



Historic Preservation in Kentucky's 5th Congressional District

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

Rep. Harold “Hal” Rogers – February 2013

5th District Counties: Bell, Boyd (part), Breathitt, Carter, Clay, Elliott, Floyd, Harlan, Jackson, Johnson, Knott, Knox, Laurel, Lawrence, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Lincoln, Magoffin, Martin, McCreary, Morgan, Owsley, Perry, Pike, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Rowan, Wayne and Whitley

An agency of the Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet, the Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office (KHC) is responsible for the identification, protection and preservation of prehistoric resources and historic buildings, sites and cultural resources throughout the Commonwealth, in partnership with other state and federal agencies, local communities and interested citizens.

KHC administers the Kentucky Historic Preservation Tax Credit in partnership with the Kentucky Department of Revenue, and the Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit in partnership with the National Park Service, both utilized as important incentives for private investment in historic buildings. The agency also administers the National Register of Historic Places in Kentucky, which has the 4th highest number of National Register listings in the U.S. following New York, Massachusetts and Ohio, with more than 3,200 districts, sites and structures incorporating 42,000 historic features. Kentucky works proactively to list National Register sites, as being listed in or eligible for the National Register is required to qualify for state or federal rehab tax credits.

The Kentucky Main Street Program (KYMS) was created by KHC in 1979 as a way to help communities focus on historic preservation as a means to support economic development and infrastructure investment in downtowns by leveraging local historic, cultural and architectural assets. Based on the National Trust Main Street Center Four-Point Approach®, KYMS is the oldest statewide downtown revitalization program in the nation.

KENTUCKY MAIN STREET PROGRAM: KYMS currently serves 71 communities, including, **in the 5th District, Barbourville, Beattyville, Benham, Corbin, Cumberland, Harlan, Hyden, London, Lynch, Middlesboro, Morehead, Olive Hill, Paintsville, Pikeville, Pineville, Salyersville and Williamsburg.**

In 2012, Kentucky Main Street programs **reported \$129,512,869 total investment**, representing, cumulatively, **\$86,935,584 in public investment** from all sources, matched by **\$42,577,291 in private investment**, and supported by **104,985 volunteer hours** committed by KYMS board members and community supporters! These statewide figures represent:

- 1,234 net jobs in Main Street districts
- 279 new businesses created
- 111 new housing units in downtowns
- 321 downtown buildings rehabilitated

This compares with **\$38,627,796 total investment** reported by **5th District** KYMS communities, including **\$26,784,015** invested from all sources, matched by **\$11,843,787 in private investment**, and representing:

- 616 net jobs in Main Street districts
- 38 new businesses created
- 54 new housing units in downtowns
- 39 downtown buildings rehabilitated
- 20,936 volunteer hours

Over three decades, **Kentucky can document \$3.73 billion in public-private investment** throughout the Commonwealth through the Kentucky Main Street programs.

During presentation of the biennial 2012 Kentucky Main Street Program Awards, **Discover Downtown Middleboro** in the **5th District** was recognized in the Organization (subcategory), Best Creative Fundraising category for the Downtown Ducky Dash, a fundraiser for victims of a downtown flood in 2011.



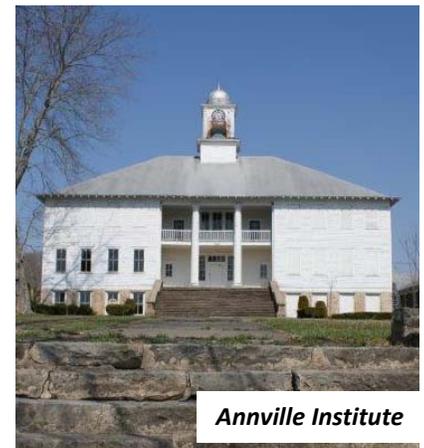
Living Archaeology Weekend



5th District Highlight: KHC, the **Kentucky Native American Heritage Commission** and the **Kentucky Archaeological Survey (KAS)**, a partnership between KHC and the University of Kentucky Department of Anthropology, once again co-sponsored **Living Archaeology Weekend** Sept. 21-22 at the Gladie Cultural-Environmental Learning Center in Daniel Boone National Park. During this event, craftsmen demonstrate the way ancient cultures go about the daily business of living. The program of outdoor activities is designed to promote an understanding of the technologies that Native Americans used in the area, and an appreciation for and protection of Kentucky's fragile archaeological sites. Nearly 1,000 schoolchildren participated on Friday, with another 1,000 participants at the public day Saturday. Activities included atlatl/spear demonstrations, bow/arrow making, native cooking and medicine, fire building, basket making and weaving, pottery making, hide tanning, stone axe demonstrations and flint knapping. The commission also partnered with KHC and KAS to present a teacher workshop at Eastern Kentucky University prior to the event to train educators in related curriculum and how to best take advantage of educational opportunities during the weekend.

SITE IDENTIFICATION: The **Kentucky Historic Resources Inventory** is the written and photographic record of all known historic buildings, structures and sites in the state and includes individual listings of houses, barns, outbuildings, commercial buildings, and landscape features such as rock fences and bridges. KHC has utilized fieldwork to conduct an ongoing survey of historic sites in all 120 Kentucky counties, and **today the database lists more than 90,000 entries.** Data collected and recorded through the survey provides the foundation for many KHC programs including the National Register and Kentucky Main Street Program, and is also used for publication of local architectural and cultural histories, comparison in evaluating National Register eligibility, and development of preservation plans.

Listing in the **National Register of Historic Places** can be applied to buildings, objects, structures, districts and archaeological sites, and proposed sites must be significant in architecture, engineering, American history or culture, or possess a special role in the development of our country. For FY2011-12, 27 sites were listed, including 19 individual properties with 67 contributing features, and eight National Register historic districts with 575 contributing features. **In the 5th District**, two sites were added to the National Register in 2012, the **Annville Institute** in Jackson County and **St. Therese Church** in Lee County.



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 23 participating communities including, **in the 5th District**, **Middlesboro** and **Pikeville**. Statewide, for FY 2012-13, eight CLGs were awarded grants totaling \$81,410 with a local match of \$54,273, for \$135,683 of combined investment.

IDA LEE WILLIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION PRESERVATION AWARDS: Presented annually in partnership with KHC to recognize excellence in historic preservation projects and individual efforts, those recognized **from the 5th District** in recent years include the **West-Metcalf House** at Mill Springs Battlefield, the **London Sentinel Echo** and others for their advocacy of the historic **Pennington House** in London, **Coal Miner's Memorial Theater** in Benham and **Pine Mountain Settlement School**.

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 5th District**, National Historic Landmarks are **Middle Creek National Battlefield** in Floyd County, **Mill Springs Battlefield** in Pulaski and Wayne counties, **Pine Mountain Settlement School** in Bledsoe, and **Wendover, the Frontier Nursing Service Headquarters** in Leslie County. Other sites with national significance include the **Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area**, **Cumberland Gap** and **Daniel Boone National Forest**.