



## Historic Preservation in Kentucky's 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District

Programs of the Kentucky Heritage Council – [www.heritage.ky.gov](http://www.heritage.ky.gov)

Rep. Harold "Hal" Rogers – March 2012

5<sup>th</sup> 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

**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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> District, 8 projects have been awarded \$354,894** in Kentucky historic rehabilitation tax credits since 2005, from **\$4,664,453 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 5<sup>th</sup> District, Barbourville, Beattyville, Benham, Corbin, Cumberland, Harlan, Hyden, London, Lynch, Middlesboro, Morehead, Olive Hill, Paintsville, Pikeville, Pineville, Salyersville, Stanford and Williamsburg.**

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

- |   |                                 |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • 481 net jobs in Main Street districts | <b>5<sup>th</sup> District:</b> | 207 net jobs in Main Street districts |
| • 311 new businesses created            |                                 | 62 new businesses created             |
| • 107 new housing units in downtowns    |                                 | 12 new housing units in downtowns     |
| • 314 downtown buildings rehabilitated  |                                 | 43 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.



**5<sup>th</sup> District Highlight:** 2012 marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the partnership between Pine Mountain Settlement School and the Kentucky Heritage Council in presenting an annual series of hands-on training workshops known as the **Pine Mountain School for Practical Historic Preservation.** Each workshop is led by experienced instructors who take time off from full-time careers to help educate others in the skills needed to properly care for, repair and maintain historic buildings. Traditional construction methods are taught and practical preservation using modern techniques is emphasized. Topics have focused on repair of plaster, wood shingles, steel and wood windows, masonry, log buildings and rock fences, and partners through the years have included the Preservation Trades Network, Preservation Kentucky Inc., and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Notably this summer, the course *Repair of Steel Windows* will feature instructor Jim Turner, who traveled from Detroit to attend one of the first-ever workshops. In 2004 he started his own restoration business, and today he has become known as one of the leading tradesmen in the country in steel window restoration.

**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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> District:** 5,062 sites have been surveyed, 6,914 archaeological sites have been identified, and 1,162 properties are listed in the National Register including 33 districts. Two National Register sites were added in 2011: Jenkins School in Letcher County and the London Downtown Historic District.



*Downtown London*

**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 5<sup>th</sup> 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.**

**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. **In the 5<sup>th</sup> District,** through this public-private partnership, \$292,575 has been invested in Pine Mountain Settlement School and \$270,000 in Appalshop.



**PRESERVE AMERICA:** With a total of 74, **Kentucky has more Preserve America designations than any other state.** **In the 5<sup>th</sup> District,** these include Barbourville, Benham, Cumberland, Harlan, Letcher County, London, Lynch, Morehead, Mount Vernon, Pikeville, Pineville and Stanford. 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.**

**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 5<sup>th</sup> District, Middlesboro and Pikeville.** Statewide, for FY 2011-12, eight CLGs 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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.**