historic Preservation in Kentucky's 2nd Congressional District

Rep. Brett Guthrie

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2nd District Counties: Barren, Breckinridge, Bullitt, Daviess, Edmonson, Grayson, Green, Hancock, Hardin, Hart, Jefferson (pt), Larue, Marion, Meade, Nelson, Ohio (pt), Shelby, Spencer, Taylor, Warren & Washington

National Historic Landmarks: Kentucky has 30 National Historic Landmarks. National Historic Landmarks **in the 2nd District** are **Burks' Distillery** in Marion County and the **Whitney M. Young Birthplace and Boyhood Home** in Shelby County. Other sites with national significance include the **Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site** and **Mammoth Cave National Park**.



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 8th 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 7th in approved project proposals. **In the 2nd District**, from fiscal year 2008 through 2010, **six projects** utilizing the federal rehabilitation tax credit have **generated an estimated capital investment of \$1,464,964.**

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 2nd District, 29 projects have been awarded \$926,441 in Kentucky rehabilitation tax credits** since the program began, **from \$8,437,167 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!**



2nd District cities with participating Main Street programs are **Bardstown, Bowling Green, Campbellsville, Cloverport, Elizabethtown, Glasgow, Greensburg, Hodgenville, Irvington, Lebanon, Mt. Washington, Munfordville, Owensboro, Shelbyville, Springfield** and **Taylorsville**.



Preserve America Communities: With a total of 73, Kentucky has more designated Preserve America Communities than any other state. Designated communities in the **2nd District** are **Bardstown, Bowling Green, Campbellsville, Cloverport, Elizabethtown, Glasgow, Greensburg, Hodgenville, Horse Cave, Lebanon, Liberty, Munfordville, Shelbyville, Springfield** and **West Point**.

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**. **Five Preserve America grants** have been awarded in the **2nd District** totaling **\$271,925**.

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 **2nd District**, Congressman Guthrie has secured a **\$150,000 Save America's Treasures** earmark for the Judge Joseph Holt House in rural Breckinridge County.

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 **2nd District** include **Bardstown, Bowling Green, Campbellsville, Horse Cave, Owensboro and Shelbyville.** In 2010, nine CLGs were awarded grants which will **generate \$134,500 of federal and local investment**, including, in the **2nd District, Bardstown, Bowling Green and Campbellsville**, which **will invest \$48,904** in local historic preservation projects.

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 **2nd District**, projects in **Springfield and Meade County received grants totaling \$14,300.**

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 **2nd District** the Mud Brick House in Greensburg, Bardstown Historic District (boundary increase) and Coombs-Duncan-Brown Farmhouse in Nelson County, Bradfordsville Christian Church and St. Joseph Church in Marion County, Standard Oil Company Filling Station and Milliken Building in Bowling Green, Black Bottom Historic District in Warren County, and Maple Grove and Kalarama Farm in Washington 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. 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.

The Holt House: Judge Joseph Holt served as Judge Advocate General under President Abraham Lincoln and is most remembered for his role presiding over the trial of Lincoln's assassination conspirators. In 2008 the home was acquired by the county through a Kentucky Heritage Council Lincoln Preservation Grant, funded by the Kentucky Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, and its restoration was named a Legacy Project of Kentucky's bicentennial by the commission. In 2009 the Heritage Council helped organize a steering committee to provide leadership to Breckinridge County Fiscal Court in undertaking the long process of rehabilitating the house. Today a local group, Friends of the Judge Joseph Holt House, has been organized under the auspices of the Breckinridge County Historical Society. The Holt House is one of few houses in Kentucky associated with a nationally prominent political figure that hasn't been preserved or restored, and the only one in the state associated with Lincoln still awaiting preservation.

Ida Lee Willis Memorial Foundation Historic Preservation Awards: Presented annually to recognize excellence in historic preservation, projects recognized from the **2nd District** in recent years include the **Historic Bardstown Preservation Commission, Greensburg BRIDGES Student Team** (*Building Renewed Interest in Downtown Greensburg through Excellence and Service*), **Standard Oil Filling Station** in Bowling Green, Bishop Flaget Log House in Nelson County and Pearce-Wheeler Farm in Hart County.

The Kentucky Heritage Council / Preservation Kentucky **Annual Student Photo-Essay Competition** is currently underway and in its 13th year. Winning entries in recent years from the **2nd District** have highlighted the **Younglove Building** in Bowling Green, the **Dodd House** in Casey County and **Midway Café** in Horse Cave.



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